

May 2022

BOLT

Monthly Current Affairs



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Banking & Finance

1. Union Bank becomes first public sector bank to go live on Account Aggregator framework

Union Bank of India became the first public sector bank to go live on the Account Aggregator (AA) ecosystem.

Touted as the UPI moment for lending, the AA framework ensures swift data sharing with the consent of the user and eliminates the need for physical documents.

2. Neobank Open Becomes 100th Unicorn Of India, Raises \$50 Mn From IIFL

Bengaluru-based neobanking startup Open becomes the country's 100th unicorn after raising \$50 Mn from IIFL.

Open operates a neobank that offers small and medium-sized businesses as well as enterprises nearly all the features of the bank with additional tools to better serve the customers' needs.

Anish Achuthan, co-founder and chief executive of Open.

3. ICICI Bank launches India's 'open-for-all' digital ecosystem for MSMEs

ICICI Bank has launched a digital service for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) that customers of other banks can use as well.

MSMEs, who are customers of other banks, can avail of a host of services by logging in as a 'Guest' in the app.

4. HDFC ERGO launches an innovative motor insurance policy under the 'Sandbox' program of IRDAI

HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company, a leading private sector general insurance company, announced the launch of its 'Pay as you Drive' program; an insurance solution that offers distance-based insurance to . This policy will be best suited for those customers who prefer to drive less or have multiple cars with some of those driven less than the others.

5. RBI hikes repo rate for first time in 2 years; lending rate up by 40 bps, CRR hiked by 50 bps

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced hike in benchmark interest rates by 40 basis points to 4.40 percent.

The MPC voted unanimously to increase the policy repo rate by 40 bps to 4.40 per cent with immediate effect. The standing deposit facility rate now stands at 4.15 per cent, while the marginal standing facility rate and bank rate stand at 4.65 percent.

The MPC also hiked CRR (cash reserve ratio) by 50 basis points to 4.5 per cent.

6. Canara Bank ties up with ASAP to launch skill loans

Canara Bank has launched 'skill loans' in association with the Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP). Loans ranging from '5,000 to '1.5 L can be availed of by students pursuing skill training programmes offered by ASAP Kerala or any other Central/State government-recognised agencies that conduct National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) or NSDC courses. NSDC: National Skill Development Corporation.

7. Under Project WAVE, Indian Bank has launched a pre-approved personal loan.

The public sector bank, The Indian Bank has presented a pre-approved personal loan product under Project WAVE.

The Chennai-based bank announced the World of Advance Virtual Experience, WAVE digital transformation project in January 2022 to introduce its first digital product, the Pre-Approved Personal Loan, which intends to give consumers with rapid loan disbursements.

8. RBI okays merger between Equitas Holding and Equitas Bank

The RBI has cleared the Equitas Holdings and Equitas SFB merger, Equitas Small Finance Bank said in an exchange filing.

The scheme of amalgamation between Equitas Holdings Limited (EHL), Equitas SFB Limited (ESFB), and their respective shareholders had been submitted to the Stock Exchanges and the RBI for their approval/ no-objection confirmation on March 2.

9. Indian Bank unveils digital broking solution

Public sector Indian Bank has unveiled digital broking solution -- E-Broking -- allowing customers to open a demat and trading account facility, in line with the digitalisation mission of the bank.

The launch of digital broking solution 'E-Broking' was a strategic step towards complete digitalisation of its offerings to customers.

10. Cyclone Asani raging in Bay of Bengal expected to weaken without landfall

Asani, the severe cyclonic storm in the Bay of Bengal, packing gale force winds up to 120 km per hour, was moving towards coastal Andhra Pradesh and Odisha at a speed of 25 km per hour, but expected to weaken gradually over the next two days.

The name 'Asani' was given by Sri Lanka. Asani or 'wrath' in Sinhalese will be the first cyclonic storm of the season.

11. ICICI Bank ties up with Santander for India-UK business ease

ICICI Bank, announced a tie-up with Santander bank in Britain in a pact aimed at facilitating the banking requirements of corporates operating across both countries.

UK is the sixth-largest investor in India's economy, with cumulative foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows of USD 31.7 billion and contributing 6 per cent to India's total FDI inflows.

12. HDFC Bank launches 30 minute 'Xpress Car Loan'

Private sector lender HDFC Bank has launched a 30-minute 'Xpress Car Loans' for its existing customers as well as new customers. Buyers can apply for up to Rs 20 lakh and the loan amount will be credited to the dealers' accounts within 30-minute.

The Xpress Loans facility is currently available for four-wheelers and will be soon rolled out to two-wheelers as well.

13. RBI restricts withdrawals from Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Nagari Sahakari Bank

The RBI imposed several restrictions on Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Nagari Sahakari Bank Limited, Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur, including on withdrawals, in view of the lender's worsening financial position. The restrictions will remain in force for a period of six months from the close of business on May 13, 2022 and are subject to review.

Shankarrao Pujari Nutan Nagari Sahakari Bank HQ: Maharashtra

14. RBI imposes Rs 59 lakh penalty on KEB Hana Bank

RBI said it has imposed a penalty of Rs 59 lakh on KEB Hana Bank for non-compliance with the certain norms related to 'interest rate on deposits'.

The Korean bank has been penalised for non-compliance with the directions issued by RBI on "Reserve Bank of India (Interest Rate on Deposits) Directions, 2016".

KEB Hana Bank HQ: Seoul

15. Union Bank launches Trade-Nxt platform for cross border trade transaction

UBI has launched a digital solution, 'Trade nxt' to ease all cross-border export-import transactions for corporates and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

The online platform provides seamless entry and processing of letters of credit (LC), bank guarantees, export and import bills, disbursement of export credit, outward & inward remittances etc. CMD of UBI: Rajkiran Rai G.

16. Banks can continue providing credit to NBFCs for on-lending to priority sectors: RBI

RBI permitted banks, including small finance banks, to continue providing credit facility to NBFCs for the purpose of on-lending to certain priority sectors. The facility of lending by commercial banks to NBFCs and lending by Small Finance Banks (SFBs) to NBFC-MFIs, for the purpose of on-lending to certain priority sectors, was available till 31 March, 2022. All scheduled commercial banks are mandated to set aside 40% of their ANDC as PSL.

17. 20% of NPAs set for bad bank resolved

About 20% of the non-performing assets (NPAs) of banks that were to be transferred to National Asset Reconstruction Co. Ltd (NARCL) in two tranches has been resolved. Almost '40,000 crore of bad loans have been resolved since the announcement was first made, and by the time the NARCL starts operating more NPAs may get resolved. Setting up of NARCL was announced in February 2021.

18. SpiceJet, Axis Bank launch co-branded credit card

SpiceJet has partnered with Axis Bank for launching co-branded credit card. The card is powered by Visa. It comes in two variants ' SpiceJet Axis Bank Voyage and Voyage Black.

The card is aimed at facilitating a superlative travel experience for flyers through SpiceClub, the first frequent flyer program by a low cost carrier in the country.

19. India remains world's top remittance recipient

India has once emerged as the largest remittance receiving country in 2021 while Mexico pushed China to the thirds slot, according to the World Bank.

India received remittances worth over \$89 billion in 2021 which was a healthy 8 per cent higher than the \$82.73 billion in 2020.

20. RBI releases report on Currency & Finance for the year 2021-22

The Reserve Bank of India has released the Report on Currency and Finance (RCF) for the year 2021-22. The theme of the Report is 'Revive and Reconstruct' in the context of nurturing a durable recovery post-COVID and raising trend growth in the medium-term. The Report reflects the views of the contributors and not of the Reserve Bank.

21. Sebi imposes penalty of Rs 1 cr on IIFL for misusing client securities

Capital markets regulator Sebi imposed a penalty of Rs 1 crore on India Infoline Ltd (IIFL) for misutilisation of client securities. The amount has to be paid by IIFL within 45 days. The order came after Sebi conducted multiple inspections of the books of accounts of IIFL, now known as IIFL Securities, for the period April 2011 to January 2017.

22. IDBI Bank to sell 25% stake in Ageas Federal Life Insurance for Rs 580 cr

IDBI Bank has entered into a share purchase agreement with Ageas Insurance International, wherein the bank is looking to sell its remaining stake of 25 percent in private sector life insurer Ageas Federal Life Insurance for Rs 580 crore, making Ageas one of the few foreign insurers to raise its stake in its Indian insurance joint venture to 74 percent. As of March 31, LIC-controlled IDBI Bank holds 25% stake in the AFLI.

23. Paytm forms general insurance JV; to invest Rs 950 cr in 10 years

Digital financial services firm One97 Communications, which operates under the Paytm brand said it has formed a joint venture general insurance company in which it has committed to invest Rs 950 crore over a period of 10 years. The proposal to set up a joint venture firm Paytm General Insurance Limited (PGIL) was approved by the board on May 20.

24. SEBI Withdraws Permanent Recognition Granted To ICEX

Markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India has withdrawn the recognition granted to the Indian Commodity Exchange Ltd.

Consequent to the withdrawal, ICEX has been directed to transfer the money available in the Investor Protection Fund and Investor Services Fund of ICEX to SEBI's Investor Protection and Education Fund.

25. RBI Sets Stage For Card-Less Cash Withdrawals Across All ATMs

"All banks, ATM networks and WLAOs may provide the option of ICCW at their ATMs. NPCI has been advised to facilitate Unified Payments Interface (UPI) integration with all banks and ATM networks," Customers will be able to authorise transactions at ATMs through UPI, while the settlement of these transactions at the back-end will happen through the National Financial Switch.

26. RBI issues norms for import of gold by qualified jewellers

The RBI came up with norms for facilitating physical import of gold through India International Bullion Exchange IFSC (IIBX)/similar authorised exchange by Qualified Jewellers in India.

The RBI issued the guidelines in order to enable resident Qualified Jewellers to import gold through IIBX or any other exchange approved by IFSCA & the Directorate General of Foreign Trade.

27. SBI introduces Xpress Credit on YONO

State Bank of India (SBI) has launched personal loan product 'Xpress Credit' for salaried customers on its YONO digital banking platform.

Eligible customers will now be able to avail personal loans (Real Time Xpress Credit/RTXC) up to '35 lakh via YONO, without any paperwork, the country's largest bank.

28. Japan's MUFG Bank gets nod to set up branch at GIFT City

MUFG Bank has obtained necessary approvals from the International Financial Services Centre Authority in India and the Financial Services Agency in Japan, to open a branch at Gujarat International Financial Tech City (GIFT City).

GIFT City provides an opportunity to book India-linked offshore business on the shores of India thereby expanding business.

MUFG had opened its first branch in Mumbai in 1953. Tapan Ray, MD & Group CEO GIFT City.

29. RBI Reduces Net-Worth Requirement For Non-Bank Bharat Bill Payment Units To Rs 25 Crore From Rs 100 Crore

RBI eased norms for non-bank entities to set up Bharat Bill Payment operating units (BBPOUs) by reducing the net-worth requirement to Rs 25 crore, with a view to encourage more players in the segment.

This circular is issued under Section 10 (2) read with Section 18 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 (Act 51 of 2007), and shall come into effect immediately.

30. FinMin comes out with new guarantee policy

Replacing a 12-year-old policy, the Finance Ministry has come out with a new Government Guarantee Policy (GGP), which aims to include all the changes in General Financial Rules (GFR) and financial policies. Such a policy is required as the volume of sovereign guarantees undertaken during a financial year is limited as per the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act.

31. RBI imposes Rs 45 lakh penalty on MUFG Bank

It was found that the bank failed to put in place Straight Through Processing (STP) between Core Banking System (CBS)/accounting system and SWIFT messaging system for transactions creating non-funded exposure/exposure with financial implications, within the time limit of April 30, 2018, according to a RBI release. MUFG Bank, Ltd. is the largest bank in Japan. Headquarters: Chiyoda City, Tokyo, Japan.

32. HDFC Money, a robo-advisory platform for all MF investments launched

HDFC Securities has launched HDFC Money, a robo-advisory platform for all mutual fund investments. HDFC Money is a 100 per cent digital platform that doesn't involve opening or having a Demat Account. Robo-advisory analysis the input and places recommendation of the schemes must suitable as per the risk profile and time horizon.

33. India Post Payments Bank introduces Aadhaar Enabled Payment System issuer charges

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) account holders availing Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS) transactions will now have to incur charges for using the services. Aadhaar Enabled Payment System is a payment service that allows a bank customer to use Aadhaar as identity to access an Aadhaar enabled bank account. J Venkatramu- MD & CEO of IPPB HQ- New Delhi

34. NBFC Northern Arc Capital ties up with Indian Bank

Northern Arc Capital, a non-banking finance company (NBFC) focussed on under-served households and businesses, has entered into a strategic partnership with Indian Bank.

The partnership would enable the two financial institutions to collaborate, co-operate, co-lend loans, and widen their respective markets and customer base.

35. Fintech startup Mahagram partners with IndusInd Bank to nurture digital payments in rural India

A rural fintech company Mahagram partners with IndusInd Bank, with an aim to create a new-generation Indian bank to digitize the country's payment ecosystem and provide a wider horizon to transact especially for its customers in rural India.

Mahagram was launched with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.

36. IMF increases weight of US dollars and Chinese yuan in the SDR Basket

The IMF has increased the weighting of the United States dollar & the Chinese yuan during its review of the currencies that make up the valuation of its Special Drawing Rights (SDR) basket.

This was disclosed in a post on its website titled, 'IMF Executive Board Concludes Quinquennial SDR Valuation Review and Determines New Currency Weights for SDR Valuation basket. The US dollar's weighting increased from 41.73% to 43.38%.

Economy

1. India among worst-hit in pandemic, economy will recover in 13 years: RBI

RBI in its latest report on Currency and Finance 2021-22 titled 'Revive & Construct' said India was one of the worst-hit nations during the Covid-19 pandemic and that it will take upto 13 years for India to fully recover from the scars of Covid-19 pandemic.

2. RBI surplus transfer to government sharply down at '30,307 crore

The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Board approved a sharply lower surplus transfer of '30,307 crores to the government for the accounting year 2021-22, the lowest in 10 years. This is in sharp contrast to the surplus transfer of '99,122 crore for nine months ended March 31, 2021 (July 2020-March 2021). In FY21, the RBI had transitioned to the April-March accounting year from July-June earlier.

3. Latest SEBI Circular Introduces A New Passive ELSS Scheme category

The securities market regulator, SEBI came out with a circular on May 23 on 'Development of Passive Funds' covering a gamut of issues related to ETFs (exchange traded funds) and index funds. Notably, the circular has introduced a new category of mutual fund schemes ' Passive ELSS (equity linked savings scheme).

4. Moody's cuts CY22 India GDP growth forecast to 8.8% amid rising inflation

Moody's Investors Service has lowered its gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for India to 8.8 per cent for calendar year 2022 (CY22) from its March estimate of 9.1 per cent, holding that rising inflation and interest rates will temper the economic growth momentum. Moody's expects India's retail inflation to increase to 6.8 per cent in 2022 from 5.7 per cent in 2022.

5. Growth of shadow banks poses threat to financial stability: RBI report

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has red-flagged non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) in its annual report, observing that balance sheets of shadow banks expanded even as the asset quality deteriorated. Moreover, the regulator said some of these entities pose potential threat to financial stability as their size increased due to higher risk appetite.

6. India's GDP growth likely to be 8.2-8.5% in FY22: SBI Report

SBI's research report Ecowrap, in its latest edition has projected India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth at 8.2 to 8.5 per cent for FY22. For Q4FY22, the SBI research report expects growth of 2.7 per cent. SBI Nowcasting model with an unchanged quarterly numbers pegs the growth rate of Q4 GDP at ' 40 lakh crore, which is lower by ' 1 lakh crore from the CSO projection.

7. Saudi Aramco overtakes Apple as world's most valuable company

Saudi Aramco has overtaken Apple as the world's most valuable company after higher oil prices pushed shares of the world's biggest crude exporter to record levels, while a broader tech stock sell-off weighs on the iPhone maker.

The Saudi Arabian oil company's market capitalization was \$2.426 trillion, exceeding Apple's \$2.415 trillion by just over \$10 billion.



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National

1. International Semiconductor Consortium (ISMC) announces plan to set up India's first semiconductor fabrication unit

ISMC has announced its plan to set up India's first semiconductor fabrication unit. The international semiconductor consortium will invest \$3 billion in India's southern Karnataka state to set up a chip-making plant.

It comes after union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that the Modi government expects to grant approvals to electronic chip makers in the next 6 to 8 months.

2. National Museum of Indian Cinema to host film festival on Satyajit Ray's birth anniversary

On the 101st birth anniversary of Satyajit Ray, the National Museum of Indian Cinema, Mumbai under the Union Information and Broadcasting Ministry will host a three-day film festival at various venues across India to screen films made by the legendary filmmaker.

Born on May 2, Ray is regarded as one of the finest filmmakers India has ever seen.

3. India's Pharma exports grow by 103% since 2013-14

India's pharma exports witnessed a growth of 103 per cent since 2013-14 from Rs 90,415 crore in 2013-14 to Rs 1,83,422 crore in 2021-22.

The exports achieved in 2021-22 is the Pharma Sector's best export performance ever.

It is a remarkable growth with exports growing by almost USD 10 billion in 8 years.

4. India's Services exports set a new record of USD 254.4 Billion in FY 2021-2022

India's Services exports set a new record of USD 254.4 Billion in the financial year 2021-2022. The new record achieved in 2021-22 beats the previous high of USD 213.2 Billion in 2019-20.

Also, Services exports hit an all-time monthly high of USD 26.9 Billion in March 2022.

5. Country's first 'Flow Chemistry Technology Hub' set up in Hyderabad

A Flow Chemistry Technology Hub (FCT Hub) has been set up at Dr Reddy's Institute of Life Sciences (DRILS).

The hub was formally inaugurated by Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce (I&C) and Information Technology (IT) Departments, Govt of Telangana.

6. India's 'first' tribal health observatory to come up in Odisha

Odisha is set to come up with India's "only" observatory that will establish a repository on the health of the tribal population in the state.

A memorandum of understanding was inked in this regard between the ST and SC Development Department and the RMRC, a regional centre of the Indian Council of Medical Research.

7. Three-day Utkarsh Mahotsav organized by Central Sanskrit University begins in New Delhi

A three-day Utkarsh Mahotsav is being organized by Central Sanskrit University in New Delhi.

The objective behind organising the Utkarsh Mahotsav is to promote Sanskrit language across the country and beyond.

The focus of the Mahotsav is - the New Educational Era - Moving Towards a Global Orientation of Sanskrit Studies.

8. India embarks on the World's largest film restoration project under National Film Heritage Mission

Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting Shri. Anurag Singh Thakur has announced that the World's largest film restoration project under National Film Heritage Mission (NFHM) with a budget of Rs. 363 crores is awarded on 4th May 2022 by the Ministry.

The restoration project now awarded is set to commence in full swing at National Film Archive of India (NFAI).

9. Ministry of Tourism under its "Incredible India" brand line participates at the Arabian Travel Market, Dubai -2022

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India under its "Incredible India" brand line is participating in the Arabian Travel Market (ATM), Dubai -2022 being held from 9th-12th May, 2022 showcasing India's rich &

diversified tourism potential and providing a platform to the tourism stakeholders to showcase the various tourism destinations and products including Niche products.

10. Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog launches the AIM-PRIME Playbook to help academicians launch deep-tech spin-offs

The AIM-PRIME Playbook was launched at the Dr. Ambedkar International Center, New Delhi.

The AIM PRIME (Program for Researchers in Innovation, Market Readiness and Entrepreneurship) program was aimed at promoting early-stage science-based, deep technology ideas to market through training and guidance over a period of 12 months using a blended learning curriculum.

11. India's first Centre of Excellence for Khadi to open in Delhi

Union Minister for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Narayan Rane, will inaugurate the Centre for Excellence for Khadi in New Delhi.

The aim of building this centre, an idea conceived by the MSME Ministry is to empower Khadi institutions. This centre will act as a hub for experimentation, innovation, and design for the Khadi Village and Industries Commission.

12. Border Roads Organisation Completes 102 Infrastructure Projects In FY22

In 2021-22, 102 infrastructure projects, including 87 bridges and 15 roads, were completed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), the most in a single year.

These projects include the construction of the world's longest highway tunnel, above 10,000 feet, named Atal Tunnel at Rohtang and the world's highest motorable road over Umling La in Eastern Ladakh.

13. Lokpal to get permanent office at World Trade Centre in Delhi, office space bought for ' 254 cr.

Four years after the country's first anti-corruption ombudsman to investigate complaints against public functionaries, including the Prime Minister, was appointed and almost a decade after the Act was passed by Parliament, the Lokpal of India will finally move into a swanky office at World Trade Centre in south Delhi's Nauroji Nagar.

14. Vietnam opens world's longest glass-bottomed bridge to attract tourists

Vietnam has just launched its latest tourist attraction for tourists with a fondness for heights. As per the reports, the Asian country has opened a glass-bottomed bridge suspended 150 m (490 feet) above a lush jungle

As per the company, it's the world's longest glass-bottomed bridge, which surpasses a 526 m structure in Guangdong, China. Vietnam Capital: Hanoi; Currency: Vietnamese dong.

15. WEF to focus on emerging technologies to help small, marginal farmers

The World Economic Forum (WEF), in partnership with the Government's think-tank Niti Aayog, is focusing on putting emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), blockchain and drones, to better use to ensure they benefit farmers, particularly small and marginal.

16. NITI Aayog launches experience studio to foster innovation and adoption of drones for public services

To promote a collaborative ecosystem aimed at fostering innovation and adoption of drones for public services, an experience studio on drones was launched by civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia at NITI Aayog. NITI Aayog Vice Chairperson Suman Bery and CEO Amitabh Kant were also present in the inaugural event.

17. Amit Shah inaugurates 'National Cyber Forensic Laboratory' at CFSL campus in Hyderabad

Amit Shah inaugurated the 'National Cyber Forensic Laboratory' (NCFL) at Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) campus in Hyderabad. The NCFL will speed up the process for disposal of cybercrime cases in the country. Cybercrime is one of the biggest challenges to the 21st century world. This will help in increasing the conviction rate of cyber crimes.

18. UPI hits record high in April with 5.58 bn transactions worth Rs 9.83 trn

India's flagship digital payments platform ' Unified Payments Interface (UPI) ' saw its highest ever number of transactions in April 2022 at 5.58 billion, amounting to Rs 9.83 trillion.

However, year-on-year (YoY), the volume of transactions jumped 111 per cent and value of transactions increased by almost 100 per cent.

19. 5000-year-old jewellery factory found in Haryana's Indus Valley site Rakhi Garhi

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), which has been working in Rakhi Garhi in Haryana for the last 32 years, made one of its biggest discoveries yet with the excavation of a 5000 year old jewellery making factory.

Rakhi Garhi is a village and one of the oldest archaeological sites belonging to the Indus Valley Civilisation in Hisar district of Haryana.

20. Ferdinand Marcos Jr triumphs in Philippines presidential election

Ferdinand 'Bongbong' Marcos Jr, the son and namesake of the late dictator, has won a landslide presidential election victory, signalling an extraordinary rehabilitation for one of the country's most notorious political families.

Marcos Jr had almost 30 million votes. Philippines Capital City: Manila; Currency: Philippine peso.

21. Home Minister Flags Off Boat Ambulance to Serve Inaccessible Areas of Sunderbans

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who was on a two-day visit to West Bengal, flagged off a boat ambulance and six floating border outposts at Hingalganj in North 24 Parganas district.

In January, the BSF launched a boat ambulance service for the people of the erstwhile 'cut-off' area in Malkangiri in Odisha. The 24X7 ambulance service facilitates emergency medical service.

22. PM Modi inaugurates India's First 5G Test Bed worth around Rs 220 cr

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated India's First 5G testbed to enable startups and industry players to test and validate their products locally and reduce dependence on foreign facilities.

Moreover, he addressed a programme marking the silver jubilee celebrations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). PD Vaghela- TRAI chief.

23. Adani Group becomes India's 2nd largest cement maker with \$10.5 billion acquisition of Ambuja-ACC

Billionaire Gautam Adani has clinched a \$10.5 billion deal that grants his conglomerate a 63.19 per cent stake in Swiss cement major Holcim Ltd's India operations, Ambuja Cements Ltd and its subsidiary ACC. With this, the Adani Group became the second largest cement producer in the country after the Aditya Birla Group owned UltraTech Cement.

24. WCR develops battery-operated dual-mode locomotive 'Navdoot'; Running at Jabalpur, Mudwara, and other stations on trial basis

After e-bikes, e-cars, and e-bus in the country, now the dream of e-train is also going to come true. West Central Railway has developed a battery-operated dual-mode locomotive named Navdoot. This engine runs on both modes i.e. battery and electricity. Currently, it is being used during shunting of trains at Jabalpur, Mudwara, and other stations on a trial basis.

25. Amritsar-Jamnagar Greenfield corridor to be completed by September 2023

Amritsar-Jamnagar Greenfield corridor, one of the most important Greenfield corridors being developed by NHAI, is being constructed in a full capacity.

The complete corridor is targeted to be completed by September 2023.

26. Cabinet approves amendments to National Policy on Biofuels to make India energy independent by 2047

Union Cabinet has approved the Amendments to the National Policy on Biofuels -2018.

The amendments are intended to allow more feedstocks for the production of biofuels, advance the ethanol blending target of 20 percent blending of ethanol in petrol and promote the production of biofuels in the country.

27. BRO conducts final break through blast of Nechiphu Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh

Border Road Organisation (BRO) conducted final 'break through blast' to mark the successful completion of excavation work of the Nechiphu Tunnel, in Arunachal Pradesh. The Nechiphu Tunnel, at an altitude of 5,700 feet, is a unique 500-meter-long 'D-shaped, Single Tube Double Lane Tunnel' on the Balipara-Charduar-Tawang (BCT) Road in West Kameng District.

28. 13th Annual Day commemoration of the Competition Commission of India

Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman participated in the 13th Annual Day commemoration of the Competition Commission of India as Chief Guest in New Delhi and inaugurated the regional office at Kolkata and launched an upgraded website of CCI. she also released CCI's Competition Advocacy Booklets translated into Kannada and Malayalam.

29. Ministry of Culture to commemorate the 250th Birth Anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy from 22nd May 2022 to 22nd May 2023

Under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM), the Ministry of Culture is commemorating the 250th Birth Anniversary of Shri Raja Ram Mohan Roy from 22nd May 2022 to 22nd May 2023. The inaugural ceremony will take place at Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation, Salt Lake, Kolkata, and at Science City Auditorium, Kolkata.

30. SAIL Celebrates Fifty years of Incorporation with a Special Logo

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), the maharatna steelmaking public sector unit, is celebrating the company's fifty years of incorporation this year in 2022. SAIL's legacy of fifty years is being celebrated with the launch of a new commemorative logo and will be followed by several events to be held all across the company throughout the year. SAIL was incorporated on 24th January, 1973.

31. WEF forms Indian CEOs' alliance to supercharge race to net-zero

World Economic Forum (WEF) announced a new 'Alliance of CEO Climate Action Leaders India' that will work towards fast-tracking decarbonisation pathways along India's net-zero journey. The Alliance will serve as a high-level platform to support business leaders in planning and implementing plans and programmes to achieve climate targets, including net-zero economic growth. The Alliance is a collaboration between Kearney and Observer Research Foundation.

32. MeitY holds brainstorming session on Digital India BHASHINI with Researchers, Start-ups

The Ministry of Electronics and IT conducted a brainstorming session with Researchers and Start-ups. The session was aimed to shape strategy for Digital India BHASHINI, which is India's Artificial Intelligence (AI) led language translation platform. The government wants to integrate start-ups in innovation, development and consumption of technology. Rajeev Chandrasekhar, MoS, MEITY.

33. BSNL to migrate 30,000 wifi hotspots to PM-WANI framework by June: DoT official

BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd) will migrate 30,000 of its wifi hotspots to the PM-WANI framework by June, adding Railways too has an ambitious blueprint for all its future hotspots to be under the framework. The public Wi-Fi Access Network Interface, known as PM-WANI, hold the promise of unleashing a massive wifi revolution in the country.

34. ONGC becomes the first gas producer to trade on Indian Gas Exchange

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has become the first gas producer to trade domestic gas on the Indian Gas Exchange, trading unspecified volumes from its eastern offshore KG-DWN-98/2 block.

ONGC has become the first exploration and production (E&P) company in India to trade domestic gas on Indian Gas Exchange. The gas traded is from ONGC Krishna Godavari 98/2 block.

35. India gets highest ever FDI of 83.57 billion dollars in the last financial year

India has emerged as a preferred investment destination which is evident from the fact that India has recorded highest ever annual Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow of 83.57 billion US dollars in the last fiscal year.

India has received over 301 billion US dollars in the last four fiscal years.

36. PM Modi to inaugurate India's biggest Drone Festival-Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022 in New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate India's biggest drone festival and interact with kisan drone pilots as well as witness open-air drone demonstrations.

'Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022' is a two-day event and being held on May 27 & 28.

Modi will inaugurate India's biggest Drone Festival 'Bharat Drone Mahotsav 2022' on May 27 at 10 am at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

37. Coal Ministry to Organize National Mineral Congress & Coal Gasification Plant Visit in Bhubaneswar

Ministry of Coal will be organizing National Mineral Congress and field visit of Coal Gasification Plant of JSPL at Angul, Bhubaneswar on 27th and 28th May 2022.

Anil Kumar Jain who is also Chairman of Indian National Committee of World Mining Congress (INC WMC) will be inaugurating the Congress.

38. Govt brings import of paper under compulsory registration from Oct 1

In a bid to protect the domestic paper industry, the commerce and industry ministry has decided to make registration compulsory for importing major paper products such as newsprint, handmade paper, envelopes, among others.

All imports arriving on or after October 1 will be governed by the Paper Import Monitoring policy.

39. Delhi Customs launches Project 'NIGAH' at ICD Garhi Harsaru, Gurugram

Chief Commissioner, Delhi Customs Zone, Shri Surjit Bhujabal inaugurated project 'NIGAH' at ICD Garhi Harsaru, Gurugram.

Project NIGAH is an initiative to track container by using ICTM (ICD Container Tracking Module) which will help in better visibility of the container movement inside the ICD.

40. Government of India has set a target to achieve 100 Million Tonnes Coal Gasification by 2030

The Ministry has prepared a National Mission document to achieve 100 MT Coal Gasification by 2030. Coal gasification is future. It is considered as cleaner option compared to burning of coal. Gasification facilitates utilization of the chemical properties of coal. Accordingly, India's hydrogen demand is likely to increase to 11.7 million tonnes by 2030 from 6.7 million ton. The Ministry of Coal organized the National Mineral Congress in Bhubaneswar

41. PM to inaugurate World's first Nano Urea (Liquid) Plant in Gujarat

PM will inaugurate World's first Nano Urea (Liquid) Plant constructed at Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd (IFFCO) at Kalol. The Nano Urea (Liquid) Plant has been built at the cost of around 175 crore rupees in an effort to further provide farmers the means to boost productivity and help increase their income. The Plant will produce about 1.5 lakh bottles of 500 ml



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International

1. India Approves Opening of New Diplomatic Mission in Lithuania

The Union Cabinet has approved a proposal to open a new Indian mission in Lithuania in 2022 in a bid to deepen political relations and strategic cooperation and enable growth of bilateral trade with the Baltic country.

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has accorded approval to the opening of a new Indian mission in Lithuania in 2022. Lithuania's Capital: Vilnius; Currency: Euro.

2. PM Modi hails ties with Canada at unveiling of Sardar Patel statue

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has hailed the unveiling of a statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel - the first in North America - in Canada as 'a marker for relations between the two countries'.

The bronze statue was unveiled at a programme at the Sanatan Mandir Cultural Center in the town of Markham in the Greater Toronto Area with messages from the PMs of India and Canada. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau; Capital:- Ottawa; Currency: Canadian dollar.

3. Nepal's Kami Rita Sherpa climbs Mount Everest for 26th time to set new world record

Nepal's legendary climber Kami Rita Sherpa has climbed the Mt Everest, the tallest peak in the world for the 26th time to set a new world record. Leading an 11-member rope fixing team, Kami Rita & his team reached the summit, breaking his own previous world record.

He first climbed the Everest in May 1994.

4. Russia launches a secret military spacecraft into orbit around Earth

The Russian space agency has conducted a satellite launch from the Plesetsk cosmodrome using the brand new Angara-1.2 light launch vehicle.

According to multiple media reports, the launch that took place from north-western Russia's Arkhangelsk Oblast region was to deliver a secret military satellite to use against Ukraine.

5. UAE President, HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed, passed away

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has expressed deep grief over the passing away of United Arab Emirates President, HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed and said that he was a great statesman and visionary leader under whom India-UAE relations prospered. Abu Dhabi Crown Prince: Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed

6. SJVN to develop hydel 490 MW Arun-4 power project worth Rs 4,900 crore in Nepal

State-owned SJVN Ltd will develop another hydro power project Arun-4 worth Rs 4,900 crore in Nepal.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of the 490 MW Arun-4 hydro electric project in Nepal has been signed in Lumbini, Nepal in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Nepal Sher Bahadur Deuba. Sh N L Sharma, CMD, SJVN Ltd.

7. India contributed USD 800,000 to promote Hindi at UN

India has contributed USD 800,000 to the United Nations as part of the initiative to enhance public outreach of the organisation in Hindi.

Country's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, R Ravindra handed over a cheque for the UN project launched by India in 2018 to disseminate information about the UN to the Hindi-speaking population across the world.

8. Belgium becomes first country to make quarantine compulsory for monkeypox patients

Belgium has become the first country to make a 21-day quarantine compulsory for monkeypox patients. Monkeypox is a disease in the same family as smallpox but is less deadly than smallpox, with a four-percent mortality rate.

9. UAE becomes first Gulf state to record case of monkeypox

The United Arab Emirates has become the first Gulf state to record a case of monkeypox.

Outbreaks of the virus have been found in Europe, Australia and America. The symptoms often include a fever and rash - but the infection is usually mild.

Monkeypox is a viral zoonosis (a virus transmitted to humans from animals) with symptoms similar to those seen in the past in small pox

10. Pope Francis elevates archbishops of Hyderabad and Goa to cardinal rank

Pope Francis has announced that he will create 21 new Cardinals, including two from India at a Consistory on, 27 August, 2022.

The two Cardinals from India are Archbishop Filipe Neri Antnio Sebastio di Rosrio Ferro, Archbishop of Goa and Damo and -Archbishop Anthony Poola, Archbishop of Hyderabad.

11. Kuwait to build world's largest petroleum research centre

Kuwait plans to start building the world's largest petroleum research centre by the end of the year.

The centre, to be built in al-Ahmadi, south of Kuwait City, will have 28 laboratories.

It will seek to develop improved production and refining techniques that can be used by the industry for different applications including the extraction of heavy crude & non associated gas The project had stalled because of budget pressure, estimating its cost at \$ 120 million.

12. India'UAE Start-Up Bridge launched in Mumbai as part of CEPA

India and UAE has launched Start-Up Bridge whereby Indian startups will benefit from UAE investments while UAE will benefit from India's experience.

Union Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and the UAE Minister of Economy Abdullah Al-Mari has launched the 'India-UAE Start-Up Bridge' at the India-UAE Economic Partnership organised by CII. UAE 's Capital: Abu Dhabi; Currency: dirham.



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Sports

1. PV Sindhu falls to Akane Yamaguchi in BAC semi-finals, settles for bronze medal

India's PV Sindhu settled for a bronze medal at the Badminton Asia Championships semi-finals, going down in a 3-setter to Japan's Akane Yamaguchi. Sindhu had won the first set 21-13 before losing the second and third 21-19 and 21-16 respectively.

It is the second medal that Sindhu has won at the Asian Championships. She had last won a BAC medal at the 2014 Gimcheon edition.

2. Brazil ready to host Deaflympics for first time

Brazil is ready to host the Deaflympics for the first time in the competition's 98-year history, with Caxias do Sul set to welcome the world's best athletes with hearing impairments over the next two weeks.

The 24th edition of the Deaflympics had initially been scheduled to take place from December 5 to 21 in 2021, but was postponed due to COVID-19 complications.

3. Real Madrid clinch record-extending 35th Spanish League title

Real Madrid clinched a record-extending 35th Spanish league title after its reserve squad comfortably defeated Espanyol 4-0.

Rodrygo scored twice and Marco Asensio and substitute Karim Benzema added a goal each to give Madrid its second league title in three seasons, and third in six years.

4. Jain University clinches Khelo India University Games crown

Jain University emerged as the overall champion of the Khelo India University Games.

The host claimed 20 gold, seven silver and five bronze medals to take top honours. Lovely Professional University (17 gold, 15 silver, 19 bronze) and defending champion Panjab University (15 gold, 9 silver, 24 bronze) finished second and third respectively.

5. ITTF World Rankings: Manika Batra climbs 10 places to achieve career-best ranking of 38 in women's singles

India paddler Manika Batra has achieved a career-best ranking of 38 in women's singles after she climbed 10 places in the latest ITTF Table Tennis World Rankings. The Olympian was ranked 48th in women's singles last week.

Batra broke into the top 50 earlier this year and rose to 46th in March, her previous career-best standing, before dropping down to 48.

6. 12th Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship 2022 to begin in Goa

In Hockey, a total of 29 teams will fight it out to lift the trophy at the 12th Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship 2022 which starts in Goa.

Eight days of pool matches will be followed by Quarter-Finals on May 12, the Semi-Finals on May 14, and the Medal matches are scheduled for May 15. The participating teams are divided into eight pools.

7. Santosh Trophy: Kerala beat West Bengal in penalty shootout to lift title for seventh time

In Football, Hosts Kerala beat West Bengal 5-4 in a penalty shootout at the Payyanad Stadium in Malappuram to win the Santosh Trophy National Tournament for the seventh time.

The teams were level 1-1 after extra time in a pulsating encounter. Two terrific headers from Dilip Orwan of West Bengal and Kerala's Muhammed Safnad in extra-time took the game to penalties. This is the first win for Kerala on home soil since 1993.

8. Stadium to be built in Neeraj Chopra's native village in Haryana

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced that a stadium will be built in Olympic gold-medallist Neeraj Chopra's native village Khandra in Panipat.

The cost of the stadium will be Rs.10 crore.

In 2021, Chopra (Javelin thrower) became the first Indian to win a gold medal in the Olympic track and field.

9. Olympic finalist thrower Kamalpreet tests positive for Ben Johnson drug

Discus thrower Kamalpreet Kaur, who became an overnight star after finishing sixth at the Tokyo Olympics and the only Indian woman to break the 65 metres barrier, has been provisionally suspended after testing positive for Stanazolol, a banned anabolic steroid, the Athletics Integrity Unit.

10. Dhanush Srikanth wins gold, Shourya Saini bags bronze at Deaflympics

Dhanush Srikanth struck gold in the men's 10m air rifle competition on day three of the ongoing 24th Deaflympics at Caxias do Sul, Brazil, ensuring a golden start to India's campaign at the Games.

Shourya Saini put the icing on India's cake with a bronze, finishing behind Korea's Kim Woo Rim in the eight-man final.

11. Italian Cup 2022: Inter Milan Beat Juventus 4-2 On Extra Time To Lift Title

Inter Milan defeated Juventus 4-2 after extra time in the Italian Cup final. Ivan Perisic scored twice in extra time after Hakan alhanoglu had converted a controversial late penalty. Nicol Barella scored the other goal for Inter.

The Italian Cup final soccer match between Juventus and Inter Milan was held at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome, Italy.

12. Thomas And Uber Cup 2022: India Men Stun Malaysia To Enter Semis, Assure Of At Least Bronze Medal

The Indian men's badminton team scripted a memorable 3-2 win over Malaysia to enter the semifinals of Thomas Cup for the first time in 43 years but the women's side bowed out after losing 0-3 to Thailand in the Uber Cup in Bangkok, Thailand

India is thus assured of at least a bronze at the Thomas Cup. The country has not won a medal at the event since 1979.

13. Badminton: Team India creates history, wins Thomas Cup by beating 14-time champions Indonesia

The Indian men's badminton team created history with Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth and the doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeating Indonesia 3-0 to win their first-ever Thomas Cup gold.

In the 73-year history of the tournament, only 5 nations have won the prestigious tournament and India are one among them.

14. Italian Open: Novak Djokovic wins his first title of the year and sixth in Rome

World number one Novak Djokovic boosted his preparations for next week's French Open by winning his first title of the year at the Italian Open in Rome.

Djokovic beat Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-0 7-6 (7-5) to take the clay-court title.

Djokovic will be one of the favourites as he chases a record-equalling 21st Grand Slam at the French Open.

15. Deaflympics 2021: Golfer Diksha Dagar wins gold for India

Indian golfer Diksha Dagar has added another gold medal to the Indian tally after a stellar victory in the women's golf event at the ongoing Deaflympics.

Diksha was phenomenal throughout the entire event as she battled hard against several top golfers including previous edition medal winners.

16. Archery Asia Cup Stage 2: Indians reigns supreme with eight gold, four silver and two bronze

The Indian junior archers capped a stunning show by winning eight gold, four silver and two bronze medals to top the medals tally at the Asia Cup Stage 2.

India bagged five gold, four silver and one bronze that included a rare clean sweep in the compound men's individual section of three gold and one bronze.

17. 8 Gold, 1 silver, 7 bronze: The complete list of Indian medal winners from the 2021 Deaflympics

A total of 16 medals were won over the fortnight-long quadrennial event, including eight gold, one silver and seven bronze. The medals came from five of the 11 sports.

India finished in 9th position on the medal table.

The games were held Caxias do Sul, in southern Brazil.

Ukraine topped the medal rankings followed by USA & Iran respectively in 2nd & 3rd place. India's largest contingent ever at a Deaflympics- 65.

18. Foundation stone laid for SAI National Centre of Excellence in North Bengal's Coochbehar district

Foundation stone laid for SAI National Centre of Excellence in North Bengal's Coochbehar district. An MoU was also signed between SAI and the Ministry of Railways on the occasion. The National Centre of Excellence will provide aspiring athletes of Coochbehar with excellent sporting facilities, besides providing top-class coaching facilities covering 12 sports disciplines.

19. Indian men's compound team win successive World Cup gold medals

Indian compound archers performed well to pick up three more medals in the Archery World Cup Stage-2 in Gwangju, Korea. The men's team clinched the second successive gold medal this year, while the mixed team collected the bronze medal. Mohan Bhardwaj secured his maiden World Cup medal as he finished with a silver in the men's individual competition.

20. Odisha beat Karnataka 2-0 in the final to win the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship title for the 1st time

Odisha women's team has won its first-ever gold in Senior Nationals as they blanked Karnataka 2-0 in the final of the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship.

Earlier, Hockey Jharkhand defeated Hockey Haryana 3-2 in the third-fourth place match. The 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

21. Superbet Poland tourney: Indian GM Viswanathan Anand wins Rapid event with a round to spare

Viswanathan Anand made his comeback to elite competitions memorable by winning the rapid section of the Grand Chess Tour Superbet chess tournament at Warsaw, Poland.

In fact, Anand ensured the title with a round to spare after his nearest challenger Richard Rapport lost to Wesley So in the eighth and penultimate round. Anand scored 14 points from a maximum of 18 after nine rounds.

22. Haryana beat Jharkhand 2-0 to win Hockey India Sub-Junior Women's National Championship in Imphal

Haryana registered a 2-0 win over Jharkhand to win the title of the 12th Hockey India Sub-Junior Women National Championship hosted by Manipur Hockey under the aegis of Hockey India here at Hockey Stadium, Khuman Lampak.

Riya (13th) and Sejal (39th) scored a goal each to help Hockey Haryana successfully defend the title.

23. Manchester City crowned 2021/22 Premier League champions

In Football, Manchester City has been crowned 2021/22 Premier League champions their fourth title success in the last five seasons.

Manchester City's dramatic 3-2 win over Aston Villa in the final game of the season sealed the title and saw them finish one point ahead of second-place Liverpool at the end of a grueling battle for supremacy.

24. Justin Thomas wins playoff to claim second PGA Championship

With help from Mito Pereira's heartbreaking debacle on the 72nd hole, Thomas won the PGA Championship and his second Wanamaker Trophy in a three-hole aggregate playoff against Will Zalatoris, who was seeking his first PGA Tour title.

25. PBKS' Shikhar Dhawan becomes first player to hit 700 fours in IPL's history

Punjab Kings opening batter Shikhar Dhawan has become the first player to hit 700 fours in the history of the IPL.

Dhawan reached this feat during the last league stage match of IPL 2022, between PBKS and Sunrisers Hyderabad, at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.

The batter has now a total of 701 IPL fours to his name. He is followed by David Warner and Virat Kohli, with 577 and 576 fours, respectively.

26. Adani Group acquires new franchise team in UAE's T20 League

Adani Sportsline, a part of the diversified Adani Group, has entered into franchise cricket by acquiring a franchise in the United Arab Emirates (UAE)'s flagship T20 league.

Adani Group also attempted buying the 2022's Indian Premier League (IPL) team in October 2021.

UAE's T20 League is an annual event licensed by Emirates Cricket Board.

27. Supernovas win 3rd Women's T20 Challenge title

West Indian all-rounder Deandra Dottin starred with both bat and ball as she powered Supernovas to an unprecedented third Women's T20 Challenge title triumph with a four-run win over Velocity in a thrilling final. Supernovas had won the first two editions of the tournament in 2018 and 2019 before losing to Trailblazers in the final in 2020. The Women's T20 Challenge is an Indian womens cricket 20-20 tournament organised by BCCI

28. India's chess prodigy R Praggnanandhaa finishes second in Chessable Masters tournament

Indian chess prodigy Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa lost the finals of the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour Chessable Masters tournament to China's Ding Liren. World number two Ding Liren took home \$25,000 in prize money. Praggnanandhaa won \$15,000 for finishing second. He had beaten world number one Magnus Carlsen in the preliminary stage.

29. Gujarat Titans wins IPL 2022 title with seven-wicket win over Rajasthan Royals

The 15th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) came to an end on Sunday after Gujarat Titans (GT) registered a 7-wicket win over Rajasthan Royals (RR) in Ahmedabad to clinch their maiden title.

The winning team Gujarat Titans got '20 crore as they were the champions.

30. Union Minister Anurag Thakur inaugurates Takshashila Sports Complex at Viman Nagar in Pune

Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Shri Anurag Thakur inaugurated the Takshashila Sports Complex built by the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) at Viman Nagar.

The Minister recalled Prime Minister Narendra Modi's words, "Kheloge toh khiloge! and said 'sports teaches perseverance, instils self confidence and develops leadership qualities. Under the TOPS, GOI takes full responsibility for foreign training of elite athletes.

31. Verstappen wins Spanish Grand Prix

Formula One world champion Max Verstappen won the Spanish Grand Prix in a Red Bull one-two to take over at the top from Ferrari's luckless Charles Leclerc, who retired with an engine failure while leading.

Sergio Perez took second for a Red Bull 1-2 at the Montmelo circuit.

Britain's George Russell came third and Ferrari's Carlos Sainz was fourth.



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Agreements & MoUs

1. BHEL, GE Power Conversion signs MOU for development of Integrated Electric Propulsion Systems for Indian Navy

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and GE Power Conversion for the development of Integrated Electric Propulsion Systems for the Indian Navy. MoU between BHEL and GE Power Conversion has provided a boost to the indigenous capability in the field of advanced technology for Integrated Full Electric Propulsion System.

2. Railway Ministry signs MoU with Centre for Development of Telematics to modernize Telecommunication in Railways

Ministry of Railways has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) to establish a robust collaborative working partnership for coordination and resource sharing with respect to provision of Telecommunication facilities in the delivery and implementation of C-DOT's Telecom Solutions and services in Railways.

3. India's first bridgital autism support network set up

The Tata Power Community Development Trust (TPCDT) has partnered with the Center for Autism and other Disabilities Rehabilitation Research and Education (CADRRE) to launch 'Pay Attention - A different mind is a gifted mind', India's first bridgital autism support network.

World Autism Awareness Day Observed on 2nd April 2022. CADRRE honorary director G. Vijaya Raghavan.

4. Union Cabinet Approves Signing Of Pact Between India And Chile In Disability Sector

The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of a pact between India and Chile for cooperation in the disability sector.

The Memorandum of Understanding will encourage cooperation between the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and the Government of Chile through joint initiatives in the disabilities sector. Chile's Capital: Santiago; Currency: Chilean peso

5. OIL signs MoU for Carbon sequestration, restoration of degraded forest land in Digboi

Oil India Limited signed an MoU with Digboi Forest Division, Assam Forest Department on 29th April 2022 for a project on Carbon Sequestration and Restoration of Degraded Forest Land in Upper Dihing Reserved Forest (west block) under Digboi Forest Division. The initiative has been undertaken under OIL's CSR project Vasundhara.

6. ONGC inks MoU with Norway's Equinor to collaborate on E&P, clean energy

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Equinor ASA, the Norwegian state-owned multinational energy company. The MoU was inked in New Delhi for collaboration and partnership in areas of upstream Exploration & Production, midstream, downstream & Clean energy options, including Carbon Capture Utilization & Sequestration. Norway Capital: Oslo; Currency: Norwegian krone

7. Fintech start-up FidyPay partners Yes Bank to drive financial inclusion

Fitech start-up FidyPay has partnered with Yes Bank to extend the digital facilitation to a wide array of businesses, comprising fintechs, SMEs, and start-ups.

As part of the association, FidyPay will be enabling a seamless connected banking experience to Yes Bank's customers, the company said in a release.

8. IIT Bombay Ties Up With India Meteorological Department For Developing User-Friendly Weather Forecasting App

India Meteorological Department has signed an agreement with IIT Bombay to work together for developing climate solutions for the stakeholders at village, city, and district levels through user-friendly weather forecasting applications.

IIT Bombay has also set up the first-ever chair professorship in climate studies.

9. Exim Bank enters into an agreement with the SBM (Mauritius) to provide an additional LoC of USD 190 million

Exim Bank has entered into an agreement with the SBM (Mauritius) Infrastructure Development Company Ltd (SBMIDCL) to provide a supported Line of Credit of USD 190m.

The agreement has been entered for the purpose of financing its participation through Redeemable Preference Shares in public sector entities for implementing the ongoing Metro Express & infrastructure Projects.

10. E-Commerce Marketplace ' Etsy Inks Pact With NEHHDC To Support Northeast-Based Weavers & Traditional Artisans

Etsy, the global marketplace for unique and creative goods, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handloom Development Corporation (NEHHDC) to promote small sellers, weavers, and craftsmen by providing market access and enablement support.

11. To Curb Child Trafficking, Railway Protection Force Joins Hands With Association For Voluntary Action

The Railway Protection Force (RPF) has joined hands with the Association for Voluntary Action (AVA) to prevent human trafficking, especially child trafficking, and create awareness against it in the country.

The Railways is the lifeline of the nation as it is the primary transporter of the country and, therefore, a major route for human traffickers for transportation.

12. India, Madagascar sign MoU to explore co-production of TV programmes

India and Madagascar signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in Antananarivo between the public broadcaster of the two countries to explore the co-production of programmes and training, exchange of personnel.

The MoU mandates collaboration between India's Prasar Bharati and Madagascar's ORTM (Office de la Radio et de la Television).

13. Swedish automaker Scania join hands with Wipro for digital transformation

Going forward, Wipro will deliver streamlined support with increased automation and enhanced user experience through personalized services underpinned by real-time analytics to create a future-ready workplace for all Scania employees. This journey will be powered using Wipro's Live Workspace solution for managed services.

14. Collaboration between MoRD and Amazon for online marketing of SHG products through MoU Signing and Exchange

An MoU between Ministry of Rural Development and Amazon Seller Services Private Limited (Amazon) was signed at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi in presence of Shri Giriraj Singh - Union Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department and Shri Nagandra Nath Sinha, Secretary - Rural Development.

15. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship partners with Indian School of Business to further built capacity of officers

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) recently partnered with the Indian School of Business (ISB) to conduct capacity-building programs for MSDE officials. A total of 120 officers (30 per batch) across divisions under MSDE would be undergoing a comprehensive five-day-long residential training across ISB Hyderabad and Mohali campuses.

16. NSE Academy collaborates with HDFC MF for financial awareness programme

NSE Academy Ltd (NAL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Stock Exchange of India Ltd (NSE) has signed an agreement with HDFC Asset Management Company Ltd (HDFC AMC) to launch a first-of-its-kind programme, 'Invest-verse: An Introduction to the World of Investing'. The programme will be offered to college students across India. This initiative is expected to be rolled out May-June.

17. India, Jamaica sign MoU for cooperation in diplomatic training

India and Jamaica signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation in diplomatic training in Kingston city.

It was inked in presence of President Ram Nath Kovind and his Jamaican counterpart Andrew Holness.

Jamaica:- a Caribbean island nation. Jamaica capital:- Kingston; Currency: Jamaican dollar.

18. GeM, CSC and India Posts Signs MoU

Government eMarketplace [GeM], CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. (CSC-SPV), and the Department of Posts inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the advocacy, outreach, mobilization, and capacity-building of last-mile Govt buyers, sellers and service providers in public procurement.

19. C-DOT And Vodafone Idea Limited Sign MoU For Cooperation In Area Of IoT/M2M.

Centre for Development of Telematics(C-DOT), the premier R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, Government of India and Vodafone Idea Limited, one of the major telecom operators of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the occasion of 'World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (May 17)'.

20. Ministry of Heavy Industries signs MoU with NRDC for enhancement of Capital Goods Scheme

Ministry of Heavy Industries has signed an MoU with National Research Development Corporation for undertaking various activities for smooth implementation of the Scheme for enhancement of competitiveness in the Indian capital goods sector.

The vision of this MoU is to make India a global hub for the manufacturing of capital goods. Union minister of Heavy Industries:- Mahendra Nath Pandey

21. CCI approves OFB Tech's acquisition of majority stake in SMW Ispat

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition of majority stake in SMW Ispat Private Limited by OFB Tech Private Limited.

The proposed combination envisages acquisition of majority stake in SMW Ispat Private Limited (SMW Ispat) by OFB Tech Private Limited (OFB Tech),

22. CCI approves acquisition by Sanoti Properties LLP of shareholding in Magma HDI General Insurance Company Limited

The CCI approves acquisition by Sanoti Properties LLP (Sanoti/Acquirer) of shareholding in Magma HDI General Insurance Company Limited (Magma HDI/Target) under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.

Sanoti is engaged in the business of development of commercial and residential real estate projects.

23. GeM inks MoU with Self Employed Women's Association

Government eMarketplace (GeM) and Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the advocacy, outreach, mobilisation and capacity-building of last-mile women-led micro and small enterprises and women entrepreneurs.

The MoU was signed by CEO of GeM P. K. Singh and Vice-President of SEWA Rehana Riyawala in New Delhi.

24. Saudi Tourism signs MoU with EaseMyTrip, to jointly collaborate on key tourism initiatives

The Saudi Tourism Authority and EaseMyTrip have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to boost inbound tourism to Saudi Arabia by leveraging the company's travel network. Through this MoU, EaseMyTrip and Saudi Arabia Tourism will explore opportunities to jointly collaborate on key initiatives and undertake various activities.

25. RBL Bank Collaborates With Amazon Pay To Offer UPI Payment Services

RBL Bank, Amazon Pay and Amazon Web Services (AWS) have announced a collaboration to offer UPI payments. The Bank has partnered with Amazon Pay to offer peer-to-peer and peer-to-merchant transactions. With this integration, Amazon Pay will issue NPCI's allocated UPI ID with the handle @rapl, to RBL Bank.

26. India, Singapore agree to share more information and best practices to counter terrorism

India and Singapore has strongly condemned terrorism in all its forms including cross border terrorism. Both the countries stressed the need to enhance international cooperation to combat terrorism in a comprehensive manner. India and Singapore held the 4th meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on Combating Terrorism and Transnational Crime in Singapore.

27. DIPR & NFDC ink Memorandum of Understanding for J&K's First National Film Festival

J&K's Department of Information and Public Relations has inked a MoU with the National Film Development Corporation Limited for the upcoming 1st National Film Festival of J&K.

The purpose of the festival is to highlight and promote the creative ecosystem of the UT, besides branding J&K as the most preferred destination for filmmakers from the country and abroad.

28. St Vincent and India to sign MOU on Health and Medicine

The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will sign two Memoranda of Understanding ' MOU with the Government of India.

According to the Agency for Public Information ' API, the first memorandum of understanding between both countries will be on automatic exchange of information and assistance in collection of taxes. The other MOU will be on Health and Medicine.

29. HDFC Bank partners with B2B pharma marketplace Retailio to launch co-branded credit cards

India's largest private sector bank, HDFC Bank partnered with Retailio announced the launch of a new range of co-branded credit cards primarily targeted at chemists and pharmacies in the merchant segment. Retailio is the country's largest B2B pharma marketplace.

The partnership is likely to cover over 1.4 lakh merchants in the first phase of its roll-out.

30. Investment Incentive Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of United States of America

The Government of India and the Government of the USA have signed an Investment Incentive Agreement (IIA) in Tokyo, Japan. This IIA supersedes the Investment Incentive Agreement signed between India and the USA in the year 1997. The Agreement is the legal requirement for DFC, a development finance agency of the USA, to continue providing investment support in India.

31. Tata Power, Tata Motors Collaborate To Develop A 7mwp solar rooftop project

Tata Power and Tata Motors announced collaborating on a project to develop a 7 MWp solar rooftop project at Tata Motors' plant in Chikhali, Pune, making the unit home to India's largest on-site solar project. This is the third phase of a joint MWp on-site solar project developed by the two companies. A 10 MWp has been previously installed. The two companies have also inked a power purchase agreement (PPA) for the project.

32. NICSI signs MoU with Delhi School of Management for R&D management and Consultancy in e-Governance

National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated (NICSI), a Government of India Enterprise under the National Informatics Centre,

Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), and Delhi School of Management (DSM), Delhi Technological University (DTU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

33. Tata Tech ink ties with Assam Govt to transform polytechnics, ITIs into centres of excellence

Global engineering and product development digital services firm Tata Technologies Ltd on has entered into a collaboration with the Assam government to transform 34 state polytechnics and 43 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) into futuristic Centres of Excellence (CoEs) entailing an investment of about Rs 2,390 crore.

34. India, UAE sign MoU to establish framework to facilitate & enhance bilateral cooperation on climate action

The agreement was signed between Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Bhupender Yadav and UAE Climate Envoy and Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology Dr Sultan Al Jaber. The basic objective of this MoU is to establish a framework to facilitate and enhance bilateral cooperation on climate action, and also contributes towards implementing the Paris Agreement

35. RailTel, Esri India enter into MoU for cloud-based geographic information system

State-owned and telecom infrastructure provider RailTel Corporation of India Ltd has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with geographic information system software and solutions provider Esri India to address the requirement of users in the government sector.

36. PAISALO and UCO Bank to Enable AGRI and Allied AGRI with Small Ticket Size Income Generation Loans

UCO Bank has signed a co-lending agreement with NBFC Paisalo Digital Limited for agriculture business to capitalize on the huge Rs 8 lakh crore market of small-ticket loans for the 365 million underbanked and under-serviced population.

The tie-up will give a boost to the agriculture advance of the bank.

37. EAM Jaishankar signs MoU with Hungarian FM on International Solar Alliance

External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on International Solar Alliance (ISA) with the Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto in New Delhi.


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Schemes

1. PMJJBY, PMSBY And Atal Pension Yojana (APY) Complete 7 Years Of Providing Social Security Net

As we celebrate the 7th anniversaries of three social security (Jan Suraksha) schemes, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY), let us focus on how these schemes have provided affordable insurance and security to people (Jan Suraksha), their achievements and salient features.

2. Madhya Pradesh govt launches second phase of Ladli Laxmi scheme to make girls self-reliant

In Madhya Pradesh, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has launched Ladli Laxmi schme-2.0 during a state-level function at Lal Parade Ground in Bhopal.

The Chief Minister also dedicated the Ladli e-Samvad app to establish a continuous dialogue with Ladlis.

3. Pilot project for Skilling tribal youth launched from Bhopal, MP

Minister of State, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Electronics and IT, Rajeev Chandrasekhar launched Pilot Project for Skilling Tribal Youth - Rural Tribal Technical Training at the Centre for Research and Industrial Staff Performance CRISP, Bhopal. The pilot project envisages training for 250 beneficiaries of 17 clusters of 17 districts of 6 states.

Name of the Rural Tribal Technical Training Program: Grameen Udhyami Project.

4. Over nine crore fifty lakh rural households provided with tap water connections in country: Govt

The country has achieved the milestone of fifty per cent rural households having access to tap water connections under the Jal Jeevan Mission. The Ministry of Jal Shakti said that more than nine crore fifty lakh rural households now have access to tap water connections within their premises.

5. PM Sh Mod Unveils PM CARES for Children Scheme: Rs 4K a Month for Basic Needs, Free Treatment for Kids Who Lost Parents to Covid

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released the benefits of PM CARES for Children scheme for children who lost their parents due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

PM Modi has promised Rs 4,000 a month for basic needs, financial support for schooling, scholarship for higher education, and free treatment upto Rs 5 lakh.



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Appointments & Resignations

1. JioSaavn Hires Former Amazon Music Head Sahas Malhotra as CEO

Music application firm JioSaavn has appointed previous Amazon Music director and entertainment industry veteran Sahas Malhotra as its new CEO. Malhotra has prior worked with Sony Music India and Tips Industries. At Tips Industries, Sahas was driving the business at Tips Music and marketing for Tips Film production. Established in 2007 as Saavn, JioSaavn is audio streaming service for South Asian music

2. Senior IFS officer Vinay Mohan Kwatra assumes charge as India's new Foreign Secretary

Senior IFS officer Vinay Mohan Kwatra assumed charge as India's new Foreign Secretary. He succeeded incumbent Harsh Vardhan Shringla. A 1988 batch IFS officer, Mr. Kwatra was earlier serving as India's Ambassador to Nepal.

3. NRAI Appoints Joydeep Karmakar As National Chief Rifle Coach

Joydeep Karmakar, a decade after he missed a bronze by a whisker at the 2012 London Olympics, is back with the Indian team as the chief national rifle coach till June 2025, a tenure that will include the 2024 Paris Olympics.

He was appointed by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI).

4. Indian-origin Nand Mulchandani appointed 1st-ever chief tech officer of CIA

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the first line of defense for the United States, announced the appointment of Nand Mulchandani as its first-ever Chief Technology Officer (CTO).

Before joining the intelligence agency, Mulchandani served as the CTO and acting director of the Joint Artificial Intelligence Centre under the US Department of Defence. CIA Director- William J. Burns.

5. Retired IAS officer, ex- petroleum secretary Tarun Kapoor appointed as advisor to PM Modi

The Centre appointed retired Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer and former Petroleum Secretary Tarun Kapoor as an advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in the Prime Minister's Office.

The ACC appointment of Kapoor, superannuated as the secretary of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on November 30, 2022.

6. Andy Jassy To Officially Become Next Amazon CEO On July 5th

Amazon's 27th birthday ' Andy Jassy will become the new Chief Executive Officer of the company. The news came as Jeff Bezos revealed he will be formally stepping down as CEO to transition to executive chairman of Amazon's board.

Jassy had previously worked as CEO of Amazon Web Services, the company's cloud computing service that helps power sites like Netflix and Spotify.

7. Venkataramani Sumantran appointed chairman of InterGlobe Aviation's Board of Directors

Venkataramani Sumantran has been Appointed as the chairman of the Board of Directors of InterGlobe Aviation, the parent company of India's largest airline IndiGo. Sumantran succeeds Meleveetil Damodaran.

He is currently the Chairman & Managing Director of Celeris Technologies, a strategic advisory firm engaged in the domains of automotive, mobility, digital transformation.

8. IBM Chairman Arvind Krishna elected to Board of Directors of Federal Reserve Bank of New York

IBM Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Arvind Krishna has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The Federal Reserve Act of 1913 requires each of the Reserve Banks to operate under the supervision of a board of directors. Each Reserve Bank has nine directors.

9. Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor Takes Charge as DG (Inspection and Safety)

Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor took charge as Director General (Inspection and Safety) [DG(I&S)] of Indian Air Force at New Delhi.

The Air Marshal is a graduate of National Defence Academy and was commissioned in the Flying branch of IAF in December 1985 as a Transport Pilot.

10. Alkesh Kumar Sharma assumes charge as new Secretary for Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology

Alkesh Kumar Sharma assumed charge as Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY).

He is an Indian Administrative Services Officer of 1990 batch, from Kerala cadre.

He earlier served as Additional Secretary and Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat. Minister of Railways, & MeitY:- Ashwini Vaishnav.

11. Sudarshan Venu appointed Managing Director of TVS Motor

Sudarshan Venu has been appointed as the new Managing Director of the TVS Motor Company.

He is the son of Venu Srinivasan, who has now become the Chairman Emeritus. Prior to this, Sudarshan was the Joint Managing Director of the company.

TVS has also announced the appointment of Prof. Sir Ralf Speth as the Chairman of the company.

12. Pushp Kumar Joshi appointed HPCL Chairman and Managing Director

Pushp Kumar Joshi, who recently took over as the interim chairman and managing director of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL), has been appointed on the Board of the nation's third-largest oil refining and fuel marketing company.

He was picked by Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) to succeed Mukesh Kumar Surana.

13. Capt Rajesh Unni takes over as Vice-Chair at Maritime Anti-Corruption Network

Captain Rajesh Unni, Founder and CEO of Synergy Group, one of the world's leading ship managers and one of India's largest maritime enterprises, believes shipping is becoming a more transparent industry, but more can and should be done to tackle corruption. Maritime Anti-Corruption Network's headquarters:- Denmark.

14. Yoon Suk-Yeol Sworn In As South Korean President

Yoon Suk-yeol was sworn in as South Korean president in a huge ceremony at Seoul's National Assembly, taking office at a time of high tensions with the nuclear-armed North.

15. City Union Bank gets M Narayanan as part-time chairman

M. Narayanan has assumed charge as part time chairman of City Union Bank Ltd. for a period of 2 years.

The bank announced his appointment after accepting the recommendations of the RBI.

16. Hungary elects Katalin Novak as first female President of the country

In Hungary, Katalin Novak has taken over as the first female President of the country. Her predecessor, Janos Ader, greeted the new president at the entrance to the Sandor Palace, the residence of the Hungarian president.

Hungary is a landlocked country in Central Europe. Its capital, Budapest, is bisected by the Danube River. Its Currency is Hungarian forint.

17. India elected as Chair of the Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA) for 2022-24

India has been unanimously elected as the new Chair of the Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA) for 2022-2024 at the recently held meeting of the Executive board and General Assembly at Manila, Philippines on May 7, 2022.

Commission on Elections, Manila was the current chair of AAEA.

18. American Express appoints Manoj Adlakha as SVP and International head, customer marketing and Sanjay Khanna as interim CEO

American Express has appointed Manoj Adlakha as SVP and International head of customer marketing. Sanjay Khanna who is currently the chief operating officer, American Express Banking Corp., (AEBC) India, will take over as the interim CEO. The appointment will come into effect on May 14, 2022.

19. Rajiv Kumar appointed as next Chief Election Commissioner, to take charge on May 15

The Union Ministry of Law and Justice announced Rajiv Kumar, the current Election Commissioner, will take over as the next Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) from May 15. Kumar will take charge from CEC Sushil Chandra, who is due to retire.

In pursuance of clause (2) of Article 324 of the Constitution, the President made the appointment. He will assume charge as the 25th Chief Election Commissioner.

20. Campbell Wilson appointed CEO and MD of Air India

Campbell Wilson has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) & Managing Director (MD) of Air India, Tata Sons announced. Wilson was previously the CEO of Scoot, a Singaporean low-cost airline and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Singapore Airlines.

N Chandrasekaran, Chairman, Air India.

21. Aruna Singh takes additional charge as CMD of RailTel

RailTel Corporation of India Limited, an Indian public sector enterprise focusing on providing broadband and VPN services, announced the appointment of Aruna Singh as Chairman cum Managing Director of the company, with effect from May 11, 2022.

22. Ravinder Singh Dhillon appointed CMD of REC Ltd

REC Limited, (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited) a Navratna company under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power, announced it has named Ravinder Singh Dhillon as Chairman and Managing Director of the company, with effect from May 10, 2022.

23. IDBI Bank appoints TN Manoharan as part-time Chairman

The Board of Directors of the Bank has approved the appointment of Shri T. N. Manoharan, Independent Director as Part-time Chairman (PTC) of IDBI Bank, for a period of 3 years with effect from May 09, 2022.

24. Ranil Wickremesinghe Appointed Sri Lanka PM for the 5th Time

Ranil Wickremesinghe took oath as Sri Lanka's new prime minister marking the fifth time the 73-year-old became PM of the country.

This comes after former PM Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned from the post on 9 May amid the worst economic crisis facing the country since 1948.

Srilanka President- Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

25. Power Ministry additional secy Vivek Kumar Dewangan appointed CMD of REC

The Government of India appointed Vivek Kumar Dewangan, Additional Secretary in the Union Power Ministry, as the chairman and managing director of power sector lender REC Ltd, formerly known as Rural Electrification Corporation.

REC Limited is a public infrastructure finance company in the power sector; it is a PSU that finances and promotes power projects across India.

26. Nidhi Chibber appointed CBSE chairperson

Nidhi Chibber has been appointed as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). She has been appointed as chairperson of the CBSE in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary to the government of India, an order issued by the Personnel Ministry.

27. RBI appoints Sitikantha Pattanaik, Rajiv Ranjan as executive directors

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Rajiv Ranjan as Executive Director (ED) with effect from May 1. Prior to the appointment, Dr. Ranjan was serving as Adviser-in-Charge of Monetary Policy Department and Secretary to the Monetary Policy Committee.

The RBI has also announced the appointment of Sitikantha Pattanaik as the new Executive Director.

28. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan appointed President of UAE

The Supreme Council of the Union elected Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Ruler of Abu Dhabi, as President of the UAE.

The Council held a meeting at the Mushrif Palace in Abu Dhabi, headed by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

29. Manik Saha appointed Tripura chief minister after Biplab Deb resigns

With Biplab Kumar Deb resigning as the chief minister of Tripura, Rajya Sabha MP Dr. Manik Saha will replace him for the post.

Union Minister Bhupender Yadav and party general secretary Vinod Tawde were in Agartala as central observers.

Tripura State Governor Satyadeo Narain Arya.

30. Larsen & Toubro re-appoints S N Subrahmanyan as MD & CEO

Larsen & Toubro announced the re-appointment of S. N. Subrahmanyan as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the company, with effect from July 1, 2022.

He led L& T's foray into the realm of executing developmental projects starting with the extremely successful HITEC City project in Hyderabad and the Bangalore International Airport.

31. Gram Unnati appoints India's former Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora as Chairman

India's 1st full-stack agricultural value chain services announced the appointment of Sunil Arora, former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India, as its board's new Chairman (Non-Executive).

He has served as Secretary to two key ministries-The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and the then newly set up Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. Aneesh Jain, CEO and Founder, Gram Unnati

32. BSE Ebix Appoints Sachin Seth as CEO & Managing Director

BSE Ebix Insurance Broking Private Limited (BSE Ebix), a joint venture of BSE and Ebix Singapore Pte Ltd., announced today that Sachin Seth has been appointed as CEO and MD of BSE Ebix.

EbixCash, a subsidiary of Ebix, Inc. is in the process of seeking IRDA approval to transfer its share ownership in BSE EBIX from its parent Ebix Singapore Pte Ltd. to EbixCash Limited.

33. B Govindarajan appointed as CEO of Royal Enfield

Eicher Motors has appointed B Govindarajan as the Chief Executive Officer of Royal Enfield. He will also serve as the Wholetime Director of the Board of Eicher Motors Limited.

Govindarajan played a key role in the development of the Himalayan, Continental GT 650 and Interceptor INT 650 and the recent J-platform based Meteor and Classic 350 models.

34. Elisabeth Borne appointed as new France Prime Minister following Jean Castex's resignation

Elisabeth Borne was appointed France's new Prime Minister to become the second woman to hold the post in the country.

Borne is the second woman to hold the position after Edith Cresson, who was Prime Minister in 1991-1992 under Socialist President Francois Mitterrand.

She has served as Labor Minister in Macrons previous government since 2020. France President - Emmanuel Macron.

35. Bajaj Finserv's Sanjiv Bajaj takes over as CII president

Sanjiv Bajaj, chairman and managing director of Bajaj Finserv Limited, has assumed office as the president of CII for 2022-23. Hero MotoCorp Ltd Chairman and CEO Pawan Munjal is the CII President-Designate for 2022-23, whereas TVS Supply Chain Solutions Executive Vice Chairman R Dinesh takes over as CII Vice President.

36. Siemens India appoints SAP Labs India MD Sindhu Gangadharan to its board

Siemens India has appointed Sindhu Gangadharan, senior vice-president and MD, SAP Labs India, and head, SAP User Enablement, to its board of directors as an independent director. Gangadharan also serves on the board of organisations like US-based Qualtrics, Titan Company and EverLoop by SAP. She became the first woman to lead SAP Labs India.

37. Naveen Srivastava appointed as next Ambassador of India to Nepal

India announced the appointment of Naveen Srivastava, currently additional secretary in the external affairs ministry, as the next ambassador to Nepal.

Srivastava will succeed Vinay Kwatra, who became foreign secretary this month, as the envoy to Kathmandu.

38. BSE appoints Ex RBI Deputy Guv SS Mundra as Chairman

BSE Limited announced that it has approved the appointment of SS Mundra, Public Interest Director as the Chairman of the board of directors of the company. Mundra will replace Justice Vikramajit Sen who is the current chairman.

Mundra was appointed as Public Interest Director at BSE in January 2018. He retired as Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank of India on 30th July 2017. Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan is the MD & CEO of BSE.

39. IndiGo appoints Pieter Elbers as CEO; Ronojoy Dutta to retire on Sept 30

The Board of Directors of InterGlobe Aviation Limited appointed Pieter Elbers as Chief Executive Officer. He will join IndiGo on or before 1 Oct 2022. He succeeds Ronojoy Dutta who has decided to retire on 30 September 2022.

Elbers has served as the President and CEO of KLM Royal Dutch since 2014 and is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Air France-KLM Group. Rahul Bhatia, Managing Director of IndiGo.

40. Anil Baijal, Delhi L-G, submits resignation to President Sh. Kovind

Delhi lieutenant governor (L-G) Anil Baijal resigned citing personal reasons, he has submitted the resignation to President Ram Nath Kovind. Baijal, who took over office on December 31, 2016, after the sudden resignation of Najeeb Jung, has served a long tenure of more than five years and four months.

Baijal was appointed the home secretary in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government.

41. UCO Bank appoints Sujoy Dutta as CFO

UCO Bank has designated Sujoy Dutta as the new chief financial officer with immediate effect.

Dutta holds a bachelor diploma in commerce from Calcutta College and he's a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountant of India (ICAI).

42. Sudhakar T N assumes Charge of Chairman & Managing Director, GSL

Shri Sudhakar T N takes over additional charge as Chairman & Managing Director of Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) on demitting of office of the CMD, GSL by Cmde B B Nagpal, NM, IN, (Retd).

43. Kuldeep Singh recommended as CMD of HIL (India) Limited

Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) recommended Mr. Kuldeep Singh for the Chairman and Managing Director of HIL (India) Limited. Currently, he is serving as the Senior General Manager, National Seeds Corporation (NSC).

44. PN Vasudevan resigns as MD & CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank

P N Vasudevan has resigned as the managing director and chief executive officer Equitas Small Finance Bank.

Vasudevan, notably, is the founder of Equitas and has been associated with its journey as a micro finance institution dating back to 2007. The entity was converted into a bank, under his leadership, in 2016.

45. Vijay Shekhar Sharma re-appointed as MD & CEO of Paytm till Dec 2027

Vijay Shekhar Sharma has been re-appointed as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Paytm a tenure of 5 years. His tenure will be from December 19, 2022, to December 18, 2027.

Madhur Deora, the Chief Financial Officer of the company, has been appointed as an Additional Director w.e.f. May 20, 2022 for a period of five years.

46. IFS Vivek Kumar appointed as new PS to Prime Minister Narendra Modi

IFS Vivek Kumar was appointed as Private Secretary (PS) to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday. Vivek Kumar is currently the director of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) presided by PM Modi approved Vivek Kumar's appointment.

He will replace Sanjeev Kumar Singla in the capacity of PM Modi's PS. Sanjeev Kumar Singla is set to take over as India's Ambassador to Israel.

47. PM congratulates H. E. Anthony Albanese for the victory of the Australian Labor Party, and his election as PM

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has congratulated H. E. Anthony Albanese on the victory of the Australian Labor Party, and his election as the Prime Minister. Anthony Albanese has led his Labor Party to victory in the national election in Australia, ending nine years of conservative rule.

48. Infosys reappoints Salil Parekh as CEO and MD for the next 5 years

IT company Infosys has reappointed Salil Parekh as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the firm, effective from July 1, 2022, for a period of five years till March 31, 2027, subject to the approval of shareholders. Parekh, 57, has been the CEO & MD of Infosys since January 2018 and has successfully led Infosys over the last 4 years.

49. Vinai Kumar Saxena Appointed As Delhi's New Lieutenant Governor

Vinai Kumar Saxena will be the new lieutenant governor of Delhi, President Ram Nath Kovind's office announced. Anil Baijal, the Union territory's twenty-first LG, resigned on May 18 citing 'personal reasons.' Saxena is the current chairman of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, an organisation under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

50. JSW One Platforms appoints Gaurav Sachdeva as CEO

JSW One Platforms, an e-commerce venture by JSW Group, has appointed Gaurav Sachdeva as CEO. Sachdeva transitioned from his role at JSW Ventures where he led venture capital investments for the fund. In his new role, his aim is to create a platform that will ease buying and selling of steel and other products for manufacturing and construction MSMEs in the country.

51. Supreme Court appoints 3 member Committee of Administrators to manage affairs of All India Football Federation

The Supreme Court has appointed a three-member Committee of Administrators (CoA) headed by former apex court judge AR Dave to manage the affairs of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and adoption of its constitution in line with the National Sports Code and model guidelines. Other Members:- Dr SY Qureshi, Bhaskar Ganguly .

52. Nobel winner Jose Ramos-Horta sworn in as East Timor president

Former independence fighter and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Jose Ramos-Horta was sworn in as president of East Timor ahead of celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of independence for Asia's youngest country.

Xanana Gusmao returns as East Timor PM in coalition government.

Ramos-Horta, who was prime minister from 2006 to 2007 and president from 2007 to 2012. East Timor:- Capital: Dili; Currency:- US Dollar

53. Narinder Batra Steps Down as Indian Olympic Association President

Narinder Batra will step down as the president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) at the end of his term to focus more on his job as the head of the International Hockey Federation (FIH).

The 65-year-old Batra took charge of the IOA for the first time in 2017 and was eligible to contest for reelection.

54. Geetanjali Shree's Novel 'Tomb of Sand' wins International Booker prize; becomes first novel translated from Hindi to win award

Hindi author Geetanjali Shree's novel Ret Samadhi, Tomb of Sand has won the International Booker prize, becoming the first novel translated from Hindi to do so.

Geetanjali Shree is not only the award's first Hindi winner, but also it is for the first time a book originally written in any Indian language has won the Booker prize.

55. Justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty Appointed Acting Chairperson Of Lokpal

President Ram Nath Kovind appointed Justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty as Acting Chairperson, Lokpal.

Justice Mohanty has been authorised by the President to act as Chairperson, Lokpal, in the vacancy caused due to completion of the tenure of Justice Pinaki Chandra Bose, Chairperson, Lokpal.

56. World Health Assembly re-elects Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus to second term as WHO Director-General

WHO Member States re-elected Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus to serve a second five-year term as Director-General of the world's leading public health agency. Dr Tedros was first elected in 2017. His re-election was confirmed during the 75th World Health Assembly in Geneva. Dr Tedros served as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ethiopia from 2012'2016 and as Minister of Health Headquarter of World Health Organisation (WHO) is located at Geneva

57. Tokyo Bronze Medallist Lovlina Borgohain elected as IBA's Athletes' Committee Chairperson

International Boxing Association (IBA) in May 2022 announced that Indian boxer and Tokyo Olympics Bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain has received the highest number of votes during the election held at the 2022 Women's World Championships and thus has been elected as the chair and a voting member on the Board of Directors for the IBA's Athletes' Committee. Indian boxer Shiva Thapa has also been elected as a member of the IBA Athletes Committee

58. Gopal Vittal reappointed as Airtel MD & CEO for 5 years

Bharti Airtel has announced the reappointment of Gopal Vittal as its Managing Director & CEO for another five years till January 31, 2028.

Bharti Airtel posted consolidated net profit at Rs 2,007.8 crore in the March quarter, up 141 per cent sequentially and 164 per cent on year.

59. Centre appoints DFS Joint Secretary Pankaj Sharma as PFRDA part-time member

The Centre has appointed Pankaj Sharma, Joint Secretary in Department of Financial Services (DFS) as part-time member of the Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority (PFRDA).

In the PFRDA Board, Pankaj Sharma has come in the place of erstwhile DFS Additional Secretary Vandita Kaul.

PFRDA has a Chairman besides three whole-time members and three part-time members. In 2021-22, Pension AUM grew at a rate of 27.43 per cent at '7.37 lakh crore



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Awards

1. DD National Pet Show Wins ENBA Award 2021

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

Objective of the show is to maintain a two way communication where viewers can directly call and talk to the experts, & share their worries & experiences.

2. Glenmark bags 'India Pharma Innovation of Year' Award from Govt of India

Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (Glenmark), a global pharmaceutical firm focused on innovation, was named runner-up in the 'India Pharma Innovation of Year' category and also awarded the 'India Pharma CSR of the Year' award as part of the India Pharma & India Medical Device Awards 2022.

3. NASA climate research scientist wins World Food Prize

A NASA climate research scientist who has spent much of her career explaining how global food production must adapt to a changing climate was awarded the World Food Prize.

Cynthia Rosenzweig, an agronomist and climatologist, was awarded the \$250,000 prize in recognition of her innovative modeling of the impact of climate change on food production.

4. Ardeshir B K Dubash conferred highest diplomatic award by the Government of Peru

The former Honorary Consul of Peru in Mumbai, Mr. Ardeshir B.K. Dubash, received the Order of 'Merit in the Diplomatic Service of Peru Jos Gregorio Paz Soldn', the highest distinction conferred by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru.

Mr. Dubash was designated as Honorary Consul of Peru on August 13th, 1973.

5. Mamata Banerjee honored with Special Bangla Academy Award

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee received the Bangla Academy Award for her "relentless literary pursuit". The award, introduced this year by Sahitya Academy, was presented to Banerjee for her book "Kabita Bitan", which pays tribute to the best writers of West Bengal.

Mamata Banerjee's 'Kabita Bitan' was launched at the 2020 Kolkata Book Fair.

6. President confers 13 Shaurya Chakras, Param Vishisht Seva Medal to Army Chief

President Ram Nath Kovind conferred 13 Shaurya Chakras which included six posthumous to the personnel of Indian Armed forces for their conspicuous courage displayed during operations.

Army Chief General Manoj Pande was conferred with the Param Vishisht Seva Medal for his distinguished service of exceptional order at a defence investiture ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan.

7. Gurusamy Krishnamoorthy to receive the Member of the Royal Order of British Empire (MBE) recognition

Guruswamy Krishnamoorthy, CEO of Penlon, a world-class British medical technology firm, is likely to receive The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division) Award 2022 ' Honorary Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) recognition from the Queen at Buckingham Palace, London, UK. Guruswamy Krishnamoorthy hails from Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India.

8. GAIL awards contract to set up PEM based Green Hydrogen project

In line with the National Hydrogen Mission targets, GAIL (India) Limited has awarded a contract to set up one of the country's largest Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) based green hydrogen projects.

The project would be installed at GAIL's Vijaipur Complex, in Guna district of Madhya Pradesh, and would be based on renewable power. The project is scheduled to be commissioned by November 2023.

9. Power Minister confers NHPC with first prize of 'Rajbhasha Shield'

Union Power Minister RK Singh has conferred NHPC Limited with the first prize for the year 2020-21 and the second prize for the year 2018-19 for excellent implementation of Rajbhasha during the meeting of Hindi Salahkar Samiti chaired by Hon'ble Union Minister of Power at New Delhi. NHPC :-National Hydroelectric Power Corporation

10. Cameroonian Activist, Ccile Ndjebet Wins Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award

A veteran Cameroonian activist, Ccile Ndjebet is the recipient of the 2022 Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), which is chaired by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Ndjebet is a co-founder of the African Women's Network for Community Management of Forests, established in 2009.

11. Ajay Piramal receives honorary British award from Queen Elizabeth

Ajay Piramal, Chairman of the Piramal Group, has received an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) award from Queen Elizabeth II.

He received the award for his services to the UK-India trade relationship as the Indian Co-Chair of the UK-India CEO Forum.

12. Start-up incubated by NIF wins Amazon Smbhav '22 award

Shri Subhash Ola, an innovator from Rajasthan who has developed the technology of saving energy in boilers by recycling steam, has won the 1st prize for the Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022 and his enterprise 'Geniusenergy Critical Innovation Private Limited' has won the Start-up of the Year award.

13. Anjali Pandey of Cummins India bags the CII EXCON Committed Leader Award

Anjali Pandey, Engines and Components Business Unit Leader at Cummins India has been awarded with the Committed Leader Award at CII EXCON 2022 in Bengaluru for her efforts to create a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace.

14. WHO honours India's one million all-women ASHA workers for 'outstanding' contribution to advancing global health

India's 1 million all-women ASHA workers were awarded and honoured by WHO for their 'outstanding' contribution to advancing global health, demonstrated leadership and commitment to regional health issues. They were honoured for their crucial role in linking the community with the health system and ensuring those living in rural poverty can access primary health care service.

15. Music Academy announces Sangita Kalanidhi awards for three years

The Music Academy announced Sangita Kalanidhi award winners for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022, physical festival could not be conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic in last 2 years

Noted vocalist and teacher Neyveli R. Santhanagopalan for 2020, mridhangam maestro Tiruvarur Baktavatsalam for 2021 and violinists Lalgudi GJR Krishnan and his sister GJR Vijayalakshmi for 2022

16. Nawazuddin Siddiqui honoured with Excellence in Cinema award at the French Riviera Film Festival

Bollywood actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui has been honoured with an international award for his contribution to cinema.

At the prestigious French Riviera Film Festival, Emmy award-winning American actor Vincent De Paul bestowed the honour on Siddiqui.

He is the only actor in the world to have eight films officially selected and screened at the Cannes Film Festival.

17. Dr Gopalakrishnan Receives VASVIK Industrial Research Award

Dr A Gopalakrishnan, Director of the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has won the prestigious VASVIK (Vividhlaxi Audyogik Samshodhan Vikas Kendra) Industrial Research Award for the year 2020 in the category of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. The VASVIK research award is presented to scientists and researchers who have excelled in various fields

Ranks & Reports

1. THE Impact Rankings 2022: India In Top Five Best-Represented Nation, Calcutta University Tops Ranking List

The Times Higher Education (THE) has released the 2022 edition of its Impact Rankings, in which India has been featured as the fourth most-represented nation along with Turkey with 64 universities.

As per the THE rankings, apart from Calcutta University, two universities are in the top 100.

2. India falls 8 positions to 150th rank in RSF 2022 World Press Freedom Index

This year, Norway (1st) Denmark (2nd), Sweden (3rd) Estonia (4th) and Finland (5th) grabbed the top positions, while North Korea remained at the bottom of the list of the 180 countries and territories ranked by the Reporters Without Borders.

The ranking of India's neighbours, except that of Nepal, have also slid down, with the index placing Pakistan at 157th position.

3. Crypto investors' profit jumps 5 times to \$162.7 billion in 2021: Report

Investors in crypto assets around the world realized total gains of \$162.7 billion in 2021, compared with just \$32.5 billion in 2020, according to a report by blockchain data platform Chainalysis.

The year 2021 was a bumper phase for crypto assets with prices of bitcoin jumping 64% during the year, while ethereum spiked 393%.

4. State of the World's Forests 2022: 10% of total forest area on Earth lost in 30 years

The world has lost 420 million hectares (mha), approximately 10.34 per cent of its total forest area in the last 30 years, according to the 2022 edition of The State of the World's Forests (SOFO).

The 420 mha of forests have been lost between 1990 and 2020, due to deforestation, though forests cover 4.06 billion ha (31 per cent) of the earth's geographical area.

5. India logs 6.2 percent hike in death rate during 2020: CRS data

The Central government has released the Civil Registration System (CRS) report 2020 based on birth and death reports.

The Vital Statistics of India based on the Civil Registration System' for 2020 report said that case of registered deaths, the number has increased from 76.4 lakh in the year 2019 to 81.2 lakhs in 2020 showing an increase of 6.2 percent.

6. Unemployment rate at 8.7% in October-December 2021, says NSO survey

The unemployment rate for persons of 15 years and above in urban areas slipped to 8.7 per cent in October-December 2021 from 10.3 per cent in the year-ago quarter, showed a periodic labour force survey by the National Statistical Office (NSO).

Joblessness or unemployment rate (UR) is defined as the percentage of unemployed persons in the labour force.

7. Lionel Messi Tops Forbes' Highest-Paid Athletes List 2022

Lionel Messi is the world's highest-paid athlete, the Paris Saint-Germain superstar has earned \$130 million between his on-field contracts and endorsement deals over the past 12 months. LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers (\$121.2 million) and Cristiano Ronaldo of Manchester United (\$115 million) are the only other athletes who made at least \$100 m in the previous year.

8. SBI net profit rises 41% in Q4 to Rs 9,113.5 crore, misses estimate

State Bank of India has reported a 41 percent year-on-year rise in net profit at Rs 9,113.5 crore for the quarter ended March 2022 (Q4FY22), which was below Street's estimate of Rs 9,927.6 crore.

The net profit growth was on the back of a 15.3 percent growth in net interest income which stood at Rs 31,198 crore.

9. India overtakes Germany to become 4th largest vehicle market

India has once again overtaken Germany to become the fourth largest automotive market.

According to the latest numbers sourced from OICA, the Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles ' the international trade association formed of 39 national automotive industry trade associations. India saw 3,759,398 vehicles sold in 2021, compared to 2,973,319 vehicles in Germany.

10. The State of Inequality in India Report released

The State of Inequality in India Report was released by Dr Bibek Debroy, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM). The report has been written by the Institute for Competitiveness and presents a holistic analysis of the depth and nature of inequality in India. The report consists of two parts ' Economic Facets and Socio-Economic Manifestations.

11. Secretary, MoHUA Launches Swachh Survekshan 2023 Under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0

The Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Shri Manoj Joshi has launched the eighth edition of Swachh Survekshan (SS) ' SS 2023 under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0.

Designed with the theme of 'Waste to Wealth' as its driving philosophy, SS 2023 is curated towards achieving circularity in waste management.

12. Ministry of Education releases National Achievement Survey 2021 report

The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education has released the National Achievement Survey (NAS) 2021 report which assesses the health of the school education system in the country by conducting a comprehensive evaluation survey of children's learning competencies at classes III, V, VIII and X with a cycle period of three years.

13. UN cuts India growth estimate to 6.4% in 2022

According to United Nations, India is expected to grow 6.4% in 2022, well below the 8.8% growth in 2021, as higher inflationary pressures and uneven recovery of the labour market are likely to curb private consumption and investment.

It said the global economy is now projected to grow 3.1% in 2022 down from 4% projected in January 2022.

14. 2022 Global Food Policy Report: Climate Change & Food Systems

According to the Global Food Policy Report 2022 published by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), India's food production could drop 16% and the number of those at risk for hunger could increase 23% by 2030 due to climate change.

The number of Indians at risk from hunger in 2030 is expected to be 73.9 million in 2030.

15. '100 is the most preferred banknote, '2,000 the least: RBI survey

The Reserve Bank of India's Banknote Survey of Consumers findings revealed that, among banknotes, '100 was the most preferred while '2,000 was the least preferred denomination.

Among coins, denomination of '5 was the most preferred whereas '1 was the least preferred.

16. India Tops In South Asia Travel And Tourism Development Index But Drops to 54th Place Globally

In the global travel and tourism index, India ranks in 54th place. However, in 2019, India stood in 46th place. But this is not it. India still continues to top in South Asia travel list. India is slowly recovering from the damages caused by the pandemic. As per the World Economic Forum (WEF) study, India's travel and tourism sector has shown 'signs of recovery.'

17. Bank of Maharashtra tops PSU lenders chart in loan growth during FY22

The Pune-headquartered Bank of Maharashtra has emerged as the top performer among public sector lenders in terms of loan and deposit growth in percentage terms during 2021-22.

It recorded a 26 per cent increase in gross advances at Rs 1,35,240 crore at the end of March 2022.

It was followed by State Bank of India and Union Bank of India with 10.27 per cent & 9.66 per cent.

18. Non-alcoholic beverage market likely to hit Rs 1.47 lakh cr by 2030, says ICRIER report

India has the potential to become a non-alcoholic beverage hub and the country's non-alcoholic beverage market is expected to touch a market size of Rs 1.47 lakh crore by 2030.

The size of the market was estimated at Rs 671 billion (Rs 67,100 crore) in 2019, which is projected to reach around Rs 1,472.33 billion (Rs 1,47,233 crore) in 2030. ICRIER- Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations; HQ:New Delhi.

19. US surpasses China as India's biggest trading partner in FY22 at \$119.42 bn

The US surpassed China to become India's top trading partner in 2021-22, reflecting strengthening economic ties between the two countries.

In 2021-22, the bilateral trade between the US and India stood at \$119.42 billion as against \$80.51 billion in 2020-21.

In 2021-22, India had a trade surplus of \$32.8 billion with the US.

20. 11.2 crore people in world lost jobs in the first quarter of 2022, says ILO

The 'world of work' is being buffeted by multiple crises, says the ninth edition of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Monitor. The report says that after significant gains during the last quarter of 2021, the number of hours worked globally dropped in the first quarter of 2022, to 3.8% below the employment situation before the pandemic. About 11.2 crore jobs might have been lost during this period.

21. Gautam Adani, Karuna Nundy on TIME's 100 Most Influential People of 2022 List

Gautam Adani, India's billionaire industrialist and socialist advocate Karuna Nundy have been named among the 100 Most Influential People of 2022 by prestigious TIME magazine.

Also on the list is Khurram Parvez, chairperson of the Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances, currently jailed in Kashmir.



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Important Days

1. World Laughter day!

World Laughter Day is celebrated on the first Sunday in May every year to raise awareness of laughter and its many healing benefits. The day also marks an attempt to manifest World Peace and form a global consciousness through laughter.

2. World Press Freedom Day 2022: May 3

Every year, May 3 is observed as World Press Freedom Day.

The special day celebrates the spirit of journalism and recognises the dedication of journalists.

Every year, a specific theme is chosen for World Press Day, and this year's theme is 'Journalism under digital siege'.

3. World Password Day | First Thursday in the month of May.

World Password Day is observed every first Thursday in the month of May. This year it falls on May 5. The day is to address the critical need for solid passwords.

The day was started by security researcher Mark Burnet, who encouraged people to have a specific day known as World Password Day.

4. World Athletics Day 2022: May 7

In a bid to encourage sports activities throughout the world, May 7 is celebrated annually as World Athletics Day. Introduced in 1996, the day aims to spread awareness among the youth about athletics. It was also introduced as a social responsibility project titled 'Athletic for a better world' by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).

5. World Red Cross Day 2022: May 8

In a bid to commemorate the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, every year on May 8, World Red Cross day is celebrated.

The day also marks the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, who was the founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the recipient of the first Nobel Peace Prize. The theme for 2022 is 'Be Human Kind'.

6. World Thalassaemia Day 2022: May 8

World Thalassaemia Day is marked on May 8, every year.

Thalassaemia is an inherited blood disorder in which the body fails to create enough haemoglobin, resulting in the weakening and destruction of red blood cells. This year

Theme is 'Be Aware. Share. Care: Working with the global community as one to improve Thalassaemia knowledge.'

7. May 11, observed as National Technology Day every year

The Indian government officially declared 11 May as National Technology Day to commemorate the first of the five nuclear tests that were carried out on 11 May 1998.

The creation of the day was officially signed by the then-Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

The theme for 2022 is 'Integrated Approach in Science & Technology for Sustainable Future'. Day also marks the day when India's first-ever indigenous aircraft, Hansa-1, took flight.

8. International Day of Plant Health 2022: May 12

Plants are the life of Earth and we all are dependent on them. How we breathe and what we eat are all affected by plants.

They develop up to 80% of food for us and up to 98% of oxygen.

To raise awareness for the safety of plants, The United Nations recently announced that May 12 will mark International Day of Plant Health. The day was promoted by Zambia and was taken into action by the UN General Assembly.

9. Ministry of Culture to organise a week-long celebration for 'International Museum Day' across its museums

Under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava, on the occasion of the upcoming International Museum Day (IMD) on 18th May 2022, the Ministry of Culture, will organise a week-long celebration across its museums

from 16th May ' 20th May 2022. The Ministry of Culture has already announced free entry for visitors to all the museums across the country. 'Reimagining Museums in India' a Global Summit was held in February 2022.

10. National Dengue Day 2022: May 16

Dengue fever, often known as breakbone fever, is an infection spread by mosquitoes that can cause severe flu-like diseases.

In India, May 16 marks the National Dengue Day which is an initiative by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to spread awareness about the vector-borne disease and its preventive methods. This year theme:- 'Dengue is preventable; let us join hands'.

11. World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2022: May 17

The World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) is celebrated annually on May 17 to raise awareness about the opportunities and possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) brings to nations, societies, and economies.

Theme 2022:- 'Digital technologies for Older Persons and Healthy Ageing'.

12. International Museum Day 2022: May 18

International Museum Day (IMD) is celebrated every year on 18 May. This day is observed to highlight the importance of museums in any culture.

This year, the theme for International Museum Day is 'The Power of Museums'.

The idea of having an International Museum Day first surfaced during a meeting called 'Crusade for Museums,' organised by ICOM in 1951.

13. World Bee Day : May 20

We celebrate World Bee Day on May 20 across the world. The day aims to recognise the importance of bees and other pollinators in the ecosystem.

This year theme is: 'Bee Engaged: Celebrating the diversity of bees and beekeeping systems.'

The United Nations decided to mark May 20 as World Bee Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of beekeeping pioneer Anton Jansa.

14. National Endangered Species Day 2022: May 20

National Endangered Species Day is observed on May 20, in 2022. The event is held every third Friday in the month of May. It is the 16th National Endangered Species Day this year.

During the 1960s and 1970s, people were concerned about the welfare of animals. The Endangered Species Act of 1973 was enacted in response to public concern. 2022 Theme is 'Recovering key species for ecosystem restoration'.

15. World Metrology Day 2022 Celebrations at CSIR-NPL

CSIR-National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi in association with Metrology Society of India (MSI) organized the World Metrology Day on 20th May 2022 to commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention on 20th May 1875. The theme for World Metrology Day 2022 was 'Metrology in the Digital Era'

16. International Day for Biological Diversity | 22 May

The theme in 2022 is "Building a shared future for all life". Fitting within the context of the ongoing United Nations Decade on Restoration, which highlights that biodiversity is the answer to several sustainable development challenges, the slogan conveys the message that biodiversity is the foundation upon which we can build back better.

17. World Turtle Day 2022: May 23

World Turtle Day is being celebrated 23 May globally. It is a day to raise awareness about helping turtles survive and thrive in their natural habitat. The main objective behind this day is to also educate people about the things to do to protect the habitats of turtles as well as tortoises.

The theme for World Turtle Day 2022 is - 'Shellebrate!'

18. 8th International Day of Yoga to be held at Mysuru

The main event of the 8th International Day of Yoga (IDY-2022) demonstration will be held at Mysuru in Karnataka on 21st June 2022. As this IDY is falling in the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' year, the Minister of

Ayush has also planned to observe IDY at 75 iconic locations across the country and is focusing on branding India on a global scale.

19. World Thyroid Awareness Day 2022: May 25

May 25 is celebrated as World Thyroid Day. The goal of this day is to raise awareness about the condition, its research, and treatment options. It also aims to raise thyroid illness awareness among people who are unaware of their medical condition.

2022 theme:- 'It's not you. It's your thyroid.'

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

United Nations is observing the International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories from 25th to 31st 2022. In the UN Charter, a Non-Self-Governing Territory is defined as a Territory 'whose people have not yet attained a full measure of selfgovernment'. At present, there are 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories remaining.

21. International Day of UN Peacekeepers- May 29

For the past two decades on this day, UN Peacekeepers, also known as the Blue Helmets, are remembered by the world for their role in promoting security, peace and stability. More than one million UN peacekeepers have taken part in 72 such operations since 1948. This year, the theme is People Peace Progress: The Power of Partnerships. The first UN peacekeeping mission was established on 29 May 1948

22. World Vape Day observed on May 30

World Vape Day is observed on 30th May across the globe to create awareness about the alternatives to harmful tobacco products and highlights the relative safety of e-cigarettes and their potential as harm reduction and smoking cessation tools. World Vape Day (May 30) is observed on the day before World No Tobacco Day(May 31), observed by the World Health Organisation(WHO).

23. World No Tobacco Day 2022: May 31

World No-Tobacco Day is an annual event held on May 31, each year, as part of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organisation (WHO). It highlights the negative impacts of tobacco and its industry on human health and the environment and alerts people about the steps they can take to keep themselves and the environment safe from tobacco. Theme 2022:- 'Protect The Environment'.

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Summit & Conferences

1. Gangtok hosts Symposium on Smart City Revolution

Ministry of Development of North-East Region Gangtok hosts Symposium on Smart City Revolution Govt amends funding pattern to ensure projects in North East reach completion. Past five years have been specially transformational for the North East.

Also launched the Online Building Permission System (OBPS) of Government of Sikkim at this event.

2. IAF conducts National Level Logistics Seminar Logisem Vayu - 2022'

A national seminar on Logistics Management was held on 28 April 2022 at Air Force Auditorium, New Delhi. Chief of the Air Staff inaugurated the seminar and delivered the keynote address. He emphasized on the need for exploiting advancements in digital technologies, which would aid in sustaining logistics stamina in support of operations. Chief of the Air Staff:- Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari.

3. PM Modi to participate in second India-Nordic Summit in Denmark

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the 2nd India-Nordic Summit along with Prime Ministers of Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Sweden and Norway.

The summit is being hosted by Denmark.

The principal focus of the Summit is how to carry forward the agenda of bilateral engagement between India and the Nordic countries.

The 1st India-Nordic Summit took place in 2018 in Stockholm.

4. PM to address the inaugural session of 'JITO Connect 2022'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the inaugural session of Jain International Trade Organisation's 'JITO Connect 2022' on 6th May 2022.

Jain International Trade Organisation (JITO) is a global organisation connecting Jains worldwide.

JITO Connect is an endeavour to help business and industry by providing an avenue for mutual networking and personal interactions.

5. MSME Minister Narayan Rane Inaugurates Enterprise India National Coir Conclave 2022 at Coimbatore

Union Minister for MSME Narayan Rane and Minister of State for MSME Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma along with other State Ministers and senior officials inaugurated the 'Enterprise India National Coir Conclave 2022' being organised under the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' at Coimbatore.

6. Sh. Bhupender Yadav leads Indian delegation at COP15 summit on combating desertification

India's Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Bhupender Yadav has landed at Abidjan in the west African nation of Cote d'Ivoire to attend the 15th Conference (COP) of the United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD).

The COP15 theme, 'Land.Life.Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity'.

7. Shri Bhagwant Khuba to attend Intersolar Europe 2022

Union Minister of State for Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Shri Bhagwant Khuba is attending Intersolar Europe 2022 to be held from 11th May to 13th May 2022 in Munich, Germany. The Minister delivered the keynote address at the investment promotion event 'India's Solar Energy Market' on 12th May 2022 in Munich. The event is being organized by the Indo-German Energy Forum (IGEF).

8. PM Modi to participate in second global summit on Covid

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the second global virtual summit on COVID-19 being hosted by US President Joe Biden.

It said the summit intends to galvanise new actions to address the challenges of the pandemic and build a stronger global health security architecture.

9. Hardeep Singh Puri Launched Bharat Tap Initiative & Nirmal Jal Prayas On The Inaugural Day Of PLUMBEX India

Plumbex India, the nation's biggest standalone exhibition on Plumbing, Water, and Sanitation Products has kick-started in New Delhi.

The 3-day event is conducted under the aegis of AMRUT 2.0 and SBM 2.0.

'Bharat Tap initiative', a program to develop low-flow fixtures and sanitaryware to lead India into a new era of water preservation and sustainable growth.

10. Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav Addresses BRICS High Level Meeting on Climate Change

Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri. Bhupender Yadav participated in the BRICS High Level Meeting held virtually on May 13, 2022. The BRICS High Level Meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Huang Runqiu, Minister of Ecology and Environment of the People's Republic of China and was attended by Environment Ministers of BRICS nations. BRICS headquarters located in Shanghai, China.

11. Ministry of Steel hosts the Meeting of Hindi Salahkar Samiti at Gangtok

During Meeting, Shri Singh praised Sikkim for emerging as the first State in India which has achieved the highest per capita income and cent- percent organic farming. Pointing out that languages bind people, never break them away unless they are forcibly implemented, all of us should relentlessly work both for mother tongue and the Official Language Hindi. Hindi is the 3rd most spoken language of the world in 2019 with 615 million speakers.

12. Eight MoUs signed at Incredible India International Cruise Conference

Eight MoUs were signed at the first Incredible India International Cruise Conference in Mumbai. Strategies for developing India as a cruise hub, policy initiatives and port infrastructure, the potential of river cruise tourism, and the role of technology in the post-pandemic world were some of the key issues deliberated at the event. The conference was organized by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, and FICCI.

13. Shri Piyush Goyal chairs the 4th meeting of National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC)

The Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal has chaired the 4th meeting of National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC) in New Delhi. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) had constituted the National Startup Advisory Council.

14. China to host BRICS Foreign Ministers meeting through video conference

China will host the meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs on May 19 through video conference. The meeting will be hosted by China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi and attended by India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.

The meeting will prepare the ground for the 14th BRICS summit. BRICS is an acronym for Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

15. Shri Piyush Goyal to lead team India at World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos from 23-25 May 2022

Shri Piyush Goyal will lead the team India at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos from 23-25 May 2022. The World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting takes place in Davos-Klosters, Switzerland from 22-26 May 2022.

It addresses the theme of History at a Turning Point: Government Policies and Business Strategies. It is the 1st global in-person leadership event since the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic

16. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates North East Research Conclave 2022 at IIT Guwahati

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati has inaugurated 'North East Research Conclave 2022' on May 20, 2022 in the presence of eminent dignitaries. It is being held between 20th and 22nd May 2022 jointly with the Science, Technology, and Climate Change Department and the Department of Education, Government of Assam at the IIT Guwahati campus.

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Education Minister, has inaugurated the event

17. PM Modi arrives in Japan on two-day visit to attend Quad summit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has arrived in Japan on a two-day visit to attend a summit of the Quad leaders which is aimed at further bolstering cooperation among the member nations of the influential grouping and discussing developments in the strategic Indo-Pacific region.

The Quad or Quadrilateral Security Dialogue comprises India, the US, Japan and Australia. Quad summit 2022 venue:- Tokyo, Japan.

18. Prime Minister participates in event to launch the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity

Prime Minister participated in the event to launch the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity. The IPEF seeks to strengthen economic partnership amongst participating countries with the objective of enhancing resilience, sustainability, inclusiveness, economic growth, fairness, and competitiveness in the Indo-Pacific region.

19. PM Modi Chairs 40th PRAGATI Meet, Reviews Eight Ongoing Infrastructure Projects Of Rs 60,000 Crore

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has chaired the meeting of 40th edition of PRAGATI, the ICT based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, involving Centre and State governments.

Nine agenda items were taken for review including eight projects and one Programme.

20. Aarohan 4.0: Two days meet of senior functionaries of Postal Department and India Post payments Bank (IPPB)

Two days meet of senior functionaries of Postal Department and India Post payments Bank (IPPB), AAROHAN 4.0 started in Shimla.

The agenda of the meeting is to discuss and deliberate ways to further deepen Financial Inclusion drive in the country and to provide banking solutions to every citizen of India.

21. 3rd Global Organic Expo 2022 Begins at IARI, Pusa, New Delhi

The 3rd Global Organic Expo 2022 begins and will run for three days at IARI, Pusa, New Delhi. It is set to be a significant platform for Organic Producers, Aggregators, Processors, Value Chain Integrators, and Industry Partners by providing a Global level conference with the appropriate theme "Profitability for Humanity." Former Sikkim CM & SDF President Pawan Chamling has been invited as the Guest of Honour.

22. President of India Inaugurated National Women Legislators Conference-2022

The President of India inaugurated the National Women Legislators' Conference-2022 in Thiruvananthapuram. The Conference is being hosted by the Kerala Legislative Assembly as part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'. Women legislators from the Parliament, Speakers and Legislators from different States participated. It had various sessions on themes vital to woman legislators. 24 women were elected to the first Lok Sabha in 1952.

23. India to Host Meeting of ASEAN Foreign Ministers in June

The position of the ASEAN on engaging Myanmar at multilateral forums has been that it should be at the non-political level.

India prepares to host a meeting of the foreign ministers of the 10-nation grouping next month.

India is unlikely to invite the Myanmar foreign minister for the meet (Due to the political instability in Myanmar).

ASEAN is India's fourth largest trading partner.

24. India hosts SCO-RATS meet; focus on the situation in Afghanistan

India hosted the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (SCO-RATS) summit in New Delhi.

The delegates from China, Pakistan, and Russia were participated.

The meeting is the first such since the rift between New Delhi and Beijing over the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in 2020. India will attain the chairmanship of the SCO in 2023.

Science & Technology

1. IndiGo becomes first airline to land aircraft using indigenous navigation system GAGAN

The flight was conducted using an ATR-72 aircraft and landed at the Kishangarh airport in Rajasthan, using GPS-aided geo-augmented navigation (GAGAN), which has been jointly developed by the Centre-run Airports Authority of India (AAI) and the ISRO.

GAGAN is used to provide lateral and vertical guidance when an aircraft is approaching a runway for landing.

2. MoS Rajeev Chandrasekhar launches Digital India RISC-V Microprocessor (DIR-V) Program

Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar has launched Digital India RISC-V Microprocessor (DIR-V) Program. Its overall aim is to enable the creation of Microprocessors for the future in India, for the world and achieve industry-grade silicon and Design wins by December 2023.

3. Qualcomm India partners with MeITY's C-DAC to help Indian chipset startups

Qualcomm India will be conducting a Qualcomm Semiconductor Mentorship Program 2022 for select startups from the semiconductor space in India. The intent is to provide and facilitate mentorship, technical training, and industry outreach for startups. This year Qualcomm India has announced a collaboration with the C-DAC, an autonomous scientific society of the MeITY.

4. Govt panel recommends Sputnik Light vaccine as booster dose: Report

The National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI) has given its approval to the Sputnik Light Covid-19 vaccine to be administered as a precaution dose.

The NTAGI's Standing Technical Sub-Committee (STSC) discussed the issue and recommended that Sputnik Light, which has the same component of Sputnik V's first dose.

5. ISRO plans Venus Mission, to be launched in Dec 2024

After sending missions to the Moon and Mars, the ISRO is now readying a spacecraft to orbit Venus to study what lies below the surface of the solar system's hottest planet, and also unravel the mysteries under the Sulfuric Acid clouds enveloping it. ISRO Chairman:- S. Somnath

6. Union Minister Bhagwanth Khuba launches newly manufactured NPK grade of RCF in Mumbai

Shri Bhagwanth Khuba, Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers & New and Renewable Energy, Govt. of India visited RCF Trombay Unit at Chembur, Mumbai, and launched the newly manufactured NPK grade of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers limited (RCF) ' Suphala 10:26:26.

7. Indian Navy to Acquire Spy Satellite GISAT-2 to Boost Capability in IOR

In a move to boost modernization and network-centric warfare and communications programme, the Indian Navy is looking to acquire a dedicated earth imaging satellite ' Geo Imaging Satellite-2 (GISAT-2) in this fiscal year.

The GISAT-2, is among 21 planned procurements, including some long-term acquisitions according to reports.

8. South Korea becomes first Asian member of NATO cyber research centre

South Korea's intelligence agency has joined a cyber defense group under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), becoming its first Asian member country.

The think-tank was established in 2008 by NATO members, on the initiative of Estonia, in response to the country suffering crippling cyberattacks allegedly committed by Russia.

9. Bengaluru-based Bellatrix Aerospace tests green satellite propulsion

Bengaluru-based Bellatrix Aerospace has tested an eco-friendly propulsion system for satellites that cuts a new path from the hydrazine-dependent fuel systems and offers a potential 20% jump in fuel efficiency for space satellites.

Bellatrix Aerospace, is an Indian private aerospace manufacturer and small satellite company, headquartered in Bangalore, India.

10. ISRO successfully tests the human rated HS200 rocket booster for the Gaganyaan mission

Indian Space & Research Organization (ISRO) successfully completed the static test of a human-rated solid rocket booster (HS200) for the Gaganyaan Programme at Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC),

Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. HS200 rocket booster is the human-rated version of the well-proven S200 rocket booster of GSLV Mk III satellite launch vehicle, popularly known as LVM3

11. Hyderabad-based Skyroot Aerospace successfully test fires engine of Vikram-1 rocket

Hyderabad-based space tech startup Skyroot Aerospace announced the successful completion of a full duration test-firing of its Vikram-1 rocket engine, the country's first privately designed and developed rocket.

Vikram-1 has three solid fuel-powered stages. Each stage has a burn time ranging between 80 and 108 seconds. Skyroot co-founder and CEO Pawan Kumar Chandana.

12. Boeing's Starliner successfully docks at International Space Station during second attempt

CST-100 Starliner, the Boeing spacecraft, successfully docked at the International Space Station (ISS) on May 20 as part of the company Orbital Flight Test-2 (OFT-2). Starliner was made to transport NASA astronauts to and back from space and this is the first time it has demonstrated the capability to successfully dock at the space station after the failed first attempt.

13. Indian Railways Collaborates With IIT Madras to Develop 'Indigenous' Hyperloop Technology

The Ministry of Railways will work with the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras to develop an 'indigenous' hyperloop system. It is also believed the ministry will help establish a Centre of Excellence for Hyperloop Technologies at the premier institute. It was also stated that IIT Madras would receive Rs 8.34 crore in funding from the Indian Railways for this project.

14. Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw successfully tests made-in-India 5G call at IIT Madras

Telecom and IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has visited the 5G test-bed at IIT Madras and successfully tested a 5G call on an indigenously-developed network.

The test-bed had been inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

This is the first step towards making the solution feasible commercially.

15. Union Government to Introduce Indigenous Tuberculosis Infection Skin Test Dubbed 'c-TB': Mansukh Mandaviya

Made in India' tuberculosis (TB) infection skin test called 'c-TB' introduced in 35th board meeting of the "Stop TB Partnership" through video-conferencing in Delhi

New initiative, "Adopt people with TB" will be launched this year urging corporates, industries, organizations, political parties and individuals to come forward and adopt TB infected people and families

16. IIT-Kanpur signs a joint agreement with CSIS, USA to create a global 'just transition' network

Just Transition Research Centre (JTRC) at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur has joined with the Energy Security and Climate Change Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Washington D.C., to work on just energy transition globally including in India.

Prof. Pradip Swarnakar, Founder of JTRC, IIT-Kanpur.

17. Tripura adopts EV policy, to convert 10% of state's vehicles to electric mode in 5 years

In an effort to cut down on environmental pollution & uphold Tripura as an eco-friendly tourist destination, the state government has decided to adopt the Tripura Electric Vehicle Policy 2022, to promote electric vehicles.

The electric vehicles policy is already existing in 14 states of the country. If implemented, Tripura would become the 15th state & 3rd in the North East. Northeast states adopted EV policy: - Meghalaya, Assam.

18. PARAM ANANTA Supercomputer commissioned at IIT, Gandhinagar

PARAM Ananta, a supercomputing facility under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) jointly steered by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST), has been commissioned at the Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGN). The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) implemented it.

Defence

1. Indian Coast Guard Inducts New Vessel 'Urja Pravaha'

The Indian Coast Guard Ship (Auxiliary Barge) named 'Urja Pravaha' has been inducted into the Indian Coast Guard at Gujarat's Bharuch. Urja Pravaha arrived in Kochi and will be under the operational command of Coast Guard District Headquarters-4 (Kerala and Mahe). The Auxiliary Barge Urja Pravaha is 36m long & is designed to carry Cargo Ship Fuel, Aviation Fuel & Fresh Water.

2. Coast Guard commissions air squadron in Kochi

The Coast Guard has commissioned its second air squadron, 845 Squadron (CG), of Advanced Light Helicopter Mk-III at an event held at the Coast Guard air enclave, Nedumbassery.

The commissioning was done by Coast Guard Director General V.S. Pathania.

The first ALH Mk-III squadron of the Coast Guard is in Bhubaneswar.

3. Sh. Amit Shah inaugurates Nrupathunga University, NATGRID campus in Bengaluru

Home Minister Amit Shah has said that Narendra Modi government has pursued had a zero-tolerance policy toward terrorism from day one. Inaugurating the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) premises at Bengaluru. National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) has been conceived to develop cutting edge technology to enhance India's counter terror capabilities. NATGRID Formed: 2009; Headquarters: New Delhi.

4. Border Roads Organisation celebrated 62nd Raising Day

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) founded on 7th May 1960 as a leading road construction agency under the Ministry of Defence with Shramena Sarvam Sadhyam (everything is achievable through hardwork) as its motto.

Its primary goal is to secure India's borders and developing infrastructure in remote areas of India's north and northeastern states for defence forces. BRO Director General: - Lt. Gen. Rajeev Chaudhary

5. Boeing and Air Works collaborate on Indian Navy's P-8I fleet

Underscoring the success of the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India) campaign, Air Works ' an Indian maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) company ' is partnering The Boeing Company in undertaking heavy maintenance checks on three Indian Navy P-8I long-range maritime patrol aircraft simultaneously at Air Works, Hosur.

6. Indian Army to set up residential coaching centre in Manipur

The Indian Army is all set to start providing residential coaching to students belonging to economically weaker and underprivileged sections of the North-East region to make them prepared for the all-India competitive examinations, including engineering and medical entrance.

7. Sh. Rajnath Singh launches India-made warships, INS Surat and INS Udaygiri, in Mumbai

In a landmark event in indigenous warship building, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched two frontline warships of the Indian Navy -- INS Surat, a Project 15B destroyer and INS Udaygiri, a Project 17A frigate -- at Mazgaon Docks Limited (MDL) in Mumbai.

8. DRDO & Indian Navy conduct flight-test of Naval Anti-Ship Missile off Odisha coast

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy successfully conducted the maiden flight test of the indigenously-developed Naval Anti-Ship Missile launched from a Naval Helicopter from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha on May 18, 2022.

Chairman DRDO -Dr G Satheesh Reddy. It is the first indigenous air-launched anti-ship missile system for the Indian Navy.

9. Fourth edition of Indian Navy-Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol CORPAT commences in Northern Bay of Bengal

The fourth edition of the Indian Navy-Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol CORPAT commenced in the Northern Bay of Bengal.

Indian Navy and Bangladesh Navy units will undertake joint patrolling along the International Maritime Boundary Line IMBL.

The last IN-BN CORPAT was conducted in October 2020.

10. India' Bangladesh Bilateral Exercise 'Bongosagar' Commences

3rd edition of Indian Navy ' Bangladesh Navy Bilateral Exercise 'Bongosagar' commenced at Port Mongla, Bangladesh on 24 May 22

The Harbour Phase of exercise is scheduled from 24-25 May followed by a Sea Phase in the Northern Bay of Bengal from 26-27 May

From Indian Navy Ships Kora and Sumedha & BNS Abu Ubaidah and Ali Haider from Bangladesh will be participating

11. GRSE launches Indian Navy survey vessel 'INS Nirdeshak'

Survey Vessel (Large) - Yard No 3026 - being built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, was launched.

This is the second vessel in a series of four such ships being built by GRSE for the Indian Navy to be launched in less than six months. The first ship, INS Sandhayak, was launched in Kolkata on December 5, 2021. Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta was the Chief Guest at the occasion.

12. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approves new Defence Estates Circle for Uttarakhand

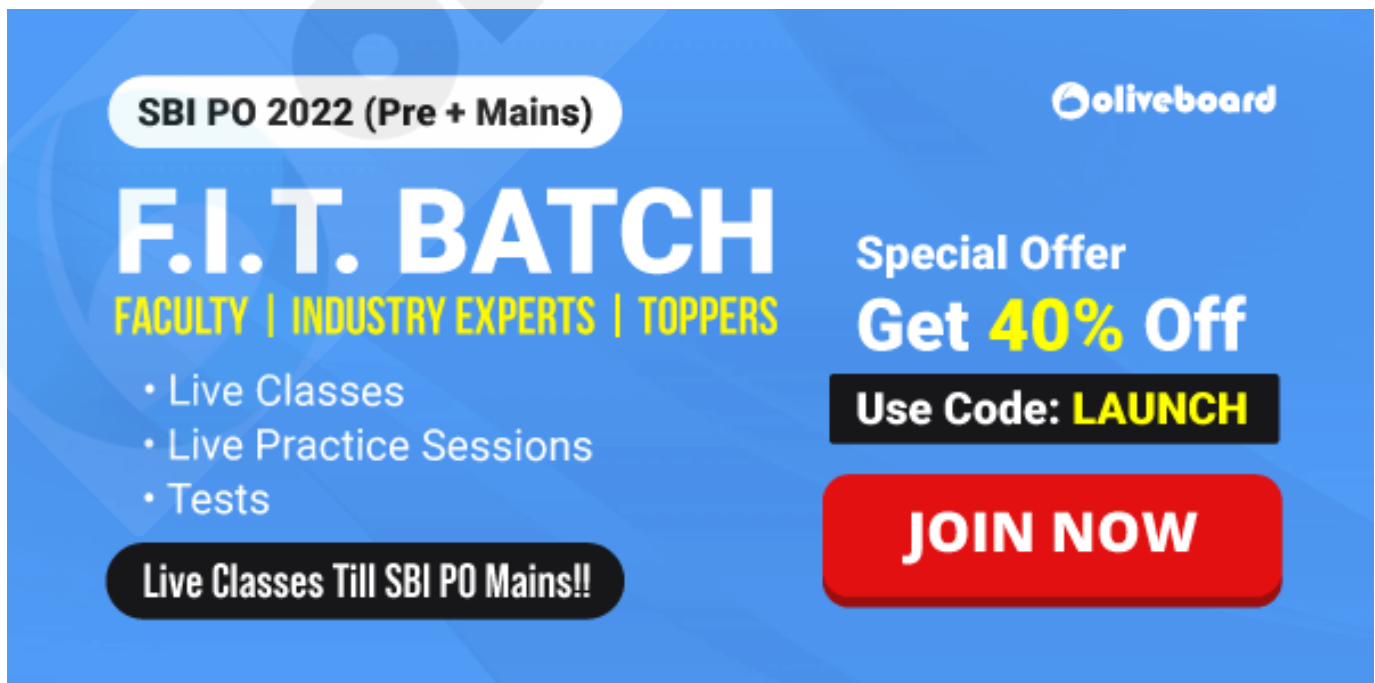
Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal for the creation of a new Defence Estates Circle exclusively for Uttarakhand. In view of the difficulties faced in managing large tracts of defence land in the state and the demand of cantonment residents in Uttarakhand, the MoD will establish an independent office of Defence Estates at Dehradun and a sub-office at Ranikhet.

13. INS Gomati decommissioned at Naval Dockyard in Mumbai

INS Gomati was decommissioned at the Naval Dockyard under the command of Captain Sudip Malik. INS Gomati derives her name from the vibrant river Gomti and was commissioned on 16 April 1988 by then Defence Minister, KC Pant, at Mazgaon Dock Ltd, Bombay. The third ship of the Godavari class guided-missile frigates, INS Gomati was also the oldest warrior of the Western Fleet.

14. Russia conducts test-launch of Tsirkon hypersonic cruise missile

Russia successfully launched its hypersonic Zircon (Tsirkon) cruise missile from a frigate, the country's Defense Ministry said. The test launch was carried out in the Arctic Barents Sea, and successfully hit a sea target at a distance of about 1,000 kilometers (621 miles). The Tsirkon missile is capable of flying at Mach 9 and target over 1,000 kms away.



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Books & Authors

1. Vice President releases book titled 'The Struggle for Police Reforms in India' written by former IPS Officer Prakash Singh

Vice President (VP) of India, M Venkaiah Naidu, released a book titled 'The Struggle for Police Reforms in India: Ruler's Police to People's Police' authored by a former IPS officer, Prakash Singh in New Delhi. He has stressed on the need to upgrade the skills of policemen to effectively tackle cybercrimes, economic offences and online frauds. The book is published by Rupa Publications India Pvt Ltd.

2. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu releases a book 'Modi@20: Dreams Meet Delivery'

He released a book titled 'Modi @ 20 : Dreams Meet Delivery', a compilation of 21 articles by 22 domain experts bringing out various aspects of the thinking and performance of Shri Modi in various domains as Chief Minister of Gujarat and Prime Minister for 20 years since 2021.

3. Ruskin Bond's latest release, Listen to Your Heart: The London Adventure

His latest book, Listen to Your Heart: The London Adventure was released on his 88th birthday, gives readers a peek into the four years he spent in the Channel Island & England. The 5th & final ' volume of his memoir, talks about how he muses over his loneliness, switches jobs, falls in love, befriends the ocean and relentlessly chases his big dream of becoming a writer. The book was published by Penguin Random House India.

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Miscellaneous

1. PM Modi greets people of Gujarat, Maharashtra on their statehood day

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted the people of Gujarat and Maharashtra on the foundation day of the two western states and lauded their accomplishments in diverse fields.

Maharashtra and Gujarat were formed after the enactment of the Bombay Reorganisation Act, 1960 on 1st May.

2. NSIC ' MSME Ministry organizes 'Enterprise India- Mega Job Fair'

The major objective of Mega Job Fair was to provide employment opportunities to the students who are passing out from different courses being conducted in the Centre. More than 30 companies including renowned companies like LG Electronics, Munjal Showa (Hero Honda Group), JBM Group, Maxop, SPM Auto Comp, were present with Various job offers.

3. Scientists discover almost 35 million years old rare snake fossil from Ladakh

Scientists have reported spotting of the fossil of a Madtsoiidae snake from the molasse deposits of Ladakh Himalaya for the first time indicating their prevalence in the subcontinent for much longer time than previously thought.

Madtsoiidae is an extinct group of medium-sized to gigantic snakes, firstly appeared during the late Cretaceous.

4. India's foremost documentary film festival MIFF 2022 to begin in Mumbai

Mumbai International Film Festival MIFF 2022 will pay tribute to the golden jubilee of the liberation of Bangladesh, by making it the 'Country of Focus'. During the 17th Edition of MIFF, a special package of 11 films from Bangladesh will be presented. The first animation film co-produced by India and Japan 'Ramayana: The Legend of Prince Rama', will also be screened.

5. Kia India opens bookings for EV6, its first electric model in India

Automaker Kia India said it has commenced bookings for EV6, its first electric model in the country. The first BEV from Kia, the EV6, is globally acclaimed for its design, quality, and features and was first unveiled globally in March 2021. Recently, the car won the prestigious European Car of the Year 2022.

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Obituary

1. Formula One pioneer Tony 'Racing Dentist' Brooks dies aged 90

Motorsport pioneer Tony Brooks, who won six Formula One grands prix in the 1950s and was nicknamed the 'Racing Dentist', has died aged 90.

The Briton had been the last surviving Formula One race winner of the 1950s.

2. Noted author, Jagannath culture expert Rajat Kar passes away

Eminent Odia litterateur Rajat Kumar Kar, a Padma Shri awardee, died at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar.

He was 88 years old and had heart-related ailments.

Kar, who was conferred with Padma Shri in 2021 for literature and education, had heart-related ailments and was under medication.

3. Santoor maestro Shiv Kumar Sharma dies at 84

Santoor virtuoso Pt Shiv Kumar Sharma, who took the stringed instrument to the global stage and successfully straddled the worlds of classical and film music, died in Mumbai following a heart attack. He was 84.

A Padma Vibhushan recipient, Sharma was born in Jammu in 1938 and is believed to be the first musician to have played Indian classical music on the santoor.

4. Andrew Symonds, former Australia all-rounder, dies aged 46

Andrew Symonds, the former Australia all-rounder, has passed away following a car crash near the outskirts of the city of Townsville. He was 46. Symonds, one of the greatest all-rounders to represent the country, played 26 Tests, 198 ODIs and 14 T20Is for Australia and was a two-time World Cup winner.

5. Sanskrit and Hindi Scholar Dr. Rama Kant Shukla Passed Away

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed deep grief over the demise of Sanskrit and Hindi Scholar Dr. Rama Kant Shukla.

He was a distinguished Sanskrit and Hindi scholar and Padma Shri holder. He has died in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh.

6. Veteran Communist leader Shivaji Patnaik passes away

Veteran Communist leader and three-time Member of Parliament Shivaji Patnaik passed away in Odisha. He was 93. Shivaji Patnaik is lauded as the founder of CPI (Marxist) in Odisha. Born on August 10, 1930, the veteran leader joined the State student's movement at the age of 17 when he was studying at Ravenshaw College.

7. Chess: world's oldest grandmaster, Yuri Averbakh, dies at 100

The world's oldest grandmaster, Yuri Averbakh, passed away aged 100.

He won the Moscow Championship in 1949 and earned the Grandmaster title in 1952.

He also chaired the Chess Federation of the USSR from 1972 to 1977.

In 1954, he became the champion of the USSR.

8. Former Albanian President Bujar Nishani dies at 55

Former Albanian President Bujar Nishani, who was often criticized for his center-right political affiliation from the leftist coalition, died following a serious health problem. He was 55.

Nishani served as president from 2012 until 2017. At 45, he was elected as the youngest and sixth president in post-communist Albania. Albania Capital: Tirana; Currency:- Albanian lek.

Person in news

1. Harshada Sharad Garud becomes first Indian to win gold at Junior World Weightlifting Championship

Harshada Sharad Garud scripted history to become the first Indian to win a gold medal at the IWF Junior World Championships 2022 in Heraklion, Greece. She lifted 153-kilogram in the 45-kg weight category, which included 70 kg in Snatch and 83 kg in Clean and Jerk to finish on top of the podium.

Turkey's Bektas Cansu bagged the silver medal.

2. BCCI bans journalist Boria Majumdar for 2 years in Wriddhiman Saha case

The BCCI has imposed a two-year ban on journalist Boria Majumdar for bullying senior wicket-keeper Wriddhiman Saha, barring the sports journalist from interviewing players and entering stadiums in the country.

Majumdar won't be given media accreditation for two years as part of the sanctions ratified by the BCCI Apex Council.

3. Ronnie O'Sullivan wins record seventh World Snooker title; beats Judd Trump in final

Ronnie O'Sullivan won a record seventh World Snooker Championship crown after beating Judd Trump 18-13 in the final at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre(United Kingdom).

With this title, O'Sullivan has equalled Stephen Hendry's modern-day record of seven world titles.

O'Sullivan, at 46, is the oldest World Championship finalist since mentor Ray Reardon in 1982.

4. Abhinav Deshwal wins men's 10m air pistol gold at Deaflympics

India won its second gold medal in shooting at the ongoing 24th Deaflympics in Caxias do Sul, Brazil, with Abhinav Deshwal claiming the men's 10m air pistol title.

Abhinav made the top eight final round after finishing second in the 60-shot qualification round with a score of 575 out of 600.

5. Avinash Sable breaks 30-year-old 5000m national record in US

India's Avinash Sable broke a 30-year-old record of Bahadur Prasad in 5000m, setting a new national record with a timing of 13:25.65 at the Sound Running Track meet in San Juan Capistrano, USA.

The 27-year-old from Maharashtra broke the old record of 13:29.70 set by Bahadur Prasad in 1992.

Sable also holds the national record in the half marathon.

6. Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh wins Sunway Formentera Open chess tourney

Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh emerged champion in the 1st Chessable Sunway Formentera Open 2022 chess tournament.

It was a hat-trick of titles for him after he had previously won the La Roda tournament and the Menorca Open in recent weeks.

He has now moved up to no.64 in the world rankings.

7. Late Journalist Danish Siddiqui Wins Second Pulitzer Prize, This Time For Covid Coverage In India

Photojournalist Danish Siddiqui, who lost his life last year after a Taliban ambush while reporting in Afghanistan has been honoured with a Pulitzer Prize for feature photography for his coverage of the Covid situation in India.

Besides, Reuters journalists Adnan Abidi, Sanna Irshad Mattoo, and Amit Dave were also felicitated with the prestigious award. The annual Pulitzers are the most prestigious awards in U.S. journalism.

8. Priyanka Mohite, the First Indian Woman to Scale Five Peaks Above 8,000m

Priyanka Mohite from Satara in western Maharashtra has become the first Indian woman to scale five peaks above 8,000 metres after she climbed Mount Kanchenjunga.

Priyanka Mohite (30), the recipient of Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award 2020, successfully completed her expedition to Mount Kanchenjunga (8,586 m).

9. Balkrishna Doshi becomes first Indian to win both Royal Gold Medal and Pritzker Prize

The celebrated architect, 94, has become one of the few to have been awarded two of the world's most coveted architectural awards: the Royal Gold Medal and the Pritzker Architecture Prize, often hailed as the Nobel Prize of architecture, which he won in 2018.

He was given the Royal Gold Medal by the Royal Institute of British Architects. Doshi is the only person from India to be bestowed with both accolades.

10. ATREE Chief Dr Kamal Bawa Elected to US' National Academy of Sciences

Dr. Kamal Bawa, the chief of Bengaluru-based Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), has been elected to the US' National Academy of Sciences.

Dr Bawa is also an elected fellow of the Royal Society (London) and the American Philosophical Society.

11. Nikhat Zareen becomes world champion after beating Thailand's Jitpong Jutamas

Zareen became the first boxer in 14 years, other than Mary Kom, to win the IBA Women's World Boxing Championship as she defeated Thailand's Jutamas Jitpong in the 52kg final in Istanbul. She is now only the fifth Indian woman to win the world championships in any weight category.

Mary Kom had last won the gold in the 48kg in the 2018 edition. 12th edition of the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships took place in Istanbul, Turkey.

12. Chessable Masters: Indian teenager R Praggnanandhaa stuns Magnus Carlsen for the 2nd time in 2022

Indian GM Praggnanandhaa posted his second win over world champion Magnus Carlsen in 3 months when he stunned the Norwegian at the Chessable Masters online rapid chess tournament.

16-year-old Praggnanandha beat Magnus Carlsen for the first time in February at Airthings Masters, an online rapid chess tournament.

13. Rolls-Royce India President Kishore Jayaraman Receives Honorary British Award by Her Majesty The Queen

Kishore Jayaraman, President ' India and South Asia for Rolls-Royce, has received an honorary Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) by Her Majesty The Queen. He received the award for services to international trade and investment, with a key focus on promotion of India-UK trade.

Mr. Jayaraman is a board member of the UK-India Business Council.

14. Capt Abhilasha Barak becomes Indian Army's first woman combat aviator

Captain Abhilasha Barak became the first woman officer to join the Army Aviation Corps as a combat aviator after completing the combat army aviation course.

She was awarded the coveted wings along with 36 other army pilots by the Director-General and Colonel Commandant of Army Aviation during a valedictory ceremony held at the Combat Army Aviation Training School in Nashik.



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Insurance

1. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India allows insurance companies to invest up to 30% of assets in BFSI sector

The IRDAI has hiked maximum investment limit of insurers in banking, financial services & insurance (BFSI) companies to 30% of their assets from 25%.

As per the latest changes to Irdai's investment Regulations, 2016, the exposure limit for financial & insurance activities will now stand at 30% of investment assets for all insurers.

2. Former Wimbledon finalist Kevin Anderson announces retirement from tennis

South Africa's Kevin Anderson, a former Wimbledon and US Open finalist known for his booming serves, announced his retirement from professional tennis at the age of 35.

He came close to winning a Grand Slam twice, losing the U.S. Open final in 2017 and the Wimbledon final in 2018 to Rafa Nadal and Novak Djokovic respectively.

3. IRDAI panel chaired by Yegnapriya Bharath, moots introduction of a Combi Micro insurance product

A panel on Micro Insurance (MI) constituted by the Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has suggested introduction of a Combi MI product. There is a case to have a Combi MI product which can be developed on a modular basis, giving flexibility to the insurer to offer coverage to different groups and individuals as per their specific protection needs.

4. MoRTH revises third-party insurance rates for automobiles

The government has approved the new base premium rates for a third party (TP) motor vehicle insurance which will be effective from June 1. These rates were last revised for the financial year 2019-20 and were kept unchanged.

These rules may be called the Motor Vehicles (Third Party Insurance Base Premium and Liability) Rules, 2022.

5. Howden Group gets IRDAI approval to raise shareholding in Howden India to 100 %

Howden, an international insurance broker, has received insurance regulator IRDAI's approval to raise its shareholding in Howden Insurance Brokers India Private Limited (Howden India) from 49 per cent to 100 per cent, said Praveen Vashishta, Chairman, Howden India.

The company, which got its trading licence in 2004 as a composite insurance broker.

6. IRDAI sets up committees through GIC to suggest industry overhaul

To overhaul the insurance sector, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has formed various committees through the General Insurance Council (GIC) to suggest reforms in several areas of general, reinsurance and life insurance such as regulation, product, distribution, among others.

7. LIC introduces Bima Ratna

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) introduced a new plan Bima Ratna, which is non-linked and non-participating individual savings life insurance plan. It offers a combination of protection and savings. It is a limited premium paying, money back plan with guaranteed additions.

The plan is available for a term of 15, 20 and 25 years.

India & World

1. India to be 'Country of Honour' at Cannes March Du Film: Anurag Thakur

In a first, India will be the 'country of honour' at the March Du Film, organised alongside the Cannes Film Festival this year. The development was shared by Union information and broadcasting minister Anurag Thakur.

The 'country of honour' status ensures India's presence as a focused country at the opening night where on one hand India can showcase its cinema culture.

2. 7th Japan-India ICT Joint Working Group meeting held under India-Japan ICT Comprehensive Cooperation Framework

7th Japan-India ICT Joint Working Group meeting was held on 13th May 2022 on virtual platform. Mr. V.L Kantha Rao, Additional Secretary, Department of Telecom and H.E. Mr. Sasaki YUJI, Vice Minister for Policy Coordination (International Affairs), Japan co-chaired the meeting. Senior representatives from both governments and other non-governmental stakeholders participated.

3. DEPLOYMENT OF INS GHARIAL TO SEYCHELLES ' MISSION SAGAR IX

As part of on going deployment of Indian Naval Ship Gharial in South West Indian Ocean, under Mission SAGAR IX, the Ship called at Port Victoria, Seychelles from 11 to 14 May 22.

Following up on the proposal received from the Govt of Seychelles earlier, three ceremonial Saluting Guns, with ammunition, were delivered by the Ship to the Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF). Mission SAGAR: launched in 2020 as COVID-19 relief mission for Indian Ocean countries.

4. BRICS countries mull pandemic early warning system

The 12th meeting of BRICS health ministers has agreed that BRICS countries will launch an early warning system for large-scale pandemics. Hosted by China virtually, the meeting was joined by more than 70 attendees including health ministers from BRICS countries and the deputy director-general of the World Health Organization.

China is scheduled to host the BRICS summit in Xiamen in June this year.

5. Prime Minister Sh. Modi participated in the "Shilanyas" ceremony for the construction of a unique centre for Buddhist Culture

The construction of the unique 'India International Centre for Buddhist Culture & Heritage' with a universal appeal will be undertaken by the International Buddhist Confederation, India under the auspices of the Lumbini Development Trust with the financial support of the Ministry of Culture(MoC), GoI.

International Buddhist Confederation, is a grantee body under the MoC. The Buddhist Centre will be the first 'Net Zero Emission' building in Nepal .

6. India, Oman Discuss Trade, Tariff, Non-Tariff Barriers In Joint Meet

The 10th session of the India-Oman joint commission meeting (JCM) was held, co-chaired by union minister Piyush Goyal and his Omani counterpart Qais bin Mohammed al Yousef.

Fast-tracking of approvals for registration of Indian pharmaceutical products already registered by USFDA, UKMHRA, and EMA was agreed to during the deliberations.

7. New Development Bank opens regional office in GIFT City

The New Development Bank (NDB) has announced the launch of its Indian Regional Office (IRO) in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).

The launch of the Bank's IRO aims to cater to infrastructure and sustainable development needs in India and Bangladesh, contributing to economic growth and sustainable development in South Asia. NDB Headquarters at Shanghai (China). Marcos Troyjo, NDB President.

8. Minister of State for Culture & External Affairs Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, participated in the 7th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting

Discussion was held for advancement and expansion of cultural activities amongst BRICS countries under the theme "Establishing a Cultural Partnership Featuring Inclusiveness and Mutual Learning among BRICS".

The meeting on 24 May 2022 was hosted by the People's Republic of China through video conference with participation from all BRICS Member Nations.

9. Health Secretary appointed as chairperson of Committee B at 75th World Health Assembly

Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan has been appointed as the chairperson of the Committee B at the 75th World Health Assembly (WHA).

Each year, the World Health Assembly has a long and complex list of health challenges and responses to review and the Assembly functions through two committees -- A and B.

10. RBI Allows Settlement Of Trade Transactions With Sri Lanka In Indian Rupees

In view of difficulties being faced by exporters in getting payments from crisis-hit Sri Lanka, the RBI allowed settlement of trade transactions in Indian rupee outside the Asian Clearing Union mechanism.

Sri Lanka is facing its worst economic crisis since gaining independence from Britain in 1948. Asian Clearing Union- Headquarters location: Tehran, Iran.

11. UNICEF and WHO launch the first Global Report on Assistive Technology

The first Global Report on Assistive Technology (GRaAT) is launched by The World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

10 key actionable recommendations on improving access to assistive technology for every child were shared by Innocenti

Currently, 2.5 billion people need assistive technology worldwide.

12. Leaders of Quad nations launch first-of-its-kind QUAD Fellowship

US President Joe Biden, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterparts Anthony Albanese and Fumio Kishida from Australia and Japan respectively launched the fellowship that will sponsor 25 students per year from each Quad country to pursue masters and doctoral degrees at leading Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) universities in the US.

13. Shaunak Sen's documentary 'All That Breathes' wins L'OEil d'Or award at Cannes

Filmmaker Shaunak Sen's documentary, All That Breathes, has been honoured with the 2022 L'OEil d'Or award.

The L'OEil d'Or documentary award, also known as The Golden Eye award, was created in 2015 by French-speaking authors' society LaScam in collaboration with the Cannes Film Festival. The award includes a cash prize of 5,000 euros.



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Environment

1. India and Germany sign joint declaration of intent on forest landscape restoration

The Joint Declaration of Intent (JDI) on Forest Landscape Restoration between India and Germany was signed virtually between Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav and Steffi Lemke, Minister for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection of the Federal Republic of Germany.

2. UN-Energy Plan of Action Towards 2025 launched

Against the backdrop of a global energy crisis and worsening climate emergency, the United Nations took a major step to catalyse the large-scale action and support needed for the transition to clean, affordable energy for all and net-zero emissions with the launch of a UN-Energy Plan of Action Towards 2025. The 'Plan of Action' was launched by some 30 leading organisations comprising UN-Energy.

3. MHA and SECI sign MoU to realize India's green energy initiative

In order to realize green energy objectives and the GOI's efforts towards a carbon-neutral economy, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) in New Delhi.

The move will help generate solar power up to 71.68 megawatts.

4. New plant species discovered in Idukki, Kerala

A new plant species has been discovered in Idukki district by researchers at the postgraduate and research department of Botany at St. Albert's College in Kochi.

They fall under the genus Peperomia and the newly discovered plant has been named 'Peperomia Albertiae' in recognition of the work carried out by researchers.

5. National Geographic Society experts install the world's highest weather station on Mt. Everest

A team of experts from the National Geographic Society has installed the "world's highest weather station" on Mt. Everest at an altitude of 8,830m to automatically measure various meteorological phenomena.

The automatic weather station was installed a few metres below the summit point (8,848.86 metres).

6. Kolkata becomes first metro city to get its own Biodiversity Register

Kolkata is the first metro city in the country to prepare a detailed register of biodiversity.

Kolkata Municipal Corporation released the People's Biodiversity Register (PBR), a document with details about the floral and faunal varieties in the city as well as its land use and human activities.

7. Adani Green arm commissions India's first wind-solar hybrid power plant in Jaisalmer

In a major push to India's green energy drive, Adani Green subsidiary Adani Hybrid Energy Jaisalmer One Limited has commissioned a 390 MW wind-solar hybrid power plant at Jaisalmer.

The plant will be India's first wind and solar hybrid power generation plant.

This project is a part of the first construction facility by international banks in Adani Green.

8. Money spider, ant-mimicking spider discovered at Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary

Money spiders, commonly found in European meadows, have been reported for the first time in the country from the Muthanga range of the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary. Researchers of Christ College, Irinjalakuda, Thrissur, have discovered the spider that belongs to the family of dwarf spiders under the genus *Prosoponoides*. It has been given the name *Prosoponoides biflectogynus*.

Apps & Portals

1. India Launches Open Access Registry for Power Transmission

The Ministry of Power announced the launch of the National Open Access Registry (NOAR).

It is a single integrated window electronic platform accessible to all stakeholders, including open access participants, traders, power exchanges, and national/regional/state load despatch centers for electronic processing of short-term open access applications, etc.

2. Kerala govt to launch app for diagnosing, controlling lifestyle diseases.

The Kerala government is ready to launch an Android app -- 'Shaili App' -- aimed at diagnosing and controlling lifestyle diseases among people in the southern State.

The app has been set up as part of the population-based screening project launched by the Health Department under the Nava Kerala Karma plan.

3. LS Speaker Om Birla launches Kalam website to encourage vernacular literature

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has formally launched the Kalam website, a literary initiative of the Prabha Khaitan Foundation to support and encourage vernacular literature.

The aim of Kalam is to popularize Hindi literature and provide a platform for veteran and young authors and poets to talk about their writings and love for vernacular literature.

4. NITI Aayog Launches The National Data & Analytics Platform

NITI Aayog launched the National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP) for open public use today. The platform aims to democratize access to public government data by making data accessible, interoperable, interactive, and available on a user-friendly platform.

NDAP can be accessed at <http://ndap.niti.gov.in> and all datasets on the platform can be downloaded and merged freely.

5. Department of Telecommunication Launches 'GatiShakti Sanchar' Portal for Centralised Right of Way (RoW) approvals

In line with the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister for Communications, Electronics & IT and Railways, has launched the 'GatiShakti Sanchar' portal for Centralised Right of Way (RoW) approvals (www.sugamsanchar.gov.in). This will provide a robust mechanism to achieve the goal of 'Broadband for All'. National Broadband Mission (NBM) was set up by DoT on December 17, 2019.

6. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launches Single National Portal for Biotech researchers and Start-Ups

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh launched Portal BioRRAP for Biotech researchers and Start-Ups. The Portal BioRRAP will cater to all those seeking regulatory approval required for biological research and development activity in the country. Biological Research Regulatory Approval Portal will help in ease of doing science, scientific research and ease of Startups in India.

7. National Health Authority [NHA] launches revamped Ayushman Bharat Health Account mobile application

NHA has launched revamped ABHA mobile app to manage health records under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. It enables an individual to create an ABHA address that can be linked with the 14-digit randomly generated ABHA number. It was previously known as the NDHM Health Records app.

8. Govt launches Indian Business Portal to help Indian exporters get global visibility

Minister of State for Commerce and Industry launched the Indian Business Portal. The portal will serve as an international trade hub for Indian exporters and foreign buyers. The portal is a business to business digital marketplace to empower small medium enterprises exporters, artisans and farmers to identify new markets for their products and grow their sales globally.

9. National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) Launches Portal To Simplify Process Of Recognition Of Teacher Education Programme

National Council for Teacher Education has launched an online portal to simplify the process of recognition of teacher education programs of higher education institutions. The portal launched to streamline the

process seeks to help right from the time of inviting application for courses till the stage of issue of recognition orders including the inspection of institutions.



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The advertisement features a dark blue background with a vertical stream of gold coins on the right side. The Oliveboard logo is in the top left. The course title 'Bank of India Credit Officer 2022 Complete Course' is prominently displayed in white and yellow. A red button highlights the 'Complete Course' text. A white box with a blue border contains the 'Special Offer 40% Off' and the code 'LAUNCH'. Three white boxes on the right list the course modules and their respective instructors with circular profile pictures. A green button at the bottom right says 'Get It Now'. The text 'Video Sessions | Mock Tests | PDFs Notes' is located below the instructor boxes.

Acquisitions & Mergers

1. Union Cabinet Approves Amalgamation Of CDC With CSIR

The Union Cabinet has approved the amalgamation of Consultancy Development Centre (CDC) along with its manpower, moveable assets and liabilities with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). CSIR and CDC are two separate autonomous bodies under the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology.

2. L&T Infotech, Mindtree announce merger to create country's fifth-largest IT services provider

By market capitalisation, the combined entity will surpass Tech Mahindra to become the fifth-largest IT services provider. The firm will employ over 80,000 people, including 4,000 sales and support personnel. Currently, TCS ranks first among IT firms with the highest market valuation, followed by Infosys, HCL Tech, Wipro.

AM Naik, Chairman, L&T Group. Sanjay Jalona has resigned as CEO & MD of LTI.

3. UAE telecoms group e& buys 9.8% stake in Vodafone for \$4.4 bln

Emirates Telecommunications Group Company PJSC, now known as e&, has acquired a 9.8% stake in Vodafone for \$4.4 billion. The UAE firm recently separated its business into consumer services-focused e& life, e& enterprise, providing digital services to government and business, and telecoms arm Etisalat. The purchase makes the UAE-based company the largest shareholder in Vodafone.

4. Capgemini to acquire Chappuis Halder & Cie to expand BFSI capability

Capgemini has entered into a share purchase agreement to acquire Chappuis Halder & Cie (Chappuis Halder), a global strategy and management consulting firm specializing in financial services industry. Headquartered in Luxembourg, Chappuis Halder is a nearly 150-people consulting firm, with main offices in North America (New York and Montreal), Europe (Paris and Geneva). Ashwin Yardi, the CEO of Capgemini in India.

5. Walmart-backed PhonePe set to acquire WealthDesk, OpenQ for \$75 million

PhonePe, part of the Walmart Inc-controlled Flipkart group, is acquiring two investment technology platforms ' WealthDesk and OpenQ' for a total enterprise value of \$75 million.

The acquisitions are a part of PhonePe's larger game plan to open new revenue streams and diversify its offerings for users of its payment services.

6. CCI clears Serum Institute Life Sciences-Biocon Biologics deal

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved a proposed deal involving Serum Institute Life Sciences, Covidshield Technologies and Biocon Biologics.

Once the deal is complete, Serum Institute Life Sciences Pvt Ltd will have about 15 per cent stake in Biocon Biologics Ltd, according to the notice filed with the regulator.

7. Marico Buys 54% Stake In True Elements

Marico Ltd. has acquired a majority stake in a healthy breakfast brand as it seeks to strengthen its food and digital businesses. The owner of Parachute and Saffola brands will buy 53.98% in HW Wellness Solutions Pvt., which owns True Elements, through primary infusion and secondary buyouts. Saugata Gupta, managing director and chief executive officer at Marico.

8. Swiggy buys Dineout from Times Internet

On-demand convenience platform Swiggy has entered into a definitive agreement with Times Internet to acquire dining out and restaurant tech platform Dineout for an undisclosed sum. Dineout, which serves diners across its network of 50,000 restaurants in 20 cities, will continue to operate as an independent app post the acquisition.

9. Adani Enterprises to acquire 50% stake in General Aeronautics

Adani Enterprises, through its subsidiary Adani Defence Systems and Technologies Ltd, signed an agreement to acquire 50% stake in drone firm General Aeronautics Pvt Ltd. Adani Defence Systems and Technologies Ltd will leverage its military drone and AI/ML capabilities and work with General Aeronautics for providing end to end solutions for domestic agricultural sector.

10. Coal India to divest 25% stake in BCCL

Coal India Limited (CIL), India's largest coal producer is planning to divest 25% stake in its unlisted arm Bharat Coking Coal Ltd (BCCL). The company said once it gets clearance from the government on this proposal, it will go for the subsequent listing of the subsidiary on stock exchanges.

11. Tata Motors Inks Pact For Potential Acquisition Of Ford India's Plant In Gujarat's Sanand

Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Limited (TPEML), a subsidiary of Tata Motors Ltd, and Ford India Private Limited (FIPL), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Government of Gujarat (GoG) for the potential acquisition of FIPL's Sanand vehicle manufacturing facility.



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Agri-Business

1. APEDA launches gluten-free millet products for all age groups at affordable prices

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has launched a variety of millet products for all age groups at affordable prices. Ready-to-Eat millet food products like Upma, Pongal, Khichadi, Noodles and Biryani launched at affordable prices ranging from five to fifteen rupees at the AAHAR food fair in New Delhi.



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Legal

1. Supreme Court gets 2 new judges, set to regain full strength of 34

Gauhati High Court Chief **Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia** and Gujarat High Court Judge **Justice Jamshed Burjor Pardiwala** have been appointed as judges of the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court will have its full sanctioned strength of 34 judges until the retirement of Justice Vineet Saran on May 10.

Justice B.V. Nagarathna, is in line to be the first woman CJI.



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PSUs

1. RailTel launches PM-WANI scheme based access of its Wi-Fi services across 100 Indian Railways' stations

RailTel launched the Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme based access of its fast & free public WiFi services across 100 Indian Railways stations having 2,384 WiFi hotspots.

PM-WANI based access will facilitate the ease of use through one time KYC to avoid OTP based authentication, every time one tries to use WANI based Public Wi-Fi service.

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States/UTs

Andhra Pradesh

1. RailTel, WHO inaugurate mobile container hospital at Visakhapatnam.

The RailTel Corporation of India Ltd had designed and established a 'Health Cloud' at Visakhapatnam premises of Andhra Pradesh Med Tech Zone (AMTZ). The Andhra Pradesh Med Tech Zone (AMTZ) is the world's first integrated medical device manufacturing hub. The 'Health Cloud' at AMTZ has been inaugurated by Louise Agersnap, Head of WHO Innovation Hub, WHO-Geneva.

Assam

1. Azure Power fully commissions its 90 MW solar power project in Assam

Renewable energy major Azure Power has announced that it has successfully commissioned its 90 MW solar power project in Assam, the largest in the state.

The 90 MW of solar capacity is spread across four districts in Assam - Udalguri, Kamrup, Nagaon, and Cachar.

Bihar

1. Bihar CM inaugurates India's first ethanol plant in Purnia

In Bihar country's first ethanol plant was inaugurated in Purnia district.

Ethanol production would help reduce the cost of petrol and generate fresh employment opportunities in the state.

The rupees 105 cr plant set up by a private investor is the first one developed since the Union government approved the Bihar government's ethanol production and promotion policy -2021.

Chhattisgarh

1. Chhattisgarh becomes first state to restore old pension scheme

Chhattisgarh has become the first state in the country to restore the old pension scheme in order to provide assured income to retired employees.

The state government has sent a proposal to the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for the withdrawal of Rs 17,000 crore accrued under the National Pension Scheme since November 2004.

Gujarat

1. India's first Regional Rapid Transit System train-set to be handed over to NCRTC at Savli in Gujarat

The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) will be receiving India's first semi-high speed train set for Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) at Alstom's Savli plant in Gujarat.

The RRTS train sets are being manufactured under Make In India initiative and are capable of running at a top speed of 180 kilometre per hour.

2. India's largest lithium-ion battery plant starts production in Gujarat

Indian battery maker Exide Industries and joint venture partner Switzerland's Leclanche SA have begun mass production at the nation's largest lithium-ion battery plant in the western state of Gujarat.

Nexcharge has so far invested 2.5 billion rupees (\$33 million) in building and setting up the plant, which also has a cell testing lab.

3. PM Narendra Modi Addresses 'Utkarsh Samaroh' In Bharuch

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed 'Utkarsh Samaroh' in Bharuch, Gujarat. The programme marked the celebration of 100% saturation of four key schemes of the state government in the district, which will help provide timely financial assistance to those in need.

District administration of Bharuch carried out 'Utkarsh Initiative' drive from 1st January to 31st March 2022.

Haryana

1. Haryana launches app to track movement of sand, mining vehicles

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched a Vehicle Movement Tracking System (VMTS) mobile app that will help in tracking vehicles carrying sand and other mining material.

The app will be used at different checkpoints in all the districts of Haryana and vehicle details like vehicle number, vehicle type, moving from, moving to along with driver details.

2. Haryana Govt Launches 'e-Adhigam' Scheme, 3 Lakh Students Given Tablets for Online Education

Haryana government has launched its ambitious 'e-Adhigam' scheme under which nearly three lakh tablets were distributed to government school students of Classes 10 and 12.

These devices come with pre-loaded content along with personalised and adaptive learning software, and 2GB free data. Advance Digital Haryana Initiative of Government with Adaptive Modules: - Adhigam scheme

Himachal Pradesh

1. Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports Shri Anurag Thakur lays foundation stone of Hockey AstroTurf at Majra in Sirmour

Anurag Thakur, Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Youth Affairs and Sports, has laid the foundation stone of a Rs 7.50 crore AstroTurf hockey stadium at Majra in Paonta Sahib in Sirmour district, Himachal Pradesh.

Efforts are afoot to make Himachal a front-runner in the field of sports as there was no dearth of talent.

Karnataka

1. Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai launches health, wellness app AAYU

Karnataka chief minister Basavaraj Bommai has launched a new health and wellness app AAYU to address and help heal chronic diseases and lifestyle disorders through yoga and meditation.

The app has been developed by Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana (S-VYASA) in partnership with RESET TECH, an AI-driven integrated health-tech platform.

Kerala

1. Kerala govt approves medico-legal protocol for arrested & remanded prisoners

Kerala Government has approved the medico-legal protocol related to medical examination of arrested persons and remanded prisoners.

The protocol makes it mandatory that the application for medico-legal examination be handed over to a serving medical officer in the State or Central Service.

2. Kerala to launch India's first state-owned OTT platform

In a first in the country, Kerala will launch a state-owned over-the-top (OTT) platform, CSpace, on November 1, offering film lovers an array of movies, short films and documentaries of their choice.

CSpace is an initiative of Kerala State Film Development Corporation (KSFDC) on behalf of the state government.

Madhya Pradesh

1. Country's first rural tribal technical training in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the country's first rural tribal technical training in Bhopal under the 'Parliamentary Sangul Project' for tribal youth.

The training programme is being conducted for the first time in Madhya Pradesh on an experimental basis.

Manipur

1. Indian Army signs tripartite MoU for 'Manipur Super 50'

Red Shield Division of Indian Army under the aegis of Spear Corps entered into a tripartite agreement with State Bank of India Foundation (SBIF) and National Integrity and Educational Development Organization (NIEDO) to establish 'Red Shield Centre for Excellence and Wellness' in Manipur's Bishnupur district.

Manipur Governor -La Ganesan.

2. Manipur: Poumai Naga tribe declares Poumai inhabited areas to be Drug-Free Zone

Poumai tribe, one of the major Naga tribes living in Manipur's hill district, Senapati have recently declared their villages a no-drugs zone in order to help the state government curb the drugs menace including illegal poppy cultivation.

The step would also help in protecting & preserving forests, which are being destroyed for poppy cultivation.

3. Manipur's Ukhrul marks the onset Shirui Lily Festival after 2 years of Covid-19

The fourth edition of the Shirui Lily Festival began at Shirui village in Manipur's Ukhrul district. Besides Shirui village, the cultural extravaganza will also be held at Bakshi Ground in Dunglei where musical bands from across the country will participate in a singing competition titled 'Shirock'.

Maharashtra

Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda lays the foundation stone for Eklavya Model Residential School at Nashik

Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Shri Arjun Munda and Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Bharati Pawar today laid the foundation stone for construction of Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) at Shinde, Nashik, Maharashtra. The proposed EMR School aims to make quality education accessible to tribal students in remotest tribal hinterlands of Nashik. Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) were introduced in the year 1997-98

Odisha

1. Odisha CM launches Olympic Values Education Programmes

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launched the Olympic Values Education Programme (OVEP), which is a pilot project aiming at disseminating principles-based curriculum to aid children's active, healthy and responsible citizens.

Odisha is the first state in the country to launch OVEP.

Rajasthan

1. Rajasthan Becomes the First 10 GW Solar State

Rajasthan became the first state in India to surpass 10 GW of cumulative large-scale solar installations, as per Mercom's India Solar Project Tracker. The state has a total of 32.5 GW of installed power capacity, with renewables contributing 55%, followed by thermal energy at 43%, and nuclear energy making up for the remaining 2%.

2. Rajasthan's Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary notified as India's 52nd tiger reserve

The newly notified tiger reserve in Rajasthan's Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary includes the tiger habitat between Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in the northeast and Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve on the southern side and facilitates dispersal of tigers from Ranthambore Tiger Reserve.

This is Rajasthan's fourth tiger reserve after Ranthambore, Sariska and Mukundra.

Tamil Nadu

1. PM dedicates to the nation and lays foundation stone of 11 projects worth over Rs 31,500 crore in Tamil Nadu

In a major boost to the country's infrastructure, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for six key projects worth 28,540 crore rupees at a function in Chennai.

He also dedicated to the nation five projects that have been completed at a cost of 2,960 crore rupees. The total expenditure on all the eleven projects is around 31,500 crore rupees.

NIT-T commissions Param Porul Super Computer Centre, becomes part of NSM

National Institute of Technology, Tiruchi became part of the National Super Computing Mission (NSM), GOI, by commissioning the Param Porul Super Computer Centre

It was sanctioned a Super Computer worth '119 crore by the MeITY and the DST

Bhaskar Bhat, Chairman, Board of Governors, NIT-T inaugurated the Param Porul Computing Centre

Telangana

1. Telangana govt extends insurance coverage to handloom & power loom weavers under 'Nethanna Bima' scheme

Telangana state Government has announced extension of insurance coverage to handloom and power loom weavers under 'Nethanna Bima' (Weaver's Insurance) Scheme. The State Government has issued orders to extend insurance coverage of 5 lakh rupees for weavers under the Insurance Scheme on par with farmers insurance scheme.

Uttar Pradesh

1. Uttar Pradesh govt to provide free wi-fi facility for people within 50 meters of village secretariat

Uttar Pradesh government will provide free wi-fi facility at more than 58 thousand places in the villages of the state. This internet facility will be available for the people within 50 meters of the Gram Sachivalaya (village secretariat) building which is being built in every Gram Panchayat of the state.

2. Ajay Kumar Mishra appointed new UP Advocate general

Ajay Kumar Mishra has been appointed as the new Advocate General of Uttar Pradesh, a proposal to this effect was cleared by the UP Cabinet.

A bench of Justice D K Upadhyaya and Justice Subhash Vidyarthi passed the order after taking suo motu cognisance of the issue.

3. Prominent Crossing in Ayodhya to be Developed & Named After Lata Mangeshkar

A prominent crossing in Ayodhya will be developed and named after legendary singer Bharat Ratna late Lata Mangeshkar who passed away on February 6.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has directed the Ayodhya administration to identify a prominent crossing in the temple town and send a proposal to the state government in the next 15 days for renaming it after Lata Mangeshkar.

4. UP launches 'Sambhav' portal for disposal of public grievances related to energy

Minister for energy and urban development Arvind Sharma has launched the SAMBHAV (Systemic Administration Mechanism for Bringing Happiness and Value) portal for disposal of public grievances and monitoring programmes and schemes of the two departments.

Uttarakhand

1. Char Dham Yatra Begins with Opening of Gangotri-Yamunotri Temples for Devotees

The Char Dham yatra began with the portals of Gangotri and Yamunotri temples in Uttarkashi district thrown open to devotees on the occasion of Akshay Tritiya. The idols of goddesses Ganga and Yamuna were brought in ornate palanquins decorated with flowers from their winter abodes before the vedic rituals were started by the priests to mark the opening of the temples.

2. Uniform Civil Code: Dharmu govt forms panel for UCC implementation in Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand government announced a drafting committee to implement the much-debated Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the state.

The committee will be headed by retired Supreme Court judge **Ranjana Desai** while retired Delhi High Court judge Pramod Kohli, ex-state chief secretaries Shatrughan Singh, Manu Gaud and Surekha Dangwal will be remaining members of it.

3. Uttarakhand becomes the 1st Indian state to roll out drone in healthcare

Redcliffe Labs, a unit of Redcliffe Lifetech in the U.S., has come up with its first commercial drone flight in the country's healthcare sector. The company has recently opened its commercial drone corridor between Uttarkashi and Dehradun.

The project was a part of Redcliffe and Skye Air tie-up and in the past three months they have done 40 successful trials in North India.

Jammu and Kashmir

1. Delimitation Commission on J&K submits report: 43 Assembly seats for Jammu, Kashmir to have 47

According to the report, the commission has recommended increasing the number of Assembly seats. For Kashmir, it has been suggested to increase the seats from 46 to 47, while the Jammu region will have 43 seats instead of 37. Now, J&K will have 90 Assembly seats.

The Delimitation Commission on Jammu and Kashmir was established on March 6, 2020. The Delimitation Commission was headed by Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai.

2. Jitendra Singh inaugurates India's first 'Lavendar Festival' in Baderwah

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has inaugurated the country's first 'Lavendar festival' at Jammu's Baderwah where the cultivation of lavender has transformed the economy of the mountainous area.

Bhaderwah in the Doda district as the birthplace of India's purple revolution.

3. North India's first Industrial Biotech Park inaugurated at Kathua in J&K

North India's first Industrial Biotech Park inaugurated at Kathua in J&K. The Industrial Biotech Park at Kathua will transform the economy and enable scientists to tackle challenges of climate change. The enabling infrastructure will fuel new wave of innovation and impact various sectors, from health and agriculture to cosmetics and materials.

Puducherry

1. NBCC inks MoU with Puducherry Smart City Development Limited

NBCC (India) Limited signed MoU with Puducherry Smart City Development Limited (PSCDL) for various infrastructure development works. Under this MoU, NBCC will be implementing various infrastructure projects worth more than Rs. 300 crore.

Ladakh

1. NIELIT Centre Inaugurated At Leh By Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Cabinet Minister of Electronics & Information Technology, Communications and Railways virtually inaugurated National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) Centre Leh, Extension Centre Kargil and IT Enabled Incubation Centre for Handicraft and Handloom Sector.



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Committees

1. RBI Board approves nomination of Rajiv Ranjan as ex-officio member of Monetary Policy Committee

The Reserve Bank of India's central board has approved the nomination of Rajiv Ranjan as a member of the monetary policy committee. Ranjan replaces Mridul Saggar, who retired last month. Ranjan was an advisor in-charge in the monetary policy department, before he was elevated as an executive director. Ranjan will be a part of the monetary policy review meeting next month,

2. Sebi rejigs 18-member secondary market advisory panel

Sebi has restructured its committee on secondary market, which provides suggestions to the capital markets regulator on improving market safety, efficiency and transparency.

The 18-member advisory committee will now be chaired by G Mahalingam, former whole time member of Sebi.

Earlier, the panel had 17 members and was headed by Sebi chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch.

3. SEBI forms advisory committee headed by Navneet Munot, for ESG-related matters

Capital markets regulator Sebi has constituted an advisory committee for advising on ESG (environment, social and governance) related matters in the securities market. The committee will be headed by HDFC Mutual Fund **Navneet Munot** the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said.

Ms. Madhabi Puri Buch Chairperson, SEBI.

4. Govt-appointed panel to finalise RoDTEP rates for SEZs by mid-June

Government-appointed committee headed by former commerce secretary Gopal Krishna Pillai will soon finalise the rates for the export-boosting scheme 'Remission of Duties and Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) ' towards exports from special economic zones (SEZs) and export-oriented units (EOUs).

RoDTEP scheme that is applicable with effect from January 1st, 2021.

5. RBI-constituted panel to review customer service standards in banks, NBFCs

The RBI has set up a committee to evaluate the efficacy, adequacy and quality of customer service in banks, NBFCs, and other entities regulated by it. The six-member committee headed by former RBI deputy governor B P Kanungo has been asked to submit a report within three months from the date of its first meeting.

6. PM Modi headed Inter-State Council reconstituted; Amit Shah Chairman of standing committee

Ten union ministers will be the permanent invitees to the Inter-State Council

Union Ministers are the members of the council

Established to promote and support cooperative federalism in the country

Composition of the standing committee of the Inter-State Council: Amit Shah (Chairman), Nirmala Sitharaman, Narendra Singh Tomar, Virendra Kumar and Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

7. Govt. reconstitutes Central Advisory Board on Archaeology

CABA is revised for a period of three years

The board consists of Culture Minister as the chairperson and including officials from the Culture Ministry and ASI, MPs, nominees of State governments, representatives of universities, scientists and experts on Indus Valley script

Last meeting was held on October 17, 2014 with 53 members, including 13 State govt. nominees

8. Delhi High Court forms Committee of Administrators (CoA) for Hockey India

The Delhi High Court has appointed a three-member CoA for Hockey India and the administrative setup of Hockey India is erroneously or illegally constituted because of the Life President.

While the terms of power and responsibility for the CoA ' comprising Justice (Retd) Anil Dave, former CEC S.Y. Quraishi and Zafar Iqbal ' are similar to that of the one formed for the AIFF.

9. Indian officer Anwar Hussain Shaik is new chair of a WTO committee

After a gap of ten years, an Indian government officer ' Anwar Hussain Shaik ' has been made the chair of the WTO's committee on Technical Barriers on Trade.

He will take this role from Elisa Maria Olmeda de Alejandro from Mexico. WTO's Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.

10. Centre announces formation of Cotton Council of India under Chairmanship of Suresh Bhai Kotak

The Union Government has announced the formation of the Cotton Council of India under the Chairmanship of renowned veteran cotton man Suresh Bhai Kotak.

It will have representation from Textiles, Agriculture, Commerce, and Finance Ministries along with Cotton Corporation of India and Cotton Research Institute.



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BANKING

Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)	4.50%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	18.00%

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
Sahas Malhotra	CEO of JioSaavan
Vinay Mohan Kwatra	Foreign Secretary of India
Joydeep Karmakar	National Chief Rifle Coach
Nand Mulchandani	Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
Tarun Kapoor	Advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Venkataramani Sumantran	Chairman of the Board of Directors of InterGlobe Aviation
Arvind Krishna	Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York
Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor	Director General (Inspection and Safety) [DG(I&S)] of Indian Air Force
Alkesh Kumar Sharma	Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY)
Sudarshan Venu	Managing Director of the TVS Motor Company
Pushp Kumar Joshi	Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL)
Yoon Suk-yeol	President of South Korean
M. Narayanan	Part time Chairman of City Union Bank Ltd
Katalin Novak	President of Hungary
Rajiv Kumar	Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)
Campbell Wilson	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) & Managing Director (MD) of Air India
Aruna Singh	Chairman cum Managing Director of RailTel
Ravinder Singh Dhillon	Chairman and Managing Director of REC Limited (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited)
T. N. Manoharan	Part-time Chairman (PTC) of IDBI Bank
Ranil Wickremesinghe	Prime Minister of Sri Lanka
Nidhi Chibber	Chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education(CBSE)

Rajiv Ranjan	Executive Director of RBI
Sitikantha Pattanaik	Executive Director of RBI
Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan	President of the UAE
Dr. Manik Saha	Chief Minister of Tripura
S. N. Subrahmanyam	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Larsen & Toubro
Sunil Arora	Chairman (Non-Executive) of Gram Unnati
Sachin Seth	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of BSE Elix
B Govindarajan	Chief Executive Officer of Royal Enfield
Elisabeth Borne	Prime Minister of France
Sanjiv Bajaj	President of CII
Naveen Srivastava	Ambassador of India to Nepal
SS Mundra	Chairman of BSE Limited
Pieter Elbers	Chief Executive Officer of IndiGo
Sujoy Dutta	Chief Financial Officer of UCO bank
Sudhakar T N	Chairman & Managing Director of Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)
Kuldeep Singh	Chairman and Managing Director of HIL (India) Limited
Vijay Shekhar Sharma	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Paytm
Vivek Kumar	Private Secretary (PS) to Prime Minister Narendra Modi
H. E. Anthony Albanese	Prime Minister of Australia
Salil Parekh	Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Infosys
Vinai Kumar Saxena	Lieutenant governor of Delhi
Gaurav Sachdeva	Chief Executive Officer of JSW One Platform
Jose Ramos-Horta	President of East Timor
Justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty	Acting Chairperson, Lokpal.
Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus	Director-General of WHO
Lovlina Borgohai	Chairman of IBA's Athletes' Committee
Gopal Vittal	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of

AWARDS

WINNER	AWARD
Cynthia Rosenzweig	World Food Prize
Ardeshir B.K. Dubash	Merit in the Diplomatic Service of Peru Jos Gregorio Paz Soldn
Mamata Banerjee	Bangla Academy Award
Guruswamy Krishnamoorthy	The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division) Award 2022

Ccile Ndjebet	Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award, 2022
Ajay Piramal	Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) award
Anjali Pandey	Committed Leader Award at CII EXCON 2022
Nawazuddin Siddiqui	Excellence in Cinema award at the French Riviera Film Festival
Dr A Gopalakrishnan	VASVIK Industrial Research Award
Geetanjali Shree	International Booker prize

IMPORTANT DAYS

DATE	DAY	THEME
First Sunday in the month of May	World Laughter Day	
May 3rd	World Press Freedom Day	Journalism under digital siege
First Thursday in the month of May	World Password Day	
May 7th	World Athletics Day	
May 8th	World Red Cross day	Be Human Kind
May 8th	World Thalassaemia Day	Be Aware. Share. Care: Working with the global community as one to improve Thalassaemia knowledge
May 11th	National Technology Day	
May 12th	International Day of Plant Health	
May 16th	National Dengue Day	Dengue is preventable; let us join hands
May 17th	World Telecommunication and Information Society Day	Digital technologies for Older Persons and Healthy Ageing
May 18th	International Museum Day	The Power of Museums
May 20th	World Bee Day	Bee Engaged: Celebrating the diversity of bees and beekeeping systems
May 20th	National Endangered Species Day	Recovering key species for ecosystem restoration
May 20th	World Metrology Day	Metrology in the Digital Era
May 22nd	International Day of Biological Diversity	Building a shared future for all life
May 23rd	World Turtle Day	Shellebrate
May 25th	World Thyroid Day	It's not you. It's your thyroid
May 29th	International Day of UN Peacekeepers	People Peace Progress: The Power of Partnerships
May 30th	World Vape Day	
May 31st	World No-Tobacco Day	Protect The Environment

OBITUARY

OBITUARY	RELATED FIELD
Tony Brooks	Formula One Racer
Rajat Kumar Kar	Odia litterateur
Pt Shiv Kumar Sharma	Santoor virtuoso
Andrew Symonds	Australian Cricketer
Rama Kant Shukla	Sanskrit and Hindi Scholar
Shivaji Patnaik	Veteran Communist leader
Yuri Averbakh	Chess Grandmaster
Bujar Nishani	Former Albanian President

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
Chhattisgh	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	Tamilisai Soundararajan
Tripura	Agartala	Dr. Manik Saha	Satyadeo Narain Arya
Uttar Pradesh	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)	Vinai Kumar Saxena (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
ParshottamRupala	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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