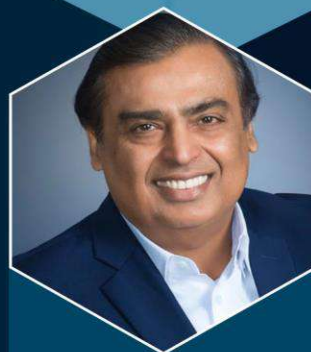


THE HINDU REVIEW

APRIL 2022

Monthly
Capsule

Current
Affairs



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The Most Important Current Affairs April 2022

RBI Monetary Policy 2022: key rates unchanged

The six-member **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)** voted unanimously to keep the repo rate unchanged at **4 per cent**. MPC committee keeps the reverse repo rate unchanged at **3.35 per cent** as Russia's invasion of Ukraine added to a rise in inflation. The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee headed by **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das** kept the repo rate unchanged for the **11th** consecutive time. The repo rate or the short-term lending rate was the last cut on **May 22, 2020**. Since then, the rate remains at a historic low of 4 per cent.

The Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and bank rates remain unchanged:

- Policy Repo Rate: 4.00%
- Reverse Repo Rate: 3.35%
- Marginal Standing Facility Rate: 4.25%
- Bank Rate: 4.25%
- CRR: 4%
- SLR: 18.00%

Key Points:

- The GDP growth forecast has been lowered to **7.2 per cent**, owing to inflationary pressures due to the ongoing Russia Ukraine War. Earlier, the central bank had kept the GDP growth rate at **7.8 per cent**.
- RBI announced that now people can withdraw money from ATMs without a card in all banks across the nation. This has been done to give a push to Digital India.
- Net worth requirement for **Bharat Bill Payments System Operating Units** lowered from Rs **100 crore to Rs 25 crore**.
- Rationalisation of risk weights for individual housing loans to be extended till **March 31, 2023**.
- RBI sees the Current account deficit at sustainable levels and forex reserves at **\$606.5 billion**.
- Inflation is now projected at **5.7% in 2022-23** with Q1 at 6.3%, Q2 at 5%, Q3 at 5.4% and Q4 at 5.1%.
- India's 10-year bond yield rises to 7%, the highest since **2019**.

The composition of the Monetary Policy Committee is as follows:

- Governor of the Reserve Bank of India – Chairperson, ex officio: **Shri Shaktikanta Das**.
- Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, in charge of Monetary Policy– Member, ex officio: **Dr Michael Debabrata Patra**.
- One officer of the Reserve Bank of India to be nominated by the Central Board – Member, ex officio: **Dr Mridul K. Sagar**.
- A professor at the Mumbai-based Indira Gandhi Institute of Developmental Research: **Prof. Ashima Goyal**.
- A professor of finance at the Indian Institute of Management in Ahmedabad: **Prof. Jayanth R Varma**.
- An agricultural economist and a senior adviser with the National Council of Applied Economic Research in New Delhi: **Dr Shashanka Bhide**.

Grammy Awards 2022: Check the list of Winners

The **64th annual Grammy Awards** are being held for the first time at the **MGM Grand Garden Arena** with Trevor Noah as host. The 64th GRAMMY Awards recognizes recordings (including musical artists, compositions and albums) released between September 01, 2020, to September 30, 2021. Jon Batiste received the most nominations with eleven and Batiste also received the most awards with five.

Here is the list of winners of the 64th annual Grammy Awards:

S.No	Category	Winners
1.	Album Of The Year	'We Are' by Jon Batiste
2.	Record Of The Year	'Leave the door open' by Bruno Mars and Anderson Paak
3.	Best New Artist	Olivia Rodrigo
4.	Best Rap Album	"Call Me If You Get Lost," Tyler, the Creator
5.	Best R&B Album Winner	"Heaux Tales," Jazmine Sullivan.
6.	Best Rap Song	"Jail," Kanye West featuring Jay-Z
7.	Best Country Album	"Starting Over," Chris Stapleton
8.	Song Of The Year	"Leave the Door Open," Silk Sonic (Brandon Anderson, Christopher Brody Brown, Dernst Emile II and Bruno Mars)



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S.No	Category	Winners
9.	Best Rock Album	"Medicine at Midnight," Foo Fighters
10.	Best Rock Song	"Waiting On a War," Foo Fighters
11.	Best Dance/Electronic Album	"Subconsciously," Black Coffee
12.	Producer of the Year, non-classical:	Jack Antonoff
13.	Best Music Video	"Freedom," Jon Batiste
14.	Best Country Song	"Cold," Chris Stapleton
15.	Best Folk Album	"They're Calling Me Home," Rhiannon Giddens with Francesco Turrisi
16.	Best Comedy Album	"Sincerely Louis CK," Louis C.K.
17.	Best rap performance:	"Family Ties," Baby Keem featuring Kendrick Lamar
18.	Best rock performance:	"Making a Fire," Foo Fighters
19.	Best music film:	"Summer of Soul"
20.	Best musical theater album:	"The Unofficial Bridgerton Musical"
21.	Best global music:	"Mohabbat," Arooj Aftab
22.	Best global music album:	"Mother Nature," Angélique Kidjo
23.	Best historical album: "Joni Mitchell Archives, Vol. 1:"	The Early Years (1963-1967)
24.	Best Pop Duo / Group Performance:	Doja Cat and SZA for "Kiss Me More"
25.	Best American roots performance:	"Cry," Jon Batiste

History of Grammy Award:

The Grammy Award is an award presented by the Recording Academy to recognize achievements in the music industry. The first Grammy Awards ceremony was held on **May 4, 1959**, to honour and respect the musical accomplishments of performers for the year **1958**. The trophy represents a gilded gramophone.

Forbes Billionaires 2022: The Richest People In The World

The **Forbes billionaires 2022 list** is out, which compiles the list of the world's richest, who this time was hit by the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, coronavirus pandemic and sluggish markets. **Elon Musk, the Tesla and SpaceX founder** topped Forbes' list for the first time ever with a net worth of \$219 billion. Elon Musk is leading the Forbes billionaires list with a net worth of \$219 billion, followed by Amazon chief **Jeff Bezos** at \$171 billion.

America has most number of billionaires at 735 worth a collective net worth of **\$4.7 trillion**, including Elon Musk, who tops the World's Billionaires list for the first time. **China (including Macau and Hong Kong)** remains number two, with 607 billionaires worth a collective **\$2.3 trillion**. Forbes uses stock prices and exchange rates from March 11, 2022, to calculate net worths.

Here is the list of the top 10 billionaires:

Rank	Name	Net Worth	Country
1	Elon Musk	\$219 B	Tesla, United States
2	Jeff Bezos	\$171 B	Amazon, United States
3	Bernard Arnault & family	\$158 B	LVMH, France
4	Bill Gates	\$129 B	Microsoft, United States
5	Warren Buffett	\$118 B	Berkshire Hathaway, US
6	Larry Page	\$111 B	Google, United States
7	Sergey Brin	\$107 B	Google, United States
8	Larry Ellison	\$106 B	Oracle, United States
9	Steve Ballmer	\$91.4 B	Microsoft, United States
10	Mukesh Ambani	\$90.7 B	Reliance Ind Ltd, India

Indian Scenario:

- **Forbes Billionaires 2022: Men billionaires of India**
Ambani ranked at the 10th position on the global list, followed narrowly by fellow industrialist and Adani Group founder Gautam Adani, whose fortune climbed by almost \$40 billion over the past year, to an estimated \$90 billion.

Here are the top 10 richest Indians on the Forbes Billionaires List 2022:

Rank	Name	Net Worth	Company
10th rank	Mukesh Ambani	(\$90.7 billion)	Reliance Industries Ltd
11th rank	Gautam Adani	(\$90 billion)	Adani Group
47th rank	Shiv Nadar	(\$28.7 billion)	HCL Technologies
56th rank	Cyrus Poonawalla	\$24.3 billion)	Serum Institute of India
81st rank	Radhakishan Damani	(\$20 billion)	DMart
89th rank	Lakshmi Mittal	(\$17.9 billion)	ArcelorMittal
91st rank	Savitri Jindal and family	(\$17.7 billion)	O.P.Jindal Group
106th rank	Kumar Birla	(\$16.5 billion)	Aditya Birla Group
115th rank	Dilip Sanghvi	(\$15.6 billion)	Sun Pharmaceuticals
129th rank	Uday Kotak	(\$15.3 billion)	Kotak Mahindra Bank

• **Forbes Billionaires List 2022: Women billionaires of India**

Savitri Jindal, the chairperson of the Jindal Group, is the richest woman in India, according to the Forbes' Billionaires List 2022, with a net worth of \$17.7 billion. A total of 11 Indian women, with 4 newcomers, joined the global rich list this year.

Francoise Bettencourt Meyers, cosmetics giant **L'Oréal's** founder's granddaughter, was listed as the richest woman in the world this year – with a net worth of **\$74.8 billion**, according to the report. Meyers' net worth increased significantly in the past two years, from \$48.9 billion in 2020.

Here's the list of Indian women on the Forbes Billionaires List 2022:

Rank	Name	Net Worth	Company
91.	Savitri Jindal	\$17.7 billion	Jindal Group
637.	Falguni Nayar	\$4.5 billion	Nykaa
778.	Leena Tewari	\$3.8 billion	USV Private Limited
913.	Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw	\$3.3 billion	Biocon

Rank	Name	Net Worth	Company
1238.	Smita Crishna-Godrej	\$2.5 billion	Godrej
1579.	Anu Aga	\$1.9 billion	Thermax
1645.	Mudula Parekh	\$1.8 billion	Parekh Medisales Pvt Ltd
1729.	Radha Vembu	\$1.7 billion	Zoho Corporation
2076.	Sara George Muthoot	\$1.4 billion	Muthoot Finance Ltd
2448.	Kavita Singhanian	\$1.1 billion	J K Cement
2578.	Bhawari Bai Surana	\$1 billion	Micro Labs

Australia wins ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2022

Australia beat **England** by 71 runs in the finals to claim their **seventh Women's World Cup** on April 03, 2022, at **Hagley Oval in Christchurch, New Zealand**. Australia posted a record of **356** on the board. In reply, Nat Sciver waged a lone battle and remained unbeaten on 148 but it was not enough as England was bowled out for **285** in 43.4 overs. **Alyssa Healy** of Australia scored 170 runs in the match, the highest individual score made by any cricketer, male or female, in the World Cup Final. She was also the leading run-scorer in the tournament with **509 runs**.

The Player of the Tournament went to **Alyssa Healy**. **Sophie Ecclestone of England** was the **leading wicket-taker in the tournament, with 21 dismissals**. The 2022 ICC Women's Cricket World Cup was the **12th** edition of the Women's Cricket World Cup. The tournament was held in New Zealand from 4 March to 3 April 2022.

Key points of Women's World Cup:

- Most Successful team Australian (7th)
- Player of the Match (Finals) 2022: Alyssa Healy
- Player of the tournament 2022: Alyssa Healy
- Most runs (All time): Debbie Hockley (1,505), New Zealand
- Leading wicket-taker in the tournament: Sophie Ecclestone (England, 21 dismissals)
- Most wickets (All time): Jhulan Goswami (45), India

Miami Open Tennis Tournament 2022 Overview

The **2022 Miami Open tennis tournament** was the **37th edition** of the men's and women's event, held from March 22 to April 3, 2022, in Miami Gardens, Florida. Miami Open is classified as an ATP Masters 1000 event on the 2022 ATP Tour and a WTA 1000 event on the 2022 WTA Tour.

The **Miami Open** (also known as the **Miami Masters**, and currently branded as the **Miami Open presented by Itaú** for sponsorship reasons) is a tennis tournament held at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida. It is part of the men's ATP Tour Masters 1000 circuit, and part of the women's WTA 1000 circuit. The Miami Open is usually held between March and April.

Here is the complete list of winners:

Award	Winner	Runner-Up
Men's Single	Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)	Casper Ruud (Norway)
Women's Single	Iga Świątek (Poland)	Naomi Osaka (Japan)
Men's Double	Hubert Hurkacz / John Isner	Wesley Koolhof / Neal Skupski
Women's Double	Laura Siegemund / Vera Zvonareva	Veronika Kudermetova / Elise Mertens

PM Modi Inaugurates Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya in New Delhi

PM **Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the **Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya in New Delhi** on April 14. The Sangrahalaya, located at the iconic **Teen Murti complex**, was inaugurated as part of **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav** — a 75-week celebration launched to mark 75 years of Independence.

The museum will become a source of inspiration for the youth who will be able to witness the hardships each PM faced and how they overcame them to lay the foundations of a new India. The museum will reflect the shared heritage of each government. The Congress alleged that the new museum was an attempt to dilute the legacy of **India's first PM Jawaharlal Nehru**, a charge rejected by the Centre.

Key Features of Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya:

- The project to build the new museum faced stiff opposition when the government announced its plan in **2018**.
- The museum building integrates the Teen Murti Bhawan in New Delhi, designated as Block I, with the newly-constructed Block II. The total area of the two blocks is over **15,600 square metres**. There are **43 galleries** in the Sangrahalaya.
- The logo of the Sangrahalaya, meanwhile, shows hands holding the dharma chakra, symbolising the nation and democracy.

The Content Displayed at the Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya:

- From the freedom struggle to the framing of the Constitution, the museum will have displays that showcase stories of how the respective Prime Ministers steered the nation.
- Personal items, gifts and memorabilia like medals, commemorative stamps, speeches of PMs and anecdotal representations of ideologies will be on display at the museum. The families of the former Prime Ministers were contacted for information about them.
- The Sangrahalaya will also include the Nehru Museum. Officials have said it has been upgraded with a technologically advanced display to showcase the life and contributions of the country's first PM, Jawaharlal Nehru. Several gifts received by him from all over the world are on display for the first time.
- The Sangrahalaya will use holograms, virtual reality, augmented reality, multi-touch, multimedia, interactive kiosks, computerised kinetic sculptures, smartphone applications, interactive screens, experiential installations etc, to make the exhibition content interactive.

Champion of Change Award 2021 in Madhya Pradesh announced

Madhya Pradesh Governor **Mangubhai Patel** and Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** have reached the program of **Champions of Change Madhya Pradesh 2021** organized by 'Interactive Forum on Indian Economy' (IFIE) at Kushabhau Thackeray auditorium in Bhopal. The organization recognizes them for the great work done by individuals and organizations towards promoting the values of courage, community service and inclusive social development.

Celebrities including the Chief Minister will be honoured in the program. **Here are the names of the awardees:**

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**;
- Former Governor of UP and Mizoram **Dr Aziz Qureshi**;
- Music performer Padma Vibhushan **Teejan Bai**;
- Mayor of Indore **Malini Laxmansingh Gaur**;
- Rajya Sabha MP **Syed Zafar Islam**;
- Indian actress **Divyanka Tripathi**;
- Indian film actor and lyricist **Piyush Mishra**;
- BJP leader **Vikram Verma, Banwari Lal Chouksey, Dr Bhagirath Prasad, Kalapini Komakali, Sudhir Bhai Goyal, Girish Agarwal, Dilip Suryavanshi, Abhijeet Sukhdane, Aarya Chavda, Rohit Singh Tomar, Megha Parmar, Vikas Bhaduria, Priyanka Dwivedi**.
- CEO of FidyPay **Manan Dixit, Mayur Sethi, Renu Sharma, Dr Prakash Jain and Rajneet Jain**.

About the Award:

Champions of Change is an Indian award, for promoting Gandhian values, (Swachata), community service and social development (in Aspirational district in India), selected by constitutional jury members headed by **K.G. Balakrishnan**, Former Chief Justice of India and Former Chairman NHRC along with Former Judge of Supreme Court of India. The champions of Change Telangana award is a state version of the Champions of change national award.

IFIE annually organizes the Champions of Change Award at the International, National and state-Level in India and it is usually presented by the President, Vice-President, Governor or a leading figure of India. **Mr Nandan Jha** is the founder and Chairman of the Champions of Change Award.

New Zealand Cricket Awards 2022 announced

New Zealand announced awards for Men and Women's cricketers. New Zealand speedster **Trent Boult** and White Ferns skipper **Sophie Devine** won the 'T20 International Player of the Year' in the recently announced **New Zealand Cricket Awards 2022**.

New Zealand pace bowler Tim Southee has been awarded the **Sir Richard Hadlee Medal at the New Zealand Cricket (NZC) Awards** on April 14, 2022. This is Southee's first Sir Richard Hadlee Medal in his 14-year-long career. He has been awarded for his consistency throughout the 2021-22 season. Sir Richard Hadlee's medal is the **highest cricketing honour of New Zealand (Black Cap)**.

Other category awards announced are given below:

- Women's Super Smash Player of the Year: Amelia Kerr (Wellington Blaze)
- Men's Super Smash Player of the Year: Michael Bracewell (Wellington Firebirds)
- Fan Moment of the Summer: Ross Taylor's final wicket in his last Test
- International Women's ODI Player of the Year: Amelia Kerr (Wellington Blaze).
- International Men's ODI Player of the Year: Will Young (Central Stags).
- Redpath Cup for first-class batting: Devon Conway (Wellington Firebirds).
- Ruth Martin Cup for women's domestic batting: Suzie Bates (Otago Sparks).
- Winsor Cup for first-class bowling: Tim Southee (Northern Districts).
- Phyl Blackler Cup for women's domestic bowling: Eden Carson (Otago Sparks).
- New Zealand Umpire of the Year: Chris Gaffaney.

NITI Aayog's State Energy and Climate Index

NITI Aayog has launched the **State Energy & Climate Index (SECI) Round I**. The State Energy & Climate Index (SECI) Round I ranks the states' performance on 6 parameters, namely, (1) DISCOM's Performance (2) Access, Affordability and Reliability of Energy (3) Clean Energy Initiatives (4) Energy Efficiency (5) Environmental Sustainability; and (6) New Initiatives.

These parameters are further divided into 27 indicators. Based on the composite score of SECI Round I, the states and UTs have been ranked as larger states, smaller states, and UTs, based on size and geographical differences. States and UTs are categorized into three groups: Front Runners, Achievers, and Aspirants.

Top Three States among Larger States Category

- Gujarat
- Kerala
- Punjab

Top Three States among Smaller States Category

- Goa
- Tripura
- Manipur

Top Three UTs

- Chandigarh
- Delhi
- Daman & Diu/Dadra & Nagar Haveli

ICC Players of the Month for March 2022

The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** announced that Pakistan skipper **Babar Azam** and Australia's run-machine **Rachael Haynes** were named the **ICC Men's and Women's Players of the Month for March 2022**. Fans can continue to vote every month for their favourite male and female cricketers across all formats of international cricket as part of the ICC Player of the Month initiative.

In the men's category:

Azam had several thrilling batting displays in Pakistan's multi-format series against Australia recently. He amassed 390 runs in the three-Test series, which the hosts lost 0-1. Azam received the award ahead of West Indies' **Kraigg Brathwaite** and Australia Test skipper **Pat Cummins**, and in doing so, became the first player to win the ICC Men's 'Player of the Month' award on two occasions, after being crowned back in April 2021.

Among the women category:

Rachael Haynes had a formidable set of displays on the road to Australia's seventh ICC Women's Cricket World Cup trophy. She scored 429 runs in eight games at an average of 61.28, her feats at the top of the order proving crucial to her side's unbeaten run to the final, where they thrashed England to lift the trophy at Christchurch in New Zealand. She overcame fellow nominees **Sophie Ecclestone** (England) and **Laura Wolvaardt** (South Africa) for the award.

About the award: The International Cricket Council (ICC) presents the ICC Player of the Month to recognise male and female cricketers who have best performed across all forms of international cricket in a particular month.

Bumrah, Rohit among Wisden's five 'Cricketers of the Year'

The Wisden Almanack has named India captain Rohit Sharma and bowler Jasprit Bumrah among the "Five Cricketers of the Year" for 2022. Rohit Sharma amassed 368 runs at an average of 52.57 in four Tests, completing an outstanding tour with a second-innings 127 at The Oval, his first Test century away from home.

Key Points:

- Others that made the cut include England fast bowler **Ollie Robinson**, South African women's player **Dane van Niekerk**, and New Zealand opener **Devon Conway**.
- Former England captain **Joe Root** has been crowned the World's Leading Cricketer, while South African **Lizelle Lee** has been named the World's Leading Woman Cricketer, and Pakistan's **Mohammad Rizwan** has been named the World's Leading T20 Cricketer.

National Panchayati Raj Day 2022

National Panchayati Raj Day is a national holiday in India that honours the **Panchayati Raj system**. Every year on **April 24th**, it is commemorated. The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act**, which was passed in **1992**, is also commemorated on this day. **The Panchayati Raj system**, which is one of the country's oldest governing organisations, governs about **6 lakh communities in India**.

The day was initially observed in **April 2010** to commemorate the decentralisation of power, which is considered one of India's most significant milestones. As **Panchayati Raj Diwas 2022** approaches, we bring you additional information about the event's history, significance, and topic.



PANCHAYATI RAJ DAY: IMPORTANCE

The day is significant because, in 1957, a committee was formed under the head of **Balwantrai Mehta** with the goal of bringing about reforms in the central electricity system. The committee suggested a decentralised **Panchayati Raj** hierarchy, with **Gram Panchayats** at the village level, **Panchayat Samiti** at the block level, and Zila Parishad at the district level, according to the study.

PANCHAYATI RAJ DAY: THEME

Every year, the Prime Minister meets with members from **Gram Panchayats** and reviews their progress reports. In addition, a variety of village-level festivities, seminars, and other events are held. This year, however, it will be held without a theme. The award ceremony, which will honour the outstanding work of panchayats across the country for their participation under the Panchayat Empowerment Accountability Incentive Scheme, will be the centrepiece of the event this year. On **National Panchayati Raj Day**, the Central government honours around 170 Panchayati Raj institutions.

BACKGROUND

Despite the fact that **Panchayati Raj** Institutions have existed for a long time, it has been observed that they have not been able to achieve the status and dignity of viable and responsive people's bodies due to a variety of factors including the lack of regular elections, prolonged super sessions, insufficient representation of weaker sections such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and women, insufficient devolution of powers, and a lack of financial resources.

The Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act of 1992, which took effect on **April 24, 1993**, gave Panchayati Raj institutions constitutional standing. As a result, this date symbolises a watershed point in the history of decentralisation of governmental power to the people. The **73rd Amendment's** influence on rural India is palpable, as it has irreparably altered power dynamics. As a result, the Indian government decided, in conjunction with the states, to commemorate April 24th as **National Panchayati Raj Day**. The **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** is leading the commemoration.

Smart Cities Awards 2022

The **Smart Cities India 2022 Awards** are a one-of-a-kind platform that honours, recognises, and encourages individuals, policymakers, businesses, municipalities, government organisations, and associations for their efforts in both the urban and rural sectors. The 3-day expo comes to a close with the Awards Ceremony.

Categories	Winners	Projects
Best Green Buildings Project	Faridabad Smart City Limited	ICCC Building
Best Healthcare Initiatives	Bhopal Smart City Development Corporation Limited	COVID Management through ICCC
Best Startup Initiatives	Bhopal Smart City Development Corporation Limited	B-Nest Foundation
Best Water Management	Solinas Integrity Private Limited	Pipeline Management Project for 24x7 Water Supply
City Innovation	Ujjain Smart City Limited	Digital Center
COVID 19-Recovery Innovation Award	Jabalpur Smart City Limited	Leveraging ICCC against COVID Pandemic
Digital City	New Town Kolkata Green Smart City Corporation	Digital Services in New Town Kolkata
Governance and Economy	Pimpri Chinchwad Smart City Limited	Smart Sarathi
Public Private Partnership Initiatives	Indore Smart City Development Limited	She Kunj
Safe City	Dehradun Smart City Limited	DICCC
Smart Energy Project	Jabalpur Smart City Limited	Smart Light Project
Smart Parking Initiatives	Indore Smart City Development Limited	Two Wheeler Multi-Level Parking
Smart Urban Mobility	Silvassa Smart City Limited	E-Bus Project
Smart Waste Disposal and Clean City	New Town Kolkata Green Smart City Corporation	Integrated Solid Waste Management System in New Town Kolkata
Smart City of the Year	Ujjain Smart City Limited	MRIDA
Best City Leader of the Year	Athar Aamir Khan, IAS, CEO, Srinagar Smart City Limited	-

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy gets John F. Kennedy Award

The **John F. Kennedy Library Foundation**, for the first time ever, awarded the **John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award 2022** to five individuals. The award will be presented by Caroline Kennedy and her son, Jack Schlossberg on **May 22, 2022**, at the **John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, Boston, USA**.

These five individuals are:

- Ukrainian President: **Volodymyr Zelenskyy**
- United States (US) Representative: **Liz Cheney**
- Michigan Secretary of State: **Jocelyn Benson**
- Arizona Representative: **Russell "Rusty" Bowers**
- Fulton County, Georgia, elections worker: **Wandrea "Shaye" Moss**

Important point:

- **Volodymyr Zelenskyy**, Ukrainian President is named for his valour to protect the Ukrainian people during the Russia-Ukraine Conflict.

About the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award: **John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award** was created by the family of the late **president John Fitzgerald Kennedy** to honour public figures who risk their careers by embracing unpopular positions for the greater good, and is named after Kennedy's 1957 Pulitzer Prize-winning book, "Profiles in Courage".

Sir David Attenborough earns UN 'Champion of the Earth Lifetime Achievement award'

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has named **Sir David Attenborough**, English natural history broadcaster and naturalist, as the recipient of the **Champions of the Earth Award 2021 under the Lifetime Achievement category**. This award is given to him for his dedication to research, documentation, and advocacy for the protection of nature and its restoration. Sir David Attenborough is well known for his innovative educational television programs, especially the nine-part Life series forming the Life collection. His well-known documentaries include The Green Planet and A Plastic Ocean. He was knighted twice by Queen Elizabeth II in 1985 and again in 2020. He has won 3 Emmy Awards and 8 British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) awards.

Other Winners of 2021 Champions of the Earth Awards:

Category	Winners	Country
Policy Leadership	Mia Mottley (Prime Minister, Barbados)	Barbados
Inspiration And Action	Sea Women of Melanesia	Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands
Science And Innovation	Dr Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka Founder and CEO of Conservation Through Public Health (CTPH)	Uganda
Entrepreneurial Vision	Maria Kolesnikova	Kyrgyz Republic

India Pharma and India Medical Devices Awards 2022

The **India Pharma Awards 2022, and India Medical Device Awards 2022** were handed over by the Minister of State for the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers Bhagwanth Khuba. The awards were handed over during the seventh edition of India Pharma and Indian Medical Device 2022 which was organized by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and the Department of Pharmaceuticals.

The awards were given to various industry players in the field of medical and pharmaceutical devices.

Category	Winners
Indian Pharma Leader of the Year	Cipla Ltd.
India Pharma Innovation of the Year	Glenmark Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
Indian Pharma (Formulation)	Micro Labs Ltd.
Indian Pharma CSR of the year	Zydus Lifesciences Ltd
India Medical Device Leader of the Year	Poly Medicure Ltd.
India Medical Device Company of the Year	Trivitron Healthcare Pvt Ltd.
India Medical Device MSME of the Year	Nice Neotech Medical Systems Pvt Ltd.
Indian Medical Device Start-up of the Year	Vanguard Diagnostics Pvt Ltd.
Indian Medical Device Innovation of the Year	Meril Lifesciences Pvt Ltd.

Max Verstappen named Laureus Sportsman of the Year 2022

F1 champion **Max Verstappen** has been named the **2022 Laureus Sportsman of the Year** while Jamaican Olympic sprinter **Elaine Thompson-Herah** has been named **Sportswoman of the Year**. The awards recognise the greatest sporting achievements of 2021, one of the highlights of which was the European Championship victory by the **Italian Men's Football Team** who won their second **Laureus Team of the Year Award** as a result.

Other awardees:

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

Banking and Financial Current Affairs

- The **Reserve Bank of India** has delayed the deadline for banks to use **lockable cassettes** in their **ATMs** that can be swapped during cash replenishment by a year, **till March 31, 2023**. The decision was made after the **RBI** received representations from various banks and the **Indian Banks' Association** noting difficulty in achieving the deadline, according to a notification released yesterday.
- Central Bank of India** partnered with ID to implement digital Know Your Customer (KYC), video KYC and eKYC for its network across India. The aim of the partnership is to bring seamless onboarding and provide efficient digital facilities to the customers across India.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has turned **87 year**. The **Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 (II of 1934)** establishes the legal framework for the Bank's operations, which began on April 1, 1935. The Central Office of the Reserve Bank was initially established in Kolkata but was permanently moved to Mumbai in 1937.

- The Reserve Bank reduced the **Ways and Means Advances (WMA)** for states and union territories to **Rs 47,010 crore from Rs 51,560 crore** on Friday, citing an improvement in the economic scenario. **WMAs** are short-term loans provided by the **RBI** to the government to help it deal with any discrepancies between **receipts and payments**.
- **HDFC Bank Limited** has been adjudged **Best Performing Bank in Self Help Group (SHG)** Linkage by **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)**. Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India at the event organised at the Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi. HDFC Bank is the only private bank to be honoured with the award for their contribution in SHGs by NRLM.
- The **State Bank of India (SBI)** has tied up a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Border Security Force (BSF)** to provide solutions for financial security to BSF personnel through the **Central Armed Police Salary Package (CAPSP) Scheme**. The MoU will offer a bouquet of benefits to the serving security forces, retired personnel as well as family pensioners.
- The **Boards of Directors of HDFC Ltd. and HDFC Bank Ltd.** approved a composite scheme for the amalgamation of **HDFC Investments Ltd. and HDFC Holdings Ltd** with and into **HDFC Ltd;** and **HDFC Ltd** with and into **HDFC Bank**, as well as their respective shareholders and creditors. As a result, when the scheme takes effect, public shareholders would control **100% of HDFC Bank**, while existing **HDFC Ltd.** shareholders will own 41%.
- **Union Bank of India** has launched its super-app named **UnionNXT** and digital transformation project **SAMBHAV**, with an investment outlay of around **Rs 1,000 crore** for the current financial year 2022-23 (FY23). The public sector lender expects recovery from the spending in two years and aims to have 50 per cent of business originating on the digital platform by 2025.
- **Punjab National Bank** has implemented the **Positive Pay System (PPS)** being compulsory for cheque payments worth **Rs 10 lakh and above**. This is being done as a move to protect its over 180 million customers from any security threats. The bank had announced to make the Positive Pay System mandatory last month, and the same has been implemented today.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** announced that current banks can open digital banking units to provide products and services **24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in both self-serve and assisted modes**. The government announced in the **Union Budget** that at least 75 such units will be established in 75 districts to commemorate the country's 75th anniversary of independence as the **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**.
- **'Indus Merchant Solutions'**, a mobile app for merchants of **IndusInd Bank**, got the Digital CX Awards 2022 for **'Outstanding Digital CX - SME Payments'**. The Digital CX Awards is organized by Digital Banker, a globally trusted financial news service provider. Indus Merchant Solutions being adjudged as a winner is a testament to its strength in offering customers a seamless banking experience, which aligns with the Bank's ethos of 'customer-centricity'.
- **Bank of Maharashtra** announced that it will sell its entire **4% ownership** in **India SME Asset Reconstruction Company** for almost **Rs 4 crore**. According to a regulatory statement, the **Bank of Maharashtra (BoM)** has entered a share purchase agreement for the sale of the entire **equity position** of 4% in **India SME Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (ISARC)**.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMBL)** has launched **Kotak FYN**, a new enterprise platform designed specifically for **Business Banking and Corporate clients**. Customers of the bank can utilise the portal to conduct **all trade and service transactions**.
- **Punjab National Bank**, India's second-largest bank has celebrated its **128th Foundation Day** on **April 12, 2022**. On the occasion of foundation day, MD & CEO of PNB, **Atul Kumar Goel** has launched a cardless cash withdrawal service and a virtual debit card for its customers. Bank also launched various services on its mobile app named PNB One for safe banking transactions.
- **Fino Payments Bank** has approved a minority strategic investment in New Delhi based fintech company **Paysprint Pvt Ltd** of up to 12.19%. This is the first strategic investment for Fino Payment Bank after its public listing. The partnership will transform the digital banking space in coming days.
- **Union Bank of India (UBI)** is set to buy out 75% stake held jointly by **Bank of Baroda (BoB) - 40% and Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) - 35%**, in India International Bank (Malaysia) Berhad (IIBM). India International Bank (Malaysia) Berhad (IIBM) was a locally incorporated three-way joint venture between the Bank of Baroda (40%), the IOB (35%) and Andhra Bank (25%).
- **ICICI Bank** has signed an MoU with **GIFT SEZ (Special Economic Zone)**, India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC), located at **GIFT City in Gandhinagar, Gujarat**. The MoU aims to promote the GIFT SEZ to Indian and international businesses, particularly in the areas of information technology (IT), IT-enabled services (ITeS), and financial services. GIFT SEZ is being developed as a global financial services hub. ICICI Bank has been a prominent player in GIFT SEZ with its banking business since 2016.

- **State Bank of India (SBI)**, India's largest commercial bank, has raised **USD 500 million** through a three-year syndicated loan facility, via its **International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) Gujarat International Finance Tec (GIFT) City** branch. The facility is worth USD 400 million, with a USD 100 million greenshoe option. SBI, on the other hand, did not provide pricing information. The SBI's Gift City branch has raised its first offshore USD **Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)** linked syndicated loan.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has tightened the rules for non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) relating to their large exposures. RBI capped aggregate exposure of NBFCs which are in the upper layer toward one entity at 20% of the capital base. The limit can only be extended by another 5% with the board's approval. For a particular borrower group, the cap is at **25%**, with an additional **10%** if exposure is towards infrastructure.
- **Manappuram Finance Limited** was fined Rs 17.63 lakh by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** for failing to comply with **Know Your Customer (KYC)** and **Prepaid Payment Instruments regulations (PPIs)**.
- **Suryoday Small Finance Bank** has partnered with New York, US-based **Kyndryl**, an IT infrastructure services provider for a period of 5 years. The bank will partner with Kyndryl to drive its technology transformation program, improve operational efficiency, and increase digital banking adoption among its customers as part of a five-year transformation deal.
- **Airtel Payments Bank** has partnered with **IndusInd Bank** to offer fixed deposit (FD) facilities to its customers. A customer can open **FD of Rs 500 up to Rs 190,000** on the Airtel Thanks app. With this partnership, customers of Airtel Payments Bank savings account will get an interest rate of up to 6.5 %p.a. and senior citizens will get an additional 0.5% on all fixed deposits.
- **Bank of Baroda** has launched "**bob World Gold**", a new feature on its bob World mobile banking platform for seniors and the elderly. It is a unique digital banking platform that has been designed to provide its senior customers with a simple, smooth and secure mobile banking experience. This platform has easy navigation, large fonts, sufficient spacing and clear menus.
- **RBI** imposes Rs 1.12 crore penalty on **Bank of Maharashtra**. This penalty has been imposed in the exercise of powers vested in **RBI** under the provisions of section 47 A (1) (c) read with sections 46 (4) (i) and 51 (1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (the Act), it added. RBI has also imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 25 lakh on Haryana State Co-operative Apex Bank Limited for non-compliance with its directions on Housing Finance.

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

Economy Current Affairs

- The gross collection of **goods and service tax (GST)** soared to an all-time high of over **Rs 1.42 lakh crore in March** aided by the rationalization of rates and aggressive anti-evasion measures. GST cess collections amounted to Rs 9,417 crore (including Rs 981 crore collected on import of goods).
- The **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)** has estimated India's GDP to grow at **7.4 per cent** in the financial year 2022-23 (FY23). The Ficci's Economic Outlook Survey was released on April 03, 2022. The report has stated that rising prices due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict is the biggest challenge to the global economic recovery.
- As she launched an **ideathon** to **promote innovation**, **Sebi Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch** said that India is ideally positioned to harness technology in the **securities market** to give bespoke solutions at a very **low cost** to individuals across the country.
- The greatest ever **GST** was collected in **March**, which is a very good for the **economy**. The **Goods and Services Tax (GST)** collection totaled **Rs 1,42,095 crore**, breaking the previous high of **Rs 1,40,986 crore set in January 2022**.
- **Asian Development Bank** projected a **7 per cent** collective growth for South Asian economies in 2022 with the subregion's largest economy India growing by **7.5 per cent** in the current fiscal year before picking up to eight per cent the next year.
- According to **government data released**, India's trade imbalance increased by 87.5 percent to **\$192.41 billion in 2021-22, up from \$102.63 billion** the previous year. While total exports hit a new high of **\$417.81 billion last fiscal year**, imports also hit a new high of **\$610.22 billion**, resulting in a **\$192.41 billion** trade deficit.
- **Exports of agricultural products from India** surpassed the **USD 50 billion** mark for the first time during the **financial year 2021-22 (FY22)**, owing to significant growth in sugar, rice, wheat, and other cereals exports. The Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, has released provisional figures stating that agricultural exports rose to **USD 50.21 billion in 2021-22, which is 19.92%**.

- According to the official data, the **import of gold in India** has been rose by **33.34%** to **Rs 46.14 billion** on account of higher demand in 2021-22. The import of gold in 2020-21 was about **Rs 34.62 billion**. The increase in gold imports has contributed to the widening of the trade deficit to \$192.41 billion, against \$102.62 billion in 2020-21.
- **India's retail inflation** surged to a 17-month high of **6.95%** in March from **6.07%** in the previous month due to a sharp increase in food prices, the **National Statistical Office (NSO)** data showed. Retail inflation as measured by the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** has remained above the upper limit of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) tolerance band for the third consecutive month. The retail inflation stood at **6.01 per cent in January 2022**.
- **The World Bank** has slashed the GDP growth forecast for India in **FY2022/23 to 8 per cent** in its bi-annual "**South Asia Economic Focus**" report, due to the negative impact of the war in Ukraine on FY23 growth. Earlier in January 2022, the growth forecast for FY23 was estimated at **8.7 per cent**.
- According to the evaluation made at a **high-level review meeting**, the **central government** has exceeded its **asset monetization** target of **88,000 crore** for **FY22** and has concluded agreements worth **96,000 crore**. Roads, power, and coal and mineral mining are among the industries that have made significant contributions to **asset monetisation**. The **Centre** has set an **asset monetisation target of over 1.6 trillion dollars for FY23**, for which proposals from various ministries are in various stages of processing.
- London-based Cryptocurrency lender, **Nexo** has joined hands with global payments company Mastercard to launch the world's first "**crypto-backed**" **payment card**. Electronic money firm DiPocket is Nexo's card issuer. The card requires no minimum repayments, monthly, or inactivity fees. There are no FX fees for up to **20,000 euros per month**. Interest remains at 0% for customers who maintain a loan-to-value ratio of 20% or below.
- For the collection of taxes, **Dhanlaxmi Bank** has signed a **memorandum of understanding** with the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** and the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**. Dhanlaxmi Bank said in a regulatory filing that the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has authorised the bank to collect different taxes based on a recommendation from the **Controller General of Accounts**.
- The **wholesale price index (WPI)** based inflation in India in the **month of March** rose to **14.55%** due to an increase in power prices and rising edible oil prices. In March 2022, the high rate of inflation was recorded due to a rise in prices of mineral oils, crude petroleum and natural gas, and basic metals owing as there was a disruption in the global supply chain caused by the Russia-Ukraine conflict. In March 2021, the WPI-based inflation had stood at **7.89%**.
- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has slashed the gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for India in **FY23 to 8.2 per cent** in its latest World Economic Outlook report, released on April 19, 2022. Earlier in January report, this was estimated at 9 per cent. IMF has also cut India's FY24 GDP growth forecast to 6.9 per cent. Earlier this was 7.1 per cent. In the case of the global economy, IMF has cut the growth forecast for the calendar year 2022 to 3.6 per cent from 4.4 per cent.
- The **World Bank** has lowered the global growth forecast for **2022 to 3.2%**. Earlier this was estimated at **4.1%**. The downward revision is due to the impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on the world economy.
- **Securities and Exchange Board of India's** advisory council on leveraging regulatory and technological solutions has been reconstituted **advisory committee on leveraging regulatory and technology solutions (ALERTS)**. **Sunil Bajpai** will now lead the seven-member panel.
- **India** will provide an additional **\$500 million** in financial aid to help the **Srilanka island** nation buy fuel, and that Bangladesh was willing to postpone \$450 million in swap repayments to help Colombo. This is the second **\$500 million** in gasoline credit that **India** has given to a **Sri Lankan government** grappling with the country's greatest financial crisis in living memory.



Business Current Affairs

- **Google Pay** has launched **‘Tap to Pay for UPI’**, new functionality to bring the seamless convenience of Tap to Pay to **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)**. The initiative has been launched in collaboration with **Pine Labs**. To complete a payment, all a user will need to do is tap their phone on the POS terminal and authenticate the payment from their phone, using their UPI PIN, making the process virtually instantaneous, as compared to scanning a QR code or entering the UPI-linked mobile number.
- **HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company** has launched its **VAULT program**. It is India’s first industry-based digital customer engagement and rewards program. This program is an experiment to test a new idea under the Regulatory Sandbox of **IRDAI (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India)**. The testing period will be till 14th May 2022 and further continuance of the product beyond the testing period will be subject to IRDAI approval.
- **Citigroup** has announced that **Axis Bank** will be acquiring **Citibank’s India consumer business** for an amount of **USD 1.6 billion (Rs 12,325 crores)** in an all-cash deal. This transaction will be including Citibank India’s consumer banking businesses, which include retail banking, credit cards, consumer loans, and wealth management.
- Homegrown e-commerce giant, **The Flipkart Group** has constituted and launched the **Flipkart Foundation**, a new platform with a focus on development in rural areas and providing equitable access to growth opportunities for women and other disadvantaged communities. The Flipkart Foundation aims to positively influence 20 million lives directly and indirectly in the coming decade across a wide array of areas by utilising Flipkart’s learnings over the years.
- **HP** has completed its acquisition of **Poly** for **\$1.7 billion** in an all-cash deal worth **\$3.3 billion** when debt is factored in. **Poly** is a manufacturer of **office communication devices such as headsets, AV conference room equipment such as desk phones, and software**.
- **Jio-bp** and **TVS Motor Company** announced that they had agreed to explore the establishment of a comprehensive public **EV charging infrastructure** in India for electric **two-wheelers** and **three-wheelers**, building on Jio-developing bp’s network in this field. Customers of **TVS electric vehicles** are likely to gain access to **Jio-extensive bp’s charging network**, which is also open to other vehicles, as part of this proposed agreement.
- The **World Bank** and the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** stated that the **Gujarat government’s Mission School of Excellence project**, which aims to improve education quality in the state, will receive a loan worth **Rs 7,500 crore**. The state government will spend **Rs 10,000 crore** over the next five years on the **Mission School of Excellence** initiative, which would cover all **35,133 government** and **5,847 grant-in-aid** schools in the state.
- IT major **Infosys** and leading industrial tech company **Rolls-Royce** opened their joint **“aerospace engineering and digital innovation centre” in Bengaluru, Karnataka**. This centre has been established to provide high-end R&D services integrated with advanced digital capabilities to Rolls-Royce’s engineering and group business services from India.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and the **Government of India** signed an agreement to provide a \$2 million **project readiness financing (PRF)** loan to **Nagaland** for the design of **climate-resilient urban infrastructure**, strengthening institutional capacity, and improving **municipal resource mobilisation**.
- Three public sector general insurance businesses – **National Insurance Company Limited, Oriental Insurance Company Limited, and United India Insurance Company** – have had their **authorised share capital** increased by the **government**. This will allow for a capital inflow of **Rs. 5,000 crore** into these businesses.
- **HDFC Ltd**, a mortgage lender, announced the sale of a **10% share** in its private equity arm, **HDFC Capital Advisors**, to an **Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA)** wholly-owned subsidiary for **Rs 184 crore** on Wednesday.
- **Paytm** has become an official digital payments partner for the prime ministers’ museum. It is offering its payment gateway, **EDC (Electronic Data Capture) machines** and QR code payment options to make way for superfast, convenient and secure transactions. The museum, which is a tribute to former Prime Ministers of India, will be opened to the public on April 21, 2022. PM Modi also purchased the first ticket of the museum before its inauguration.
- **Elon Musk**, the **world’s richest man**, agreed to acquire **Twitter for \$44 billion**, ending a drama that included **hostile takeover** threats before handing him personal control of one of the **world’s most powerful social media networks**.

International Current Affairs

- **NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL)**, the International arm of the **National Payment Corporation of India** has announced that **BHIM UPI** is now live at **NEOPAY terminals, across the UAE**. This initiative will empower millions of Indians who travel to the UAE, to safely and conveniently make payments using BHIM UPI. NIPL and NEOPAY, the payment subsidiary of Mashreq bank, partnered last year to create the acceptance infrastructure in the UAE.
- **Reliance Industries Limited** has become the first Indian company to hit the **Rs 19 lakh crore** market valuation mark in intra-day trade. The market heavyweight stock jumped 1.85 per cent to its record high of Rs 2,827.10 during the day on the BSE. It finally settled flat at Rs 2,777.90, up 0.08 per cent.
- **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** has expanded its strategic partnership with SBI Cards and Payments Services Ltd to power SBI Card's digital transformation. TCS had helped the SBI cards to transform its core cards sourcing platform and digitized a significant portion of the process. TCS has been providing services to SBI Card for over a decade since **2008**, and the new deal represents an extension of that relationship.
- **Pencilton**, a teen-focused fintech startup, has launched PencilKey, a National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) compliant RuPay contactless keychain, in partnership with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Transcorp**. Users can activate and manage their PencilKey through the Pencilton app which is also used to load money, check spends, block/unblock the account, set limits, etc.
- **The World Bank** has approved a **USD 47 million projects** to support the Government of **India's Mission Karmayogi**, a national program to build civil service capacity. There are nearly 18 million civil servants employed across India, with approximately two-thirds at the state government and local authority levels.
- **Tata-owned Air India** has reached out to the anti-trust regulator **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** for the merger of its low-cost subsidiary **AirAsia India**. AirAsia India, a low-cost Indian carrier, is run by the Tata Group. Presently, Tata Sons holds 83.67 per cent of the company.
- The largest electric cruise ship in the world has returned back to port in **Yichang in central Hubei province, China** after travelling up and down the **Yangtze River** for its maiden voyage. This cruise ship has been powered by a **7,500-kilowatt-hour massive-sized marine battery**. This battery has been provided by **Contemporary Ampere Technology**, the No. 1 battery manufacturer for electric cars in the world.
- The **Democratic Republic of Congo, DRC** is all set to be admitted as the seventh member of the **East African Community(EAC)**. Democratic Republic of Congo comes into the bloc with a huge market of 90 million people and the potential to contribute to an expanded market and investment opportunities.
- Hungarian Prime Minister, **Viktor Orban** won a fourth successive term in office by a landslide victory in the country's general elections for 2022. His right-wing Fidesz party secured **53.1% of the total 98%** of the count complete. The 58-year-old is already the longest-serving head of government in the EU, since assuming the role of **Prime Minister in May 2010**.
- The **United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)** has appointed **Dr Ian Fry** as the world's first independent expert for human rights and climate change. Dr Fry has been appointed for a period of three years. He holds dual citizenship of Tuvalu and Australia. The first to hold the post will be Ian Fry, who holds both Australian and Tuvaluan nationality.
- **Aleksandar Vučić** has been re-elected as the **President of Serbia**. The pollster organizations CeSID and Ipsos had predicted victory for Vucic. The pro-European and centrist Alliance for Victory coalition was represented by Zdravko Ponos, a retired army general. The pollsters had predicted that **Vucic's Serbian Progressive Party (SNS)** would win most of the votes with **43 per cent** and they would be followed by the United for Victory of Serbia opposition.
- **China** successfully launched a new **Earth observation satellite Gaofen-3 03** on April 07, 2022, from **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre** on board a **Long March-4C rocket**. The new satellite will become part of its land-sea radar satellite constellation by forming a network with the orbiting Gaofen-3 and Gaofen-3 02 satellites.

- **Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's** handling of the island nation's mounting economic crisis degenerated into violence, with hundreds of protestors clashing with police for several hours. Due to a significant lack of foreign money, **Rajapaksa's government** has been unable to pay for basic imports, like as **fuel, resulting in power outages lasting up to 13 hours**. After the country depreciated its currency last month ahead of talks with the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** for a loan programme, ordinary **Sri Lankans** are also suffering with shortages and rising inflation.
- **Pakistan's** opposition leader, **Shehbaz Sharif** has been elected unopposed as the 23rd Prime Minister of the country through voting in the National Assembly. The 70-year old **Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N)** Chief will succeed **Imran Khan**, who has been removed by a no-trust vote recently in the National Assembly. Shehbaz Sharif is the brother of former Pakistan Prime Minister **Nawaz Sharif**.
- **Ecuador**, a South American Country, became the first country in the **world to give legal rights to wild animals**. The highest court in the country has ruled in favour of the case that focused on a woolly monkey named "**Estrellita**" who was taken from her home to a zoo, where she passed just a week later.
- The **World Trade Organisation (WTO)** has revised down its projection for global trade growth (in volume) for 2022 to **3 per cent**. Earlier in October 2021, this was estimated at **4.7 per cent**. The downward revision follows the Russia-Ukraine conflict that has impacted commodity prices, disrupted supplies and intensified geopolitical and economic uncertainty. For 2023, this merchandise trade volume growth is projected at **3.4%**.
- **Israel** successfully tested a new laser missile-defence system '**Iron Beam**' which can destroy any airborne object including drones. Iron Beam is the world's first energy-based weapons system that uses a laser beam to shoot down incoming **UAVs, rockets, mortars, long-range missiles, anti-tank missiles etc.** The Iron Beam which is developed by the Rafael Advanced Defense Systems is using a directed-energy weapon system and can go a long way in providing aerial defence.
- According to a **United Nations** report released, the **pandemic** pushed **77 million** additional people into severe poverty last year, and many developing nations are unable to recover due to the heavy cost of **loan repayments** — and that was before the extra burden of the crisis in **Ukraine**.
- **Indonesia** has stopped imports of **agricultural products from India**, citing a failure by **New Delhi** officials to register **laboratories that evaluate food safety and issue certificates of analysis (COA)**, causing worry among cereal exporters.
- **Tropical Storm Megi** wreaked havoc on the **Philippines**, killing at least 167 people in **landslides and floods**. According to the national disaster organisation, another **110 persons are missing**, and **1.9 million people have been impacted**. Hillside avalanches and overflowing rivers wreaked havoc on the villages surrounding **Baybay city** in **central Leyte province**.
- The **flagship of Russia's Black Sea Fleet, Moskva**, was being hauled to port when it sank due to stormy waves. The **510-crew missile cruiser**, which led **Russia's naval attack on Ukraine**, was a symbol of the country's military might.
- Indian-American **Navyveteran Shanti Sethi** has been appointed as USA Vice President **Kamala Harris's Defence Adviser**. Shanti Sethi is the first Indian-American commander of a major US Navy combat ship. Shanti Sethi commanded the guided-missile destroyer, USS Decatur, from December 2010 to May 2012.
- A **cyber organisation recognised by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation** will undertake the world's largest and most complicated "live-fire" cyber defence drills. The biennial Locked Shields event, according to the **NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence in Estonia**, is designed to improve the skills of cybersecurity experts protecting national IT systems and vital infrastructure against real-time attacks.
- **Patrick Achi** has been re-appointed as Prime Minister of **Ivory Coast** by President **Alassane Ouattara**. He was appointed prime minister in March 2021. He was the third prime minister in the West African state (**Ivory Coast**) in the last three years after Amadou Gon Coulibaly (who died in 2020) and Hamed Bakayoko (who died in 2021).
- Russian President Vladimir Putin said that his military had successfully test-fired an intercontinental ballistic missile capable of carrying a big nuclear payload, but the Pentagon said the missile did not pose a substantial danger to the US. Russia's most powerful ICBM is the **RS-28 Sarmat, dubbed "Satan 2" by NATO**.
- **Robert Golob** has defeated three-time prime minister **Janez Janša** in the **Slovenia Prime Minister election**. State election authorities have confirmed that the Freedom Movement won nearly 34% of the votes as compared to around 24% for the governing conservative Slovenian Democratic Party. The New Slovenia party with 7%, followed by the Social Democrats with more than 6%, and the Left party with just 4%.

- French President **Emmanuel Macron** was re-elected as he defeated his far-right rival **Marine Le Pen**. Macron, 44, has become the third French president who has managed to secure a second term. His margin of victory, however, was tighter than when he first beat Le Pen in 2017.
- The **USA** has put **India & 6 other countries including China & Russia** on its annual 'Priority Watch List' for intellectual property protection & enforcement. Other countries on the watch list include: Argentina, Chile, Indonesia, and Venezuela. These countries will be the subject of particularly intense bilateral engagement during the coming year said the Office USTR.

National Current Affairs

- **Chief Justice of India NV Ramana** unveiled the 'Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records' (**FASTER**), a digital platform that allows the supreme court to send interim orders, stay orders, and bail orders to the appropriate authorities via a secure electronic channel. The online introduction of the **FASTER** programme was attended by **CJI Ramana, Justices AM Khanwilkar, DY Chandrachud, and Hemant Gupta**, as well as Chief Justices and Judges of High Courts.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, **Narendra Modi** has approved a hike in **Dearness Allowance (DA) to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief (DR)** to pensioners by **3 per cent to 34%**, over the existing rate of **31% of the Basic Pay/Pension**. The hike announced will be effective from January 1, 2022, to compensate for the price rise.
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports **Anurag Singh Thakur** and Governor of Karnataka, **TC Gehlot** launched the logo, jersey, mascot and anthem of the **Khelo India University Games 2021 (KIUG 2021)** on April 01, 2022, at the **Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru**. The theme song has been composed by **Kannada rapper Chandan Shetty**. The KIUG 2021 will be held in Karnataka between April 24 and May 3, 2022.
- The **Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)**, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has announced an extension in the existing **Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-20** by another six months till **September 30, 2022**, to ensure policy continuity in external trade. This is the fourth extension given to the existing FTP policy.
- The Minister of State for Culture and External Affairs, **Meenakshi Lekhi** has launched a website '**Temple 360**'. Temple 360 is a digital platform where anyone can visit or do darshan of 12 Jyotirlinga and Char Dham from any location, making everyone's life convenient while also keeping people connected.
- As part of a month-long **pan-India operation on illicit ticketing**, the **Railway Protection Force (RPF)** detained **1,459 touts** and blocked **366 IRCTC agent IDs** and **6,751 personal IDs**, the Railways announced on the **2nd of April, 2022**. The '**Operation Upalabdh**' push was launched following the reinstatement of long-distance train services, with the expectation that the festival and summer rush would result in a sharp increase in demand for reserved train tickets. In response to the feedback, the **Railway Protection Force (RPF)** increased its efforts and launched a pan-India offensive against touting practises in **March 2022**.
- In the presence of **Union Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav**, the mascot '**Prakriti**' was launched today to raise public awareness about small changes that can be made to our lifestyle for a better environment. As well as various green initiatives taken by the **Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change** and the **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)** to ensure effective **Plastic Waste Management (PWM)** in the country.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** landed in **Amsterdam** for the final leg of his two-nation journey — his first visit to the **Netherlands** in **34 years** — during which he would hold talks with the **Dutch top leadership** names a new **yellow tulip** variety '**Maitri**'.
- The **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**, Government of India, has contributed an amount of **USD 72,124** towards the **UNESCO Fund for Elimination of Doping in Sport 2022**. This is double the amount of the minimum agreed value. As per the **resolution of 7COP** held at Paris between 29-31 September 2019, the State Parties had agreed for contributing 1% of the regular budget of their respective nations to UNESCO towards the Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport.
- The **Broadcast Seva Portal** was developed by the **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** to improve the convenience of doing business in the **broadcast industry**. This will be an online portal option for **broadcasters** to quickly file and process applications for various types of **licences, permissions, registrations, and other things**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** stated that the **Umiya Mata Temple**, a religious site in **Gujarat's Junagadh**, has now become a central focus for **social consciousness**. He explained that the temple helps the **underprivileged members** of the community by providing free **health treatment** as well as **religious and social activities**.

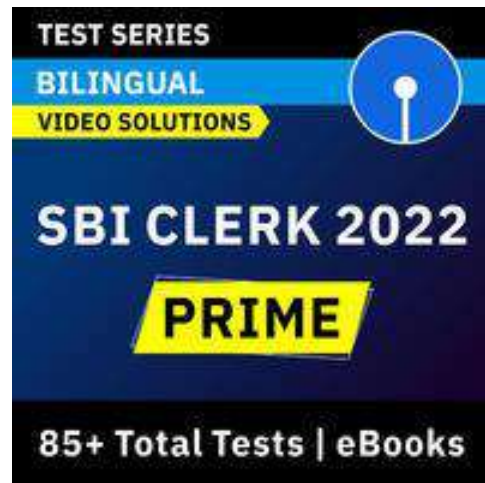
- The **United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)** and Arbor Day Foundation have jointly recognised **Mumbai and Hyderabad** as the **'2021 Tree City of the World**. The two Indian cities have won the recognition for their "commitment to growing and maintaining urban trees and greenery in building healthy, resilient and happy cities".
- As per the data by the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**, the number of domestic patent filings at the Indian patent office exceeded that of international filings for the first time in the **last 11 years**. The number of patent filings increased from 42,763 in 2014-15 to 66,440 in 2021-22, more than a 50% increase in a span of 7 years.
- **Shri Amit Shah, Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation**, launched the **Amrit Samagam**, a summit of the country's tourism and cultural ministers, in **New Delhi**. The **Ministry of Culture** is hosting a two-day conference, as part of the **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has dedicated to the nation, a 200-bed **KK Patel Super Speciality Hospital** in **Bhuj in the Kutch district of Gujarat**, via video-conferencing. This hospital has been built by Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Samaj, Bhuj and is the first charitable super speciality hospital in the Kutch region.
- The Prime Minister of India, **Narendra Modi** has unveiled a **108 ft statue of Lord Hanuman ji** in **Morbi, Gujarat**, at the Ashram of Bapu Keshvanand ji, via video conferencing, on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti. This statue is the second among the four statues being built in the four directions across the country, as part of the **'Hanumanji Char Dham' project**.
- **NITI Aayog** plans to launch the **National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP)**, which would give government data in a user-friendly manner and encourage **data-driven decision-making and research**. The platform, which was conceived in **2020**, aims to standardise data across government sources and provide **flexible analytics** that allow users to easily analyse data using numerous datasets.
- The **first portable solar rooftop system** in India has been inaugurated at **Swaminarayan Akshardham temple complex in Gandhinagar, Gujarat**. The 10 Photovoltaic PV Port system has been manufactured by New Delhi-based Servotech Power Systems Ltd and designed by the **German development agency Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)**.
- The Union Health minister **Mansukh Mandaviya**, organised a week-long celebration under the **"Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav"**, marking the fourth anniversary of **Ayushman Bharat- Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs)** from **April 16 to April 22**. The inauguration of the first AB-HWC on **14th April 2018, at Jangla, a serene village in the Bijapur District of Chhattisgarh**.
- The **World Health Organization** launched its **Global Centre for Traditional Medicine** at a site in **Gujarat**, aimed at unlocking its potential by blending ancient practices with modern science. During the event, the WHO chief **Tedros Ghebreyesus** spoke in Hindi which surprised all. The WHO chief **Tedros Ghebreyesus** and Prime Minister of Mauritius **Shri Pravind Kumar Jugnauth** were present at the event.
- The Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, **Jammu and Kashmir**, under the e-governance initiative has launched an app **'Jan Nigrani'**, intended to help people lodge their complaints related to various schemes online. The Jan Nigrani app is a 24x7 internet-based platform aimed at reporting and resolving the grievances of the residents of J&K, against various government schemes launched by the department.
- To bolster **India's cyber posture**, the **National Security Council Secretariat** is holding a **National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise (NCX India)** for **government officials** and key sector organisations. The National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise was kicked off by National Security Advisor **Ajit Doval**.
- **Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Agriculture Minister**, recently launched the **National Conference on Agriculture** for the **Kharif Campaign 2022-23** at the **NASC Complex in New Delhi**. The production of **pulses and oilseeds** will be 269.5 lakh tonnes and 371.5 lakh tonnes, respectively. **Horticulture production** is expected to reach 3310.5 lakh tonnes in 2020-21, the greatest level ever for Indian horticulture, according to third advanced projections.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** laid the foundation stone and inaugurated the various projects worth 22,000 crore rupees at a function organized at **Dahod** in Gujarat. **Dahod District Southern Area Regional Water Supply Scheme**, constructed at **Narmada River Basin (Rs 840 crore)**; **Dahod Smart City (Rs 335 crore)**.
- The government-run organisation, **Niti Aayog's Vice Chairperson, Rajiv Kumar** has resigned due to a **government order**. **Suman Bery, an economist**, will take over as the new head of the **planning agency**.

- **NITI Aayog** has released a draft battery swapping policy, under which all metropolitan cities with a population above **40 lakh** will be prioritized for the development of a battery swapping network under the **first phase**. All major cities such as state capitals, UT headquarters, and cities with populations above **5 lakh** will be covered under the **second phase**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** dedicated a **500 KV solar plant** to the nation in the unassuming hamlet of **Palli in Jammu and Kashmir's border region of Samba** making it the country's **first 'carbon neutral panchayat'**.
- As announced in the **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi - President Emmanuel Macron Joint Statement** released in 2018 during the **French President's visit to New Delhi, India** has been designated as the **Guest of Honour Country at the Paris Book Festival 2022**, which will take place from **April 21 to April 24, 2022**.
- India's first '**Amrit Sarovar**' has been completed at **Rampur's Gram Panchayat Patwai**, thanks to the efforts of **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's government in Uttar Pradesh**. As part of the **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**, **75 water bodies** will be developed and regenerated as part of the **Amrit Sarovar initiative**.

States Current Affairs

- The **Basavaraj Bommai government** announced the **Vinaya Samarasya Yojana** as a public awareness campaign against caste prejudice in the state's gramme panchayats. It will be formally launched on April 14, the birth anniversary of **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**.
- The **Maharashtra government** has introduced a scheme that allows prisoners to obtain personal loans from banks of up to **Rs. 50,000** to help their families improve their living conditions and meet expenses related to their legal matters. It will be a first of its kind initiative in our country. The Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank would provide loans up to **50,000** under the scheme at a **7% interest rate**. The scheme would be implemented in Yerawada Central Jail in Pune, Maharashtra, on a pilot basis. This type of loan is called a "**khavti**" loan, and benefits approximately **1,055 prisoners**.
- The **Haryana Agriculture Minister J P Dalal** launched the portal of **Mukha Mantri Bagwani Bima Yojana'** with an initial corpus of Rs 10 crore for the scheme. Under this the farmers will be compensated for the damage caused to their crops due to adverse weather and natural calamities.

- In a move to provide safe transport to women and girl students, the police in **Andhra Pradesh's Chittoor** have set up three '**She Auto**' stands, the first of its kind in the state. The three 'She Auto' stands have been set up in **RTC Bus Stand, Mahila University, and Ruia Hospital in Tirupati**.
- **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh**, inaugurated **13 new districts** in the state via video conference on Monday, April 4 in **Tadepalli, Guntur district**. As a result, there will be a total of **26 districts in the state**. The new districts were created using Parliamentary constituencies as a guide. With the addition of **13 new districts, Andhra Pradesh** now has a total of **26 districts**.
- The **Gangaur festival** is celebrated in **Rajasthan** and some parts of **Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and West Bengal**. It is one of Rajasthan's most important festivals and is observed with great fervour across the state. The women worship Gauri, the wife of Lord Shiva during the period of this festival which is from **March to April**. This festival celebrates the harvest, spring, childbearing, and marital fidelity.
- **Tamil Nadu** Chief Minister, **M K Stalin** has launched the '**Kaaval Uthavi**' app which helps citizens to seek police assistance during any emergency. The app is containing sixty features that are used to send an emergency alert to the police control room. By pressing the emergency red button, the user's live location will be shared with the control room. The user can also identify the nearest police station/patrol vehicle.
- **Sarhul is the festival** of the New Year celebrated in the state of **Jharkhand** by the tribal communities as part of the local **Sarna religion**. It is celebrated in the Hindu month of Chaitra, three days after the appearance of the new moon. It is also a celebration of the beginning of spring. The word "Sarhul" is connected with tree worship. It is a festival where nature is venerated. In the year 2022, it falls on **04 April, Monday**.



- Karnataka Chief Minister, **Basavaraj Bommai** Establishing the '**Nandini Ksheera Samridhi Cooperative Bank**' is a revolutionary initiative, which will provide greater financial strength for the milk producers. **Karnataka** is the only state in the country to set up an exclusive bank for milk producers. Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** launched the logo of "Nandini Ksheera Samrudhi Sahakar Bank".
- Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** will launch the **Udyam Kranti Yojana**. According to officials, the **MP Mukhyamantri Udyam Kranti** plan was announced for the first time in November 2021, as per the **MSME department's gazette** announcement, but it was never executed. Loans ranging from **Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 50 lakh** would be offered to youth under this scheme for self-employment.
- Himachal Pradesh's Kangra Tea will soon get a European Commission Geographical Indication Tag (GI Tag); this tag helps Kangra tea to get an opportunity to enter the European market. Kangra tea received the Indian GI tag in 2005. Since 1999, the cultivation and development of tea have improved constantly in the Kangra region of Himachal Pradesh.
- **Uttarakhand** Chief Minister **Pushkar Singh Dhama** has launched an anti-corruption mobile app named **1064 Anti-Corruption Mobile App**. This mobile application has been developed by the vigilance department, Uttarakhand. It helps the citizens to lodge corruption-related complaints directly with the authorities.
- **M.K. Stalin**, the Deputy Chief Minister, launched a **Periyar memorial samathuvapuram** at **Pilipakuttai** in **Namagiripettai panchayat union**. Allottees were given the keys at the function. 100 dwelling units with all basic amenities were built at the cost of 2 crores 88 lakh rupees.
- **Himachal Day** is observed on the **15th of April in Himachal Pradesh**. The state became a full-fledged state on this day. Four districts of Mandi, Chamba, Mahasu and Sirmour were integrated with over two dozen princely states, leading to the formation of Himachal Pradesh as a **Union Territory in 1948**. Decades later, in 1971, Himachal Pradesh became the **18th state** in India with Shimla as its capital.
- **Bohag Bihu or Rongali Bihu**, one of the **biggest festivals of Assam**, falls in the second week of April every year, marking the beginning of the harvest period. This year Bohag Bihu is being observed from **April 14 to April 16**. Rongali means joy in Assamese and the festival indeed is the time to rejoice and make merry with family and community.
- The **Government of Uttarakhand** is set to implement the '**Him Prahari**' Scheme which is meant for ex-servicemen and youngsters. The Uttarakhand Govt is seeking the cooperation of the Union Government to implement the scheme in areas bordering the Uttarakhand. The scheme will also prioritise settling ex-servicemen in areas bordering the state.
- **Chief Minister MK Stalin** announced in the Assembly that the birth anniversary of BR Ambedkar (April 14) will be commemorated as '**Samathuva Naal**' (**Equality Day**), and that a promise will be administered on that day, in accordance with Rule 110.
- **Manipur chief minister, N Biren Singh** announced that a 165-foot-high Indian national flag, the tallest in the Northeast, would be hoisted at the **Indian National Army (INA)** headquarters complex in **Moirang in Manipur's Bishnupur district**, for which a pole had already been erected.
- The **Karnataka State Government** in association with **NIMHANS and Niti Ayog** launched the **Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (Ka-BHI)** in January. Indian cricketer **Robin Uthappa** has been recently appointed as the brand ambassador for **Karnataka- Brain Health Initiative (Ka-BHI)**. Training of doctors and preparations to start Brain Health Clinics in the three pilot hospitals has also commenced.
- **Maharashtra State Environment Minister Aditya Thackeray** inaugurated the **tap-in tap-out** service on the **Gateway of India to Churchgate** route in an effort to make commuting across **Mumbai** easier. **Aditya Thackeray** stated during the event that **Brihanmumbai Electricity Supply and Transport (BEST)** is India's first fully **digital bus service**.
- Rich tributes were paid in **Manipur** to the **valiant sons** of the state who made tremendous **sacrifices** fighting against the **British** in the **battle of Khongjom during the 1891 Anglo-Manipuri War** to maintain **Manipur's independence**.
- Health and Medical Education Minister of Karnataka, **Keshava Reddy Sudhakar** has launched the '**Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully**' (**SAANS**) Campaign. SAANS is a campaign that has been launched to ensure early detection and greater awareness of pneumonia in children under the age of five. As per SRS 2018, Karnataka's under-five mortality is at **28 per 1000 live births**.
- **Tamil Nadu government** has announced that **December 18**, every year will be observed as **Minorities Rights Day** at the state level. The state government promotes the upliftment and economic advancement of the minorities through effective implementation of schemes and welfare measures.

- **Jamtara in Jharkhand** has become the only district in the country where **all gram panchayats** have community libraries. This district with a population of about eight lakh has a total of **118-gram panchayats** under six blocks and each panchayat has a well-equipped library that is open for students from **9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**
- **Agra, Uttar Pradesh** has become the first city in the country to have **vacuum-based sewer systems**. These vacuums would be used in public places. Agra Smart City officials told the media that the municipal corporation has linked **240 such houses near the Taj Mahal** with vacuum-based sewers, where conventional sewer systems could not be used.
- **Maharashtra** became the **first state in India** to develop a website-based **Migration Tracking System (MTS) application** to track the movement of migrant workers through individual unique identity numbers. The MTS project aims to ensure the continuity of **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)** for migrant beneficiaries, such as children under the age of 18, lactating mothers, and pregnant women who are registered with Anganwadi centres.
- The Government of India's **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD)** has launched a pilot project in **Uttarakhand** to implement the **One Health Framework** through the **One Health Support Unit**. The Unit's main goal is to create a **national One Health roadmap** based on the lessons learned during the pilot project's deployment. The implementation of the **One Health Support Unit** would be led by an inter-ministerial One Health committee chaired by the **Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India**.
- An **animation, visual effects, gaming, and comics (AVGC)** promotion task group has been established by the **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting**. The task force, which will be led by the **I&B Secretary**, will produce its first action plan within 90 days. **Industry, academics, and state governments** are all represented.
- The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** until March 2023. AIM's stated goals include developing **10,000 Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs)**, **101 Atal Incubation Centres (AICs)**, and sponsoring 200 entrepreneurs through the **Atal New India Challenges**, according to the statement. A total budgeted expenditure of Rs 2,000 crore plus will be incurred in the establishment and support of the beneficiaries.
- The **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, or PMMY**, is celebrating its seventh anniversary. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** announced the initiative on **April 8, 2015**, with the goal of granting loans up to **ten lakh rupees to non-corporate, non-farm small, or micro-enterprises**. Since the inception of the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, more than 34 crore 42 lakh loans worth 18.60 lakh crore rupees have been sanctioned as per the official statement. **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana** has provided wings to millions of people who have seen their hopes and aspirations realised, as well as a sense of self-worth and independence, thanks to the **Yojana PMMY**.
- In the presence of senior officials from **States/UTs** and several **Central Ministries**, **Shri Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**, launched the '**SVANidhi se Samridhhi**' programme in an additional **126 cities across 14 States/UTs**. **PMSVANidhi's** extra initiative, '**SVANidhi se Samridhhi**,' was launched in **125 cities in Phase 1** in 2021, covering around 35 lakh **street vendors** and their families. They have been given 22.5 lakh scheme sanctions, which include 16 lakh insurance benefits under the **Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Yojana**, and 2.7 lakh pension benefits under the **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana**, among other things.

Schemes/Committees

- The **Delhi government** has set up **Hobby Hubs** for government schools in Delhi after school hours to promote extra-curricular activities. This project will implement in the single shift government school. A project to set up 'Hobby Hubs' in government schools in Delhi with after-school dance, music, arts and crafts activities during this new academic session is in the works.
- **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** begins the '**School Chalo Abhiyan**' in order to secure 100 per cent enrollment in elementary and upper primary schools in **Uttar Pradesh**. Citing an official announcement, the state government will make an effort to shape the future of **primary education** and the holistic development of **elementary schools**.
- **Stand-Up India scheme** has completed its six years on **5th April 2022**. Under the Stand-Up India Scheme, over **30,160 crore rupees** have been sanctioned to more than **1 lakh 33 thousand 995 accounts** since the launch of the Scheme. The scheme was launched by PM Modi on **5th April 2016**. Stand Up India scheme was extended till 2025.
- The **government** announced the formation of a **Semicon India advisory committee**, which will include top **government officials, established academicians**, as well as industry and domain specialists. The Minister of Electronics and IT, **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, will head the Committee, with **Rajeev Chandrashekar**, Minister of State, Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), as Vice-Chairperson. The convenor will be MeitY, the Secretary.

- **National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)**, a pan-India online trading portal, has completed **six years on April 14, 2022**. This flagship programme was launched by PM Modi in 2016 with an aim to join the physical wholesale markets and mandis of States/UTs to facilitate the electronic trading of agricultural goods. e-NAM is completely funded by the Central Government and is being implemented by the Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium.

Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

- The state government of **Manipur** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **Samsung Data System India Pvt Ltd and Abhitech IT Solutions Pvt Ltd** for setting up a world-class **“Sports Digital Experience Centre”** as a domain of Manipur Olympian Park and Khuman Lampak Sports Complex. The MoU was exchanged in the presence of chief minister N Biren Singh at the cabinet hall of the Chief Minister’s Secretariat.
- **IBM India** has collaborated with the **Nagaland school education department** to introduce digital training for girl students in more than 250 secondary and higher secondary schools across 15 districts of the northeastern state. The programme, **IBM Stem (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) for Girls**, aims to provide 21st century skills to more than 12,000 girls.
- **India and Australia** signed an **Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (IndAus ECTA)**, hailing it as a **watershed moment** and **one of the biggest economic doors** there is to open in the world. It will provide zero-duty access to **96 per cent of India’s exports to Australia**, including shipments from key sectors like engineering goods, gems and jewellery, textiles, apparel, and leather.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and his Nepalese colleague **Sher Bahadur Deuba** met in **New Delhi**, initiating a number of projects and signing four important agreements across a variety of fields. **Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) and Nepal Oil Corporation Ltd.** signed agreements on Nepal becoming the 105th member of the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**, technical cooperation in railways, petroleum product delivery, and technical experience sharing in the **petroleum sector**.
- With a sustained focus on the environment, **NTPC** has taken the initiative of blending green hydrogen in the **GGL (Gujarat Gas Limited) Piped Natural Gas (PNG) network at NTPC Kawas**. In the presence of **Mohit Bhargava**, CEO, NTPC REL & ED RE, NTPC, and **Sanjeev Kumar**, MD-GGL & GSPL, a formal agreement between the two firms was signed.
- In a significant development, **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** and **Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI)** have entered into a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to convert civil passenger aircraft to **Multi Mission Tanker Transport (MMTT)** aircraft in India. The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has been looking to procure new **mid-air refuellers** for sometime.
- **Arya.ag**, an integrated grain commerce platform, has joined the **United Nations Global Compact India**, voluntarily adhering to universal sustainability principles and taking actions to support the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)**, MeitY has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO, Hyderabad** for technical collaboration. NRSC will develop a **Bhuvan-Aadhar** portal for providing information and locations about the Aadhaar centres across India.
- **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL)**, an Indian oil refinery, has teamed with Microsoft to improve its customer experience. It will also integrate cloud computing and artificial intelligence (AI) to help the oil and gas business adapt digitally. Microsoft will supply BPCL with infrastructure-as-a-service, platform-as-a-service, and cloud network and security services over the course of the seven-year partnership.
- **The UNDP and partners of the Adaptation Innovation Marketplace (AIM)** have announced \$2.2 million in climate action funding for 22 local innovators from 19 countries, including India. **The Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA)** window’s first round of funding will improve local climate action and speed the achievement of the Paris Agreement’s and Sustainable Development Goals’ ambitions.
- **The Indian Air Force (IAF) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras** have signed a memorandum of understanding for technology development and finding indigenous solutions for the sustenance of various weapon systems. The joint partnership between IAF and IIT Madras aims to accelerate IAF’s indigenisation efforts for achieving ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’.
- The **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** with the **National Insurance Academy** with the goal of creating capacity and establishing a qualified talent pool in the insurance sector in **International Financial Services Centres**.

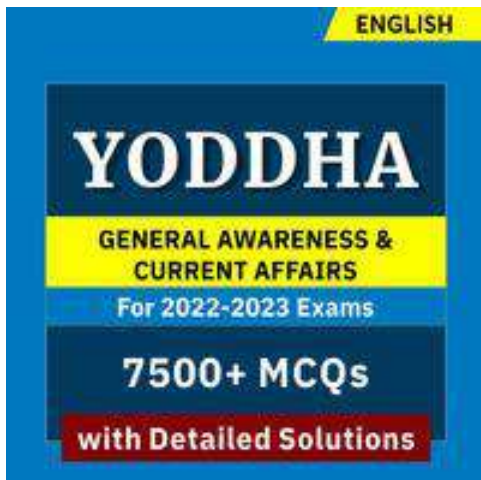
- The latest report on the **State of India's Children: Status and Trends in Multidimensional Child Development** will be jointly developed and launched by **NITI Aayog** and **UNICEF India**. This was determined, when the two organisations signed a **Statement of Intent (SoI)**, reiterating their joint commitment to achieving **children's rights in India**.
- The **Tripura state government** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre** to develop an international grade Data Centre in the state. To establish the projected Data Centre, the **National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI)** and **CSE e-governance services Ltd** have formed a joint venture called **NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre**.
- **Power System Operation Corp. Ltd.'s (Posoco) Northern Regional Load Despatch Centre** signed a memorandum of understanding with **Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT Delhi)** to encourage research on issues relating to **India's power sector** and strengthen interaction between **academia and industry**.
- **Prasar Bharati** has signed an MoU with the **Public Broadcaster of Argentina Radio Television Argentina (RTA)** for collaboration in the field of broadcasting. The MoU encompasses a range of fronts in Media and Broadcasting that is set to exemplify the communication and transmission networking of both nations. India and Argentina share cordial relations and developmental partnerships in the areas of political, economic, scientific and technological cooperation.
- **Kerala** and the **Netherlands** have signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** for the '**Cosmos Malabaricus**' project. This study will contribute to a better understanding of **Kerala's history in the 18th century**.
- **Netflix India**, in collaboration with the **Information & Broadcasting Ministry**, has released a series of short video series under an initiative called '**Azadi Ki Amrit Kahaniya**', highlighting the role of women achievers. As part of a broader partnership, the global OTT platform will also conduct workshops and masterclasses for the skill development of Indian filmmakers.
- **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** has signed an agreement with the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay** to jointly pursue research and development work in the Green Hydrogen value chain. Under the agreement, both the institutions would contribute to the development of the Green Hydrogen industry in India while developing technology in this field. Hydrogen when produced through the electrolysis process using renewable energy is known as Green Hydrogen which has no carbon footprint.

- **Google** has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the **Telangana Government** to provide benefits of digital economy to the youth and women entrepreneurs.

Appointments/Resignations (National & International)

- **Vishwas Patel** has been re-elected as the **Chairman of Payments Council of India (PCI)** for the second time in 2022, previously he was elected as a Chairman of PCI in the year 2018. In 2013, he served as Co-Chairman of PCI. PCI is a payment ecosystem industry body and is a part of the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI). PCI aims to promote a cashless transaction society and vision to grow digital payment in India.
- **Dr S Raju** has taken over as the **Director-General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI)** with effect from April 01, 2022. He succeeds **R. S. Garkhal** who superannuated on March 31, 2022. Prior to this, Dr Raju was holding the post of Additional Director General and National Head, Mission-III & IV at GSI HQ.
- **Vice-Chancellor of Indraprastha University, Mahesh Verma** has been appointed as the new chairperson of the **National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH)**. NABH is a constituent board of the **Quality Council of India (QCI)**.
- **Kalyan Jewellers** has announced the appointment of former Comptroller and Auditor General of India **Vinod Rai** as the chairman and independent non-executive director on the company's board. **TS Kalyanaraman** will, however, continue as the Managing Director.
- **Aprajita Sharrma**, an **Indian Post & Telecom Account and Finance (IP&TAF)** Service officer from 1995 batch, has been appointed as the vice-chairperson of Council Standing Committee on **Administration and Management of International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**. Aprajita Sharrma will remain as vice chair for the years 2023 and 2024. After that she will assume the role of Chairperson for the years 2025 and 2026.
- **Vikas Kumar** has been appointed as the new **Managing Director of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)**. He succeeds **Mangu Singh**, whose tenure ended on March 31, 2022.
- **PharmEasy**, a consumer healthcare "super app," has unveiled its new campaign, which introduces Bollywood superstar **Aamir Khan** as its brand ambassador. **API Holdings Limited** is in charge of the **PharmEasy brand**.

- United Nations Secretary-General, **Antonio Guterres** appointed **Arunabha Ghosh (India)** to a High-Level Expert Group on the **Net-Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities**.
- The Government of India has appointed IFS **Vinay Mohan Kwatra** as the new Foreign Secretary of India. He is currently serving as India's envoy to Nepal, from March 2020. He will replace the current foreign secretary, **Harsh Vardhan Shringla**, who will superannuate on April 30, 2022.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved an extension in the tenure of **Murli M Natarajan** as the managing director and chief executive officer (MD & CEO) of **DCB Bank** for a period of two years. His extended term will be applicable from April 29, 2022, to April 28, 2024. Natarajan is serving as MD & CEO of the bank since April 2009.
- Currently a Member of the **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)**, **Dr Manoj Soni** has been appointed the **chairman** of the country's premier government recruiting agency. He has been associated with the Swaminarayan sect's Anoopam Mission, at Mogri in Anand district, since a young age and received **diksha (initiation)** as a **nishkarma karmayogi (selfless worker)** on Jan 10, 2020.
- Foreign secretary **Harsh Vardhan Shringla** will take over next month as **G20 chief coordinator**, the government officially announced. The appointment is significant as India will assume the G20 presidency on December 1, 2022, from Indonesia, and will convene the G20 Leaders Summit for the first time in India in 2023.
- The central government has re-appointed retired Punjab-cadre IPS officer **Iqbal Singh Lalpura** as the chairperson of the **National Commission for Minorities**. Lalpura, who was first appointed as chairman in September last year, had to resign from the post in December to contest as the BJP candidate from the Ropar assembly constituency, which he lost.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, approved **Vikram Dev Dutt's** appointment as the **Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Air India Asset Holding (AIAHL)**, with effect from **27th January 2022**, in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary to the Government of India.
- Lieutenant General **Manoj Pande** has been appointed as the next **Chief of Army Staff**. Lt Gen Pande is the incumbent Vice-Chief of the Army. He will take over from General MM Naravane, who is set to retire on April 30, 2022. Lt Gen Manoj Pande is the first-ever officer from the Corps of Engineers to be appointed as Army Chief.
- **India Pulses and Grains Association (IPGA)**, the apex body for India's pulses trade and industry, has appointed **Bimal Kothari** as the new Chairman with immediate effect. Kothari takes over from **Jitu Bheda**, who was the IPGA chairman since 2018.
- IT major **Wipro** has announced the appointment of **Satya Easwaran** as the **Country Head for India**. He will be in charge of strengthening Wipro's business in India across segments through strategic consulting, transformation and modernisation engagements.
- **Digit Insurance** has appointed **Jasleen Kohli** as the company's new **managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO)** with effect from April 20, 2022. She succeeds **Vijay Kumar** who retired from the company on April 19, 2022. She served as chief distribution officer (CDO) at Digit, where she was responsible for all of the company's sales and distribution channels.
- Lieutenant General **Manoj Kumar Katiyar** has been appointed as the next Director-General of Military Operations. He would take charge of the new office on May 1st. An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Lieutenant General Katiyar was commissioned in the **23rd Battalion of the Rajput Regiment in June 1986**.
- Procter & Gamble India appointed **LV Vaidyanathan**, who leads the company's business in Indonesia, as the new **chief executive officer**. He takes over from **Madhusudan Gopalan** who will move into a new role at the parent company. Vaidyanathan takes over as the CEO from July 1, 2022.
- According to a home ministry notification released, senior **IAS officer Naresh Kumar** has been appointed as the **chief secretary of Delhi**. **Kumar, an IAS officer from the 1987 batch of the AGMUT cadre**, has been shifted from **Arunachal Pradesh to Delhi**. Before being transferred, he was the chief secretary of **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- **Babita Singh**, a serial entrepreneur, was named a **Global Peace Ambassador** for her work in promoting peace through education, sports, art, culture, and diplomacy at the **India International Conclave 2022**, which was held in collaboration with the **Asia Africa Consortium (AAC) in New Delhi**.



- **Ajay Kumar Sood**, a member of the **Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council** to the Prime Minister, has been appointed to the post for a period of three years to succeed renowned biologist **K VijayRaghavan**. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Sood as Principal Scientific Advisor to the government.
- **YuWaah** (Generation Unlimited India) in India announced today that **Ashwin Yardi, CEO of Capgemini** in India, has joined the organisation, starting immediately, alongside **Yasumasa Kimura, UNICEF Representative**, as being the co -chair of the organisation.
- **Vishakha Mulye** has been appointed as the next **Chief Executive Officer of Aditya Birla Capital**. The company said in its stock filing that the board of directors approved the appointment based on the recommendations of the Nomination, Remuneration and Compensation Committee. She replaces **Ajay Srinivasan**, who is taking up other responsibilities within the group, as per the exchange filing.
- **AP Abdullahkutty** has been elected as the **chairperson of the Haj Committee of India**, while for the first time, two women have been chosen as its vice-chairpersons- **Munnawari Begum and Mafuja Khatun**. Ministry of Minority Affairs is the nodal ministry to conduct the Haj pilgrimage in India. Haj pilgrimage for the Indian pilgrims is conducted either through **Haj Committee of India (HCoI)**, or the **Haj Group Organisers (HGOs)** approved by the Ministry.
- Tata Sons executive chairman **N Chandrasekaran** has formally taken charge as **chairman of Tata Digital**. At present, Tata's digital strategy is being spearheaded by its CEO Pratik Pal along with Mukesh Bansal, founder of Cultfit. Chandrasekaran's formal appointment is of significance considering its future plans of raising funds from external investors.
- The **National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom)** announced that **Krishnan Ramanujam**, President, Enterprise Growth Group at Tata Consultancy Services, has been appointed as its Chairperson for 2022-23. Ramanujam succeeds **Rekha M. Menon**, Chairperson and Senior Managing Director of Accenture in India, in this role.
- Generali Asia has appointed **Bruce de Broize** as MD and CEO of **Future Generali India Life Insurance (FGILI)**. He takes over from **Miranjit Mukherjee** who served as interim CEO since September 2021. He was the Regional Head of Distribution for Generali Asia based in Hong Kong for over five years. In March, Generali has become the majority shareholder of the Indian life insurance joint venture after getting all regulatory approvals.
- BJP leader and former Union minister **Vijay Sampla** has been appointed as the chairperson of the **National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)** for a second time. Sampla had resigned as the NCSC chairman ahead of the Punjab elections and had contested the polls. The official order for his appointment was issued by **President Ram Nath Kovind**.
- Online lending platform, **Indifi Technologies** has appointed former chairman of SBI, **Rajnish Kumar** as an advisor. Presently, he sits on the boards of **HSBC Asia Pacific, L&T Infotech, Hero MotoCorp and BharatPe**.
- Shivalik Small Finance Bank has appointed Anshul Swami as the bank's managing director and chief executive officer effective from April 26.

Ranks and Reports

- **Uttar Pradesh** at 29.58 mt has become the **top producer of vegetables**, getting back its first position by demoting **West Bengal** at 28.23 mt to the second position, with a difference of a million tonnes in production in 2021-22 Crop Year (CY) (July-June), after two years since 2020. Other top producers of vegetables as per the data in the current year 2021-22 include Madhya Pradesh at 20.59 mt, Bihar at 17.77 mt and Maharashtra at 16.78 mt.
- **Andhra Pradesh** remains the **top fruit producer**. India's horticulture output is likely to drop marginally by 0.4% to 333.25 mt in 2021-22 from the previous year (2020-21) as production of vegetables, spices, and plantation crops is set to decline. In 2021-22, Andhra Pradesh is expected to produce 18.01 million tonnes of fruit, up from 17.7 million tonnes in 2020-21. Maharashtra is anticipated to produce 12.3 million tonnes of fruit, up from 11.74 million tonnes in 2020-21.
- As per the data from the **Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE)**, the overall unemployment rate in India fell to **7.6 per cent in March 2022**. This rate was 8.10 per cent in **February 2022**. **Haryana** recorded the highest unemployment rate in March 2022, at 26.7 per cent. It was followed by **Rajasthan (25%) and Jammu and Kashmir (25 %), Bihar (14.4%), Tripura (14.1%) and West Bengal (5.6%)**. **Chhattisgarh** has registered an unemployment rate of 0.6 per cent this March, which is the lowest so far.
- According to the list of **Hurun Richest Self-Made Women In The World 2022** released by the Hurun Research Institute. Wu Yajun co-founder of Longfor (China has topped the list); Falguni Nayar, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Nykaa, is ranked 10th with a wealth of USD 7.6 billion. She is the only Indian among the top 10.

- **QS Quacquarelli Symonds** released the **12th** edition of the **QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022**, the subject-wise rankings of institutes across the world are compilations of multiple lists. **Indian Institute of Technology(IIT)-Bombay** ranked 65th and **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)- Delhi** ranked 72nd, are the only Indian institutes to be featured among the top 100 ranks under the Engineering and Technology category. IIT Bombay has scored 79.9 and IIT Delhi has scored 78.9.
- The **Airports Council International (ACI)** released the list of the top 10 busiest airports worldwide for 2021. **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL)** has topped the list with 75.7 million passengers. **Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW)** (62.5 million passengers) is second, followed by **Denver International Airport (DEN)** (58.8 million passengers) at the third spot. Among the top 10 airports for passenger traffic, 8 are in the United States with the two remaining in China. The airports are ranked based on the preliminary compilation of 2021 global data from airports around the world including passenger traffic, cargo volumes, and aircraft movements.
- The **extreme poverty rate in India** fell from **22.5%** in 2011 to **10.2%** in 2019 as per **World Bank Policy Research Working Paper**. This represents a decline of 12.3 percentage points in extreme poverty count between 2011 to 2019 in the country. The decline in rural areas was much higher than in urban areas.
- Chairman and Managing Director of **Serum Institute of India(SII)**, **Dr Cyrus S. Poonawalla** has topped the **Hurun Global Healthcare Rich List 2022** and became the **richest billionaire in the healthcare sector 2022**. He has topped the list with a new value of **USD 26 billion** (up 41%). Cyrus Poonawalla is followed by **Thomas Frist Jr & Family** of HCA Healthcare, **Li Xiting and Xu Hang** of Mindray at the 2nd position with a net value of USD 19 billion. **Dilip Shanghvi & Family**, of the Sun Pharmaceuticals, is at the 5th position with a net worth of USD 18 billion.
- According to the Sweden-based think-tank **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report**, titled **"Trends in World Military Expenditure Report 2021"**, India's military expenditure is the third highest in the world behind the **US and China**. Military spending in India is amounting to \$76.6 billion in 2021 which grew by 0.9% from 2020. Russia has also increased its military expenditure for the third consecutive year. The five largest spenders in 2021 were the **US, China, India, the UK (United Kingdom) and Russia, together accounting for 62% of expenditure**.

Sports Current Affairs

- **Al Rihla** – the Official Match Ball for the **FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022** has been revealed by Adidas. It is **Adidas' 14th World Cup ball**, and it is designed to accommodate the fastest game speeds possible, since it flies quicker in flight than any other **World Cup ball**.
- **Indian Railways' men Hockey** team won the prestigious **Obaidullah Khan Heritage Hockey Cup** held at Bhopal (MP) from 21.03.2022 to 27.03.2022. In the final match held on Sunday, Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) team beat Army XI by 2. The prestigious hockey tournament was played at Major Dhyanchand Stadium, Bhopal.
- **Meghalaya** is all set to host the **83rd National Table Tennis Championship 2022** scheduled to begin from April 18th till 25th, 2022 at **SAI Indoor Training Centre, NEHU in Shillong**. This is the second time the biggest table tennis event is being hosted in the Northeast.
- Thirteen-year-old **Riya Jadon** won the **DGC Ladies Open Amateur Golf Championship**, following a close fight with older sister **Lavanya Jadon**. Riya, who carded 78, 80 and 74, also won the junior girls trophy. Over a hundred women golfers took part in this year's tournament, which resumed at the **Delhi Golf Club** after a two-year hiatus.
- **Charles Leclerc (Ferrari- Monaco)** has won the **Formula One (F1) 2022 Australian Grand Prix**, held on 10 April 2022 in **Melbourne, Victoria**. It was the third round of the 2022 Formula One World Championship. **Sergio Pérez** (Red Bull Racing-RBPT – Mexico) came second while **George Russell** (Mercedes – Britain) came third.
- The second-seeded Indian duo **Dipika Pallikal Karthik and Saurav Ghosal** won the mixed double title at the **2022 WSF World Doubles Squash championship** at **Glasgow, Scotland**.
- The 15-member Indian boxing contingents ended their campaign at the **Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament 2022** in Phuket with 10 medals, including three golds, four silvers, and three bronze.
- **Rajasthan Royals** all-rounder, **Ravichandran Ashwin** became the first player in **IPL history** to get retired out during the high-octane clash against **Lucknow Super Giants**. Ashwin played a crucial knock of 28-run off 23 balls to revive Rajasthan's innings from a tricky stage when they were four down for 67.
- The **first Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery** will be held in **Tata Archery Academy, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand**. The **Sports Authority of India (SAI)** has approved Rs 75 Lakh to host the Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery Tournament over six phases.

- **Jay Shah, the BCCI secretary**, has been appointed to the **ICC Cricket Committee as a Member Board Representative**, while **Mahela Jayawardene** has been reappointed as the **Past Player Representative**. Other important decisions were also made at the **ICC Board Meeting in Dubai**.
- **The Netherlands** has lifted their fourth title of **FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup 2022** after beating Germany at Potchefstroom, South Africa. The Netherlands is the most successful team. England claimed the bronze medal in the third-place match after defeating India by 3-0 in the shoot-out.
- In a deviation from the conventional single host city approach, **the Commonwealth Games will be held in Victoria in 2026**, with the majority of events being organised by the state's regional centres. In March 2026, the Games will be held in numerous towns and regional centres around **Australia**, including **Melbourne, Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat, and Gippsland**, each with its own athletes' village.
- 16-year-old chess sensation **R Praggnanandhaa** has won the prestigious **Reykjavik Open chess tournament** in Reykjavik, Iceland. In the final played between two Indian players, it was R Praggnanandhaa who won the contest beating compatriot **GM D Gukesh** in the final round.
- **India** is ready to host the **Street Child Cricket World Cup in 2023**. This world is organized by **Street Child United and Save the Children India**, the **Street Child Cricket World Cup 2023** will welcome 22 teams from 16 countries to India next year. The Street Child Cricket World Cup 2023 will welcome 22 teams from 16 countries to India next year.
- Indian shuttler **Mithun Manjunath** has won silver in **Men's Singles at the Orleans Masters 2022**, a badminton tournament held from 29th March to 3rd April 2022 in **Orleans, France**.
- **Tamil Nadu** defeated defending champion **Punjab 87-69** in the final to win the men's title in the **71st Senior National Basketball Championship**. The formidable **Indian Railways team** won the women's title, beating **Telangana 131-82** in convincing fashion, riding on Poonam Chaturvedi's 26 points.
- Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** has unveiled the logo of the **2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup at the Kalinga stadium** in the capital **Bhubaneswar**. To be held in the twin cities of Bhubaneswar and Rourkela, the prestigious quadrennial tournament is scheduled from January 13 to 29.
- The 35-year-old, **New Zealand** pacer (fast bowler) **Hamish Bennett**, has announced his retirement from his 17-year-old cricket career with the 2021/22 season as the last one. Before retiring, Bennett represented New Zealand in T20I against Bangladesh in Mirpur, Pakistan in September 2021.
- Top Indian swimmer **Sajan Prakash** won the **men's 200m butterfly gold** at the **Danish Open swimming meet in Copenhagen, Denmark**.
- **Haryana** has emerged as the champions of the **12th Senior Men's National Hockey Championship** by defeating **Tamil Nadu 3-1** in the shootout after the final ended 1-1 in the regulation time. The tournament was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from April 6 to 17, 2022. Haryana has won the trophy for the first time since 2011. **Karnataka** prevailed over **Maharashtra 4-3** in the third/fourth place classification match.
- Indian Grandmaster **Dommaraju Gukesh** has clinched the **48th La Roda International Open chess tournament title in Castile-La Mancha, Spain**.
- In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the second edition of the **Khelo India University Games** to be held in the tech capital Bengaluru will have its own mobile application. A brainchild of the **Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports (DYES)** and hosts Jain Deemed-to-be University, the unique '**Khelo India Uni Games 2021**' mobile app promises to be a one-stop-shop for all information regarding the prestigious event scheduled to begin on the 24th April.
- **West Indies** all-rounder **Kieron Pollard** has announced his retirement from international cricket. Pollard, who was the captain of West Indies' limited-overs teams, played a total of 123 ODIs and 101 T20Is.
- Formula One champion **Max Verstappen (Red Bull-Netherlands)** won the **Emilia-Romagna Grand Prix in Italy**. It was Verstappen's second win this season after Saudi Arabia, which has also included two retirements, and the 22nd of his career. **Sergio Perez (Red Bull-Mexico)** finished second and **Lando Norris (McLaren-UK)** finished third.
- **Andrey Rublev (Russian)** has defeated world No. 1 **Novak Djokovic (Serbia)** to win his third title in the **Serbia Open**. Andrey Rublev has saved five set points in the second set to force a tie-break, but he was unable to prevent Djokovic from levelling the match. Rublev has now equalled **Rafael Nadal (Spain)** for the most tour-level titles in 2022. He also clinched crowns in Marseille and Dubai in February 2022.
- The 30-member Indian contingent participated at the **35th Edition of Asian Wrestling Championships 2022** held in **Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**. Indian wrestlers secured a total of **17 medals, that includes (1-Gold, 5-Silver, and 11-Bronze medals)**. Gold Medalist: **Ravi Kumar Dahiya** is the only Gold medalist representing India, in the men's 57kg freestyle category, beating Kazakhstan's Rakhat Kalzhan on technical superiority.

Summits And Conferences

- The **4th edition** of the **India Boat & Marine Show (IBMS)** was held at **Bolgatty Palace in Kochi in Kerala**. IBMS is India's only and most influential Boat and Marine industry related exhibition. The event is organised by Kochi-based Cruz Expo. The IBMS 2022 showcased leading international brands as well as indigenous boat manufacturers from across the country. Around 45 exhibitors from all over India and two international exhibitors participated in the expo.
- The Union Minister of AYUSH, **Sarbananda Sonowal** has inaugurated a two-day scientific convention on the theme '**Homoeopathy: People's Choice for Wellness**' in New Delhi. The convention has been organised jointly by the three apex bodies under the Ministry of Ayush namely, the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, the National Commission for Homoeopathy and the National Institute of Homoeopathy to mark the occasion of the World Homoeopathy Day.
- The **20th NTCA in Arunachal Pradesh** is chaired by Bhupender Yadav. The 20th Meeting of the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** was held in Pakke tiger reserve in **Arunachal Pradesh** and was led by Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change **Bhupender Yadav**.
- Secretary of State **Antony J. Blinken** and Secretary of Defense **Lloyd J. Austin III** welcomed Ministers of Defense **Rajnath Singh** and External Affairs **Dr S. Jaishankar** to Washington, D.C. for the **fourth US-India 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue**. A virtual conference between **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and **President Joseph Biden** preceded the Dialogue. With a shared commitment to **democracy and pluralism**, a multifaceted bilateral agenda, and growing convergence of strategic interests, the **United States** and independent **India** are celebrating **75 years of diplomatic relations**. Both countries seek to maintain a resilient, rules-based international order that **protects sovereignty and territorial integrity**, **upholds democratic values**, and **promotes peace and prosperity** for all.



- In the **80th SKOCH Summit and SKOCH Awards**, held recently in New Delhi, India's largest iron ore producer, **National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)**, under the Ministry of Steel, received one gold and one silver medal. The SKOCH Summit's subject was '**State of BFSI & PSUs**.' The project '**Promotion of Technical Education and Skill Development in Dantewada District through NMDC ITI Bhansi**' got the **Gold Award** in the category social responsibility, and the project 'Project Kalpataru' for ERP implementation earned the Silver Award in the category digital inclusion. Shri Amitava Mukherjee, Director (Finance), accepted the **honours on behalf of Chairman and Managing Director, Shri Sumit Deb**, via video conference.
- The 20th edition of the **India-France Joint Staff** talks focused on new initiatives within the framework of the existing **bilateral defence cooperation mechanism**, as well as improving current defence engagements. The two-day talks took place in a nice, warm, and courteous setting in **Paris**. The **Joint Staff Consultations** between **India and France** are a forum intended to improve defence cooperation between the two countries through frequent talks at the **operational and strategic levels**.
- The three-day "**Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization**" conference kicked off today in Surat. Under the clarion call of **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM)**, given by Hon'ble Prime Minister to commemorate the **75th anniversary of Independence**, the event is being organised by the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**, Government of India, in collaboration with **Surat Smart City Corporation Development Ltd**.
- **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** will open the **Global Ayush Investment & Innovation Summit 2022** at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The three-day conference will bring together **key policymakers, entrepreneurs, investors, startups**, and other national and international players to discuss innovation and how **India** can become a **global Ayush destination for entrepreneurship**.
- **Sarbananda Sonowal**, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, and AYUSH, said that the **1st Incredible India International Cruise Conference-2022** hosted in **Mumbai**. The two-day event in Mumbai is being organised by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Mumbai Port Authority, and the **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)**.

- According to the **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** president, **Debashis Mitra**, India is set to host the **21st World Congress of Accountants (WCOA)**, the Kumbh of accountants, for the first time in 118 years of its existence. About 6000 top accountants from 130 countries will participate in the programme physically. The event will be held from November 18 to 21 after outbidding France. The event will be held at **Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai**. The theme for 2022 would be '**Building Trust Enabling Sustainability**'. The WCOA, a forum for thought leadership and global exchange of views, is held every four years since it started in 1904.
- The **Tallinn, Estonia NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence**, abbreviated as CCDCOE, is organising the **Locked Shields 2022**, the largest and most complex annual international live-fire cyber defence exercise in the world. This year's exercise has particular importance as it takes place amid the rising threat of cyber-attacks since the Russian invasion of Ukraine.
- The first edition of the **Naval Commanders' Conference of 2022** is underway in **New Delhi**. The conference serves as a platform for naval commanders to discuss important maritime matters at the military-strategic level as well as interact with senior government functionaries through an institutionalised forum.
- A photograph by Canadian photographer **Amber Bracken** titled "**Kamloops Residential School**" has won the **2022 World Press Photo of the Year award**. Australian photographer **Matthew Abbott** won the **Photo Story of the Year prize** for a series of images for National Geographic/Panos Pictures. The **Long-Term Project award** went to **Lalo de Almeida of Brazil** for a series of photos for Folha de São Paulo/Panos Pictures called "Amazonian Dystopia". In regional awards announced previously, **Bram Janssen** of The Associated Press won the Stories category in Asia with a series of photos from a Kabul cinema and AP photographer Dar Yasin earned an honourable mention for photos from Kashmir titled "Endless War."
- The Vice President, **M. Venkaiah Naidu** has presented the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship and Sangeet Natak Awards** for the year 2018 to 43 eminent artists (4 Fellows and 40 awardees). Naidu also presented Fellowships and National Awards of **Lalit Kala Akademi for the year 2021** to 23 people (3 Fellows and 20 National Awards).
- Veteran Bengali author **Amar Mitra** was awarded this year's **O.Henry prize** for a short story he wrote 45 years back. He bagged the award for his short story titled '**Gaonburo**'- a Bengali short fiction, which was translated into **English (The Old Man Of Kusumpur)** earlier. The translated work was published in an American magazine in 2020. Mitra was awarded the **Sahitya Academy award in 2006**.
- Assam Chief Minister, **Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma** presented the country's highest literary award, the **56th Jnanpith for the year 2021** to one of the most celebrated poets of Assam, **Nilamani Phookan**. Nilmani Phookan is the third person to win the Jnanpith Award from Assam after Mamoni Roisom Goswami and Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya. The Award carried a Citation, a shawl, and Rs. 11 lakh.
- **Novelist Damodar Mauzo** was chosen for the **57th Jnanpith Award 2022** for his contribution to Indian literature. The 77-year-old writer was conferred with the country's highest literary award for his "outstanding contribution to literature".
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will be honoured with the inaugural **Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award** which is instituted in the memory of the veteran singer of Lata Mangeskar. PM Modi will receive the award for selfless service to the nation and society. The award ceremony will be held on **April 24** which marks the **80th death anniversary of Master Deenanath Mangeshkar (singing legend's father)**. Among the other awardees will be singer **Rahul Deshpande**, who will receive the Master Deenanath Award besides three other special awardees including veteran actress **Asha Parekh**, actor **Jackie Shroff** and the Mumbai Dabbawalas, represented by **Nutan Tiffin Suppliers**.

Awards & Recognition

- A journalist from Mumbai, **Aarefa Johari** was awarded the **Chameli Devi Jain Award** for an **Outstanding Woman Media person 2021**. It was announced by the Media Foundation. Aarefa Johari works for 'Scroll. in' in Mumbai, Maharashtra. In 2020, Neetu Singh got this award. She is associated with 'Goan Connection' media house. Jury: Nirupama Subramania, Githa Hariharan and Ashutosh.
- Noted poet and litterateur **Prof Ramdarash Mishra** will be awarded the prestigious Saraswati Samman, 2021, for his collection of poems '**Mein to Yahan Hun**', the KK Birla Foundation announced. The recipient is chosen by a selection committee, whose current head is Dr **Subhash C Kashyap**.
- Indian-American singer **Falguni Shah** won a Grammy Award for **A Colorful World** in the **Best Children's Album category**. Falguni Shah has even performed and collaborated with music maestro AR Rahman and she is the only Indian-origin woman to be nominated in the Best Children's Music Album category at the Grammys twice. Falguni Shah was earlier nominated for a Grammy in the same category for her 2018 album Falu's Bazaar.

- **Falguni Nayar** has been named as the **EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2021**, at the **23rd edition** of the **EY Entrepreneur of The Year India awards**. She is the founder and chief executive officer (CEO) of beauty supply company **Nykaa (FSN E-commerce)**. She will now represent India at the **EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award (WEOY)** on June 9, 2022, at Monaco. The Lifetime Achievement was given to **A. M. Naik**, Group Chairman of Larsen & Toubro.
- Vice President of India **M. Venkaiah Naidu** has presented the **International Gandhi Awards for Leprosy, 2021** to **Dr Bhushan Kumar** of Chandigarh under the Indian nomination (individual) category and **Sahyog Kushtha Yagna Trust, Gujarat** under the institutional category. The award was given during a function in New Delhi on April 13, 2022.
- Well-known Indian economist and political commentator, **Prabhat Patnaik** has been selected for the **Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2022**. The award is annually given by the Malcolm and Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust to an outstanding social scientist selected from nominations received by a specially constituted national jury. The award includes a citation and prize money of Rs 2 lakh.
- The Regional Connectivity Scheme **UDAN (UdeDeshkaAamNagrik)**, the flagship scheme of the **Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA)** has been selected for Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2020 under the category "**Innovation (General) - Central**".
- **Nitin Gadkari**, Minister for Road Transport and Highways, presented the **2021 AIMA Managing India Awards (AIMA)** in multiple categories in Delhi. In the films category, **Shoojit Sircar** was honoured with the **Director Of The Year award for Sardar Udham**. This year, the 12th edition of the AIMA Managing India Awards is being organised physically, coinciding with the 7th National Leadership Conclave.
- **IndusInd Bank** has been awarded the global '**Celent Model Bank**' award under the category of '**Payments System Transformation**' for building a best-in-class **Enterprise Payments Hub (EPH)**. The award recognises the Bank's outstanding journey in creating a cloud-based central payments hub.
- The "**National Metallurgist Award 2021**" will be held here tomorrow by the Union Ministry of Steel. **Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh**, the **Union Minister of Steel**, will host the event. The programme aims to recognise the outstanding contribution of metallurgists/engineers working in the field of iron and steel in the areas of **manufacturing, research and development, design, education, waste management, and energy conservation**, as well as their specific contribution to achieving **Atmanirbhar Bharat's objectives**.
- The **Indo-American Chamber of Commerce** has picked **Indian-American chief executive of General Atomics Global Corporation Vivek Lall** for the prestigious **Entrepreneur Leadership Awards** in appreciation of his contribution to the defence sector. **The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) was founded in 1968** and is the premier bi-lateral chamber for **India-US commercial cooperation**.
- The **National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC)** swept the **Public Relations Society of India's (PRSI) Public Relations Awards 2022**, taking first place in four categories. **Shri V Srinivas Goud**, Telangana Minister of Prohibition and Excise, Sports and Youth Services, Tourism and Culture, gave the award to NMDC's **Shri Praveen Kumar**, ED (Personnel) and **Shri Ch. Srinivasa Rao**, DGM (Corporate Communications) on behalf of the Navratna PSU. On behalf of the Navratna PSU, **Shri Srinivasa Rao, DGM (Corporate Communications)**, accepted the honours.
- The important effort of **Meghalaya's Planning Department**, the **e-Proposal System**, which is part of **Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture (MegHEA)**, has been awarded the prestigious UN Award – **World Summit on the Information Society Forum (WSIS) Prizes 2022**.
- The founder of the educational charity '**Bidyanando**' **Kishore Kumar Das** from Bangladesh has been chosen for the **United Kingdom's Commonwealth Points of Light Award** for his exceptional work in improving access to education for children from marginalised backgrounds. UK's Commonwealth Point of Light Awards recognises outstanding individual volunteers who are making a change in their community.
- The former Honorary Consul of Peru in Mumbai, **Ardeshir B.K. Dubash** has received the Order of "**Merit in the Diplomatic Service of Peru Jose Gregorio Paz Soldan**" by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru.
- Noted snow leopard expert and wildlife conservationist **Charudutt Mishra** has won the prestigious **Whitley Gold Award** for his contribution to involving indigenous communities in the conservation and recovery of big cat species in Asia's high mountain ecosystems. Princess Anne presented the award to Mishra at London's Royal Geographic Society. This is his second **Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN) Award**. He got the first in 2005.
- The **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** engineering marvel, **Atal Tunnel**, built-in Rohtang in Himachal Pradesh, received the Indian Building Congress (IBC) 'Best Infrastructure Project' award in New Delhi. More than thirty state-of-the-art infrastructure projects were nominated for the award. The IBC jury selected the strategic tunnel as the 'Best Project for Excellence in Built Environment' in 2021.

Important Days

- **Utkal Divas or Utakala Dibasha or Odisha Day** is celebrated on **April 1st** every year to remember the formation of the Odisha state after a struggle to be recognised as an independent state. The state was originally called Orissa but the Lok Sabha passed the **Orissa Bill, and Constitution Bill (113rd amendment)**, in March 2011 to rename it Odisha.
- **World Autism Awareness Day** is observed annually on **2nd April** by the member states of the **United Nations**. The theme for 'World Autism Awareness Day 2022' is **"Inclusive Quality Education for All"**. Access to education that was made easy for years, especially for autistic persons was disrupted after 2020 with the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- **World Theatre Day** is celebrated annually on **March 27**, promoted by the **International Theatre Institute (ITI)** through its centres, and supported by theatre communities all over the world.
- The **International Children's Book Day (ICBD)** is organised annually on the **2nd of April since 1967**, by the **International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY)**. IBBY is an international non-profit organization, to inspire a love of reading and to call attention to children's books. In 2022, **Canada** is hosting International Children's Book Day with this chosen theme: **"Stories are wings that help you soar every day."**
- The United Nations' **International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action** is celebrated every year on the **4th of April**. In 2022 the United Nations Mine Action Service marks the Day under the theme **"Safe Ground, Safe Steps, Safe Home."**
- **National Maritime Day in India** is observed on **5 April** every year. This year is the **59th** edition of the National Maritime Day. The theme of the National Maritime Day is **"Sustainable Shipping beyond Covid-19"**.
- The **International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP)** is observed globally on **April 6**. To raise awareness of this potential, 6 April was declared as the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP) by the UN General Assembly. The global theme of IDSDP 2022 is, **"Securing a Sustainable and Peaceful Future for All: The Contribution of Sport,"** which creates an opportunity for the Day's celebrations to promote the use of sport as a tool to advance human rights and sustainable development.
- The United Nations General Assembly has designated **5 April** to be observed as an **International Day of Conscience** every year. The resolution was adopted on 31 July 2019 by the UN General Assembly. The year 2022 marks the third edition of the celebrations.
- **World Health Day** is a global health awareness day celebrated on the **7th April** every year. Every year, World Health Day focuses on contemporary health issues that require immediate attention, with varied themes. The theme for World Health Day 2022 is **'Our Planet, Our Health'**. This year's theme aims to direct global attention toward the well-being of our planet and the humans living in it.
- **International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda** is commemorated by **UNESCO** on **April 07**, every year. 2022 marks the **28th anniversary** of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, one of the darkest chapters in human history. On April 7th, the date where the genocide against members of the Tutsi began.
- **World Homeopathy Day** is observed every year on **April 10** to spread awareness about homeopathy and its contribution to the world of medicine. The day is also celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Dr Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann**. Hahnemann, born in Paris in **1755**, founded this branch of medicine and is considered the father of Homeopathy. This year, the theme for World Homeopathy Day 2022 in India is **'People's Choice For Wellness.'**
- Every year, **April 11** is observed as **World Parkinson's Day** to raise awareness of Parkinson's disease, which is a progressive nervous system disorder. This year, the theme is integrated healthcare. The day marks the birthday of **Dr James Parkinson from London**, who was the first person to systematically described the six individuals with the symptoms of Parkinson's Disease. Additionally, the month of **April** is observed as **Parkinson's Awareness Month**.
- In India, the **National Safe Motherhood Day** is observed every year on **April 11** to raise awareness about adequate access to care for women during pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal services. National Safe Motherhood Day is an initiative of the **White Ribbon Alliance India (WRAI)**, to enforce that women must have availability and adequate access to care during pregnancy childbirth and postnatal services. The day also marks the birth anniversary of **Kasturba Gandhi**, the wife of the father of the Nation **Mohan Das Karam Chand Gandhi**.
- The **International Day of Human Space Flight** is celebrated annually on **April 12** to mark the anniversary of the first human space flight by **Yuri Gagarin** on **April 12, 1961**. The day was proclaimed at the **65th session of the United Nations General Assembly on April 7, 2011**, a few days before the **50th anniversary** of the flight. In the Soviet Union, the day is observed as the International Day of Aviation and Cosmonautics.'

- **International Turban Day** is celebrated every year on **April 13 since 2004** to bring awareness of the strict requirement on Sikhs to put the turban as a mandatory part of their religion. **The 2022 Turban Day marks the 553rd birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev** and the festival of Baisakhi. The turban, also known as “dastar” or “pagri” or “pag” refers to the garment worn by both men and some women to cover their heads.
- **Indian Army** marks **Siachen Day** on **April 13** every year. The day is observed to commemorate the courage of the Indian Army under “**Operation Meghdoot**”. The Day also honours Siachen Warriors serving their motherland successfully from the enemy.
- **Ambedkar Jayanti** (also known as **Bhim Jayanti**) is celebrated on **14 April** to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Babasaheb Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar**. The Day has been observed as an official public holiday throughout India since 2015. In 2022, we are marking the **131st birth** anniversary of Babasaheb.
- **World Chagas Disease Day** is observed on **14 April** to raise public awareness and visibility among people about Chagas Disease (also called **American trypanosomiasis or silent or silenced disease**) and the resources needed for the prevention, control or elimination of the disease. The theme for 2022 is **finding and reporting every case to defeat chagas disease**.
- **The Jallianwala Bagh massacre**, also known as the **Amritsar massacre**, took place on **13 April 1919**. This year we commemorate the **103rd anniversary** of the terror that shook the entire country to a standstill. The Jallianwalabagh garden has been converted into a memorial. And thousands of people on this day come to pay their respects to the martyred men, and women, who were killed on that fateful day for the nation.

- **World Art Day** is observed every year on **15 April** globally. This day is being celebrated all over the world to emphasize the importance of art that nurtures creativity, innovation and cultural diversity for all peoples across the globe. The day was declared by the **International Association of Art (IAA)**, an NGO working in official partnership with UNESCO.
- **World Voice Day (WVD)** is celebrated globally on **April 16** every year. The day is observed to demonstrate the enormous importance of the voice in the daily lives of all people. This year, the theme of the World Voice Day campaign is ‘**Lift your voice**’.
- **Save the Elephant Day** is celebrated on **April 16** every year to raise awareness about the dangers elephants face and the various difficulties they have to overcome to live. Save The Elephant Day aims to change this alarming trend by educating people about elephants and the plights they face, encouraging everyone to do their bit and helping save them from extinction.
- Every year on **April 18**, the United Nations commemorates **World Heritage Day**. The Day is observed to preserve the human heritage and recognize the efforts of the organizations working for it. Monuments and ancient buildings are an asset to the world. They make for the rich heritage of the nation. Since 1983, the International Council on Monuments and Sites has set a theme around which events are centred on the day. The theme for World Heritage Day 2022 is “**Heritage and Climate**”.
- **World Liver Day** is observed on **19 April** annually to spread awareness about the causes of liver disease and tips for its prevention so as to take **holistic care of the liver**. The liver is the second largest and the second most complex organ in the body, after the brain.
- **The UN Chinese Language Day** is observed on **April 20** annually. The day has been chosen to pay tribute to Cangjie, who is a mythical figure who is presumed to have invented Chinese characters about **5,000 years ago**.
- **World Creativity and Innovation Day** is celebrated on **April 21** every year. The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of creativity and innovation in problem-solving and encourage creative multidisciplinary thinking at the individual and group levels. The World Creativity and Innovation Week is also observed from **April 15-21**. The theme of World Creativity and Innovation Day 2022: **Collaboration**
- India observes **National Civil Services Day** on **April 21** every year to acknowledge the works of officers engaged in several public service departments in the country. The day also marks a reminder for civil servants, who collectively run the country’s administrative machinery and their dedication to serving the citizens of the country.



- **World Earth Day**, also known as **International Mother Earth Day**, is celebrated every year on **April 22**. The Day will be celebrated all over the world to spread awareness for Earth's wellbeing and to encourage people to support environmental protection. The day focuses on the global climate crisis that is worsening with each passing day. World Earth Day 2022 will mark the **52nd Anniversary**.
- Every year on **April 23**, **World Book and Copyright Day** is observed to promote the love of reading. April 23 is significant in world literature because it commemorates the death on this date of prominent writers such as **Miguel de Cervantes and William Shakespeare**.
- Every year on April 23, the **United Nations celebrates English Day**. The date of **April 23** was chosen for **English Language Day** because it is "traditionally honoured as both the birthday and date of death of **William Shakespeare**."
- **National Panchayati Raj Day** is a national holiday in India that honours the **Panchayati Raj system**. Every year on **April 24th**, it is commemorated. The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act**, which was passed in **1992**, is also commemorated on this day. The **Panchayati Raj system**, which is one of the country's oldest governing organisations, governs about **6 lakh communities in India**.
- Every year on **April 25th**, **World Malaria Day** is commemorated to raise awareness about this **life-threatening disease** that continues to be a **menace to humanity**. **Malaria** affects over **half of the world's population**, with the chances of people living in **poor nations** catching the disease being substantially higher. The theme for **World Malaria Day** this year is "**Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives**".
- On **December 12, 2018**, the **International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace** was established. To promote and maintain the **UN's three pillars of peace and security, development, and human rights**, it is critical to preserve the values of **multilateralism and international cooperation** that underpin the UN Charter and the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.
- Every year on **April 25th**, the world celebrates **International Delegates Day**. This day is commemorated to **increase awareness of the function of Member States'** representatives and **delegates at the United Nations**.
- **World Intellectual Property Day** is celebrated on the **26th of April** to learn about the role that intellectual property (IP) rights play in encouraging innovation and creativity. The day recognizes the huge potential of young people to find new and better solutions that support the transition to a sustainable future. This year, World Intellectual Property Day 2022's theme focuses on **IP and Youth innovating for a Better Future**.
- **International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day** is observed every year on **April 26** to raise awareness of the consequences of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster and the risks of nuclear energy in general. The day not only informs us about the man-made disaster but also educates human beings about the risks of nuclear energy in general.
- **World Immunization Week** is celebrated worldwide in the **last week of April**, to highlight the collective action required and to promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all age groups against disease. This year, WHO is going to celebrate World Immunization Week from **April 24 to April 30**. To commemorate the day, WHO has decided the theme of this year's Immunization Week as "**Long Life for All**".
- **International Girls in ICT Day** is marked annually on the **fourth Thursday in April**. This year International Girls in ICT Day is observed on **28th April 2022**. This year's theme is **access and safety**.
- The annual **World Day for Safety and Health at Work** on **28 April** promotes the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases globally. The World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2022 focuses on enhancing social dialogue towards a culture of safety and health. This year's theme of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work is "**Participation And Social Dialogue In Creating A Positive Safety And Health Culture**".
- **World Stationery day** is celebrated every year on the **last Wednesday of April**. This year **World Stationery Day 2022** is observed on the **27th of April**. The day is celebrated to mark the importance of stationery and writing on paper than using computers. It is celebrated around the world by enthusiasts to protect and encourage the use of Stationery.
- The **International Dance Day** is observed globally on **29 April** every year. The day celebrates the value and importance of the dance and encourages participation and education in this art form through events and festivals. This day is also celebrated to promote the multiple benefits of dancing, to recognize dance as a stress reliever, expressing oneself, a way of celebrating happiness, and an activity that brings people together.
- **International Jazz Day** is celebrated every year around the world on **30 April**. This day is observed to promote Jazz and raise awareness about its significance. The theme for International Jazz Day 2022 is 'A Call for Global Peace and Unity'. It focuses on the importance of unity and peace through dialogue and diplomacy.

- **World Veterinary Day** is observed on the **last Saturday of April every year**. This year it falls on **30th April 2022**. The theme for World Veterinary Day 2022 is **"Strengthening Veterinary Resilience"**. This essentially means providing veterinary doctors with all kinds of help, and resources they require in their journey.

Defence Current Affairs

- The **20th edition** of the Bilateral Naval Exercise between the **Indian Navy and French Navy** named **'VARUNA'** is being conducted in the **Arabian Sea** from **March 30 to April 03, 2022**. The Bilateral Naval Exercises between the two Navies is being held since 1993 and the exercise was christened as 'VARUNA' in 2001. Various ships, submarines, maritime patrol aircraft, fighter aircraft and helicopters of the two navies will be participating in the VARUNA-2022 exercise.
- During an amazing **Color Presentation Parade** held at the **Dogra Regimental Centre, Faizabad (UP)**, **General MM Naravane, Chief of the Army Staff**, gave the prestigious **President's Colours** to two battalions of the **Dogra Regiment**, namely **20 DOGRA and 21 DOGRA**.
- The **Ministry of Defence** has formally placed an order with **Goa Shipyard Limited** for 8 fast patrol vessels for the Indian Coast Guard. GSL was awarded the Rs 473 cr contract after the Vasco-based shipyard emerged as the lowest bidder for the project. The ministry is expected to ink two contracts with GSL for 8 fast patrol vessels & 7 next generation off-shore patrol warships.
- The **Indian Air Force** organised a conclave at **Air Force Station, Hakimpet** on 02 April 2022, to commemorate **60 years of glorious service by Chetak Helicopter in IAF**. The conclave was inaugurated by Raksha Mantri **Shri Rajnath Singh**. Raksha Mantri released a Special Cover, a Coffee Table Book and a Commemorative Movie on Chetak Helicopters during the conclave.
- Vice Chief Lieutenant General, **Manoj Pande** is all set to become **Chief of the Army Staff** as the incumbent Army Chief General **M.M. Naravane**, who is being seen as the frontrunner for the Chief of Defence Staff's post, is due to retire by the end of this month. Being senior-most in the office after General Naravane, Lt Gen Pande will take over the reign.
- The **9th Edition** of the **India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise** was held in March-April, 2022 at **Special Forces Training School, Bakloh (HP)**. **Special Forces** contingents from **India and Kyrgyzstan** have shared their experience and best practices in terms of tactics, techniques, and procedures for countering present and emerging threats throughout the conflict spectrum.
- The **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas)** is observed on **9 April** every year, as a tribute to the brave men of the Force. The year 2022 marks the 57th CRPF Valour Day. It was on this day in **1965**, a small contingent of CRPF created history by defeating an invading Pakistani army, several times larger, at the Sardar Post located in the **Rann of Kutch, Gujarat**. The CRPF men eliminated 34 Pakistani soldiers and captured four alive. In the conflict, CRPF lost six personnel who had attained martyrdom.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully flight tested **"Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet" (SFDR)** booster on April 08, 2022, at the **Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha**. The test met all the mission objectives. The SFDR-based propulsion enables the missile to intercept aerial threats at very long range at supersonic speeds. It has an extremely high projected range of **350 km**.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation** and **Indian Army** successfully flight-tested a new version of the **Pinaka rocket system at the Pokhran firing ranges**. These included **Pinaka Mk-I (Enhanced) Rocket System (EPRS)** and **Pinaka Area Denial Munition (ADM)** rocket systems. With these trials, the initial phase of technology absorption of EPRS by the industry has successfully been completed and the industry partners are ready for user trials/series production of the rocket system.
- A team of scientists from the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**, **Indian Army** and **Indian Air Force (IAF)** jointly conducted the successful flight test of the indigenously developed helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile **'HELINA'** at high-altitude ranges. The flight trials were conducted from an **Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH)**, and the missile was fired successfully, engaging a simulated tank target in the **Pokhran desert ranges, Rajasthan**.
- Two **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's (HAL) Dhruv Advanced Light Helicopters Mark-III** were inducted into the **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)**. The choppers will be based out of **Kochi's Coast Guard Aviation Squadron**. These choppers were the ninth and tenth in a series of **16 ALH**.
- Union Home and Cooperative Minister, **Amit Shah** has inaugurated the **Seema Darshan Project at Nadabet** on the **Indo-Pak border in Banaskantha District of Gujarat**. The project was launched with the aim to provide an opportunity for the citizen to observe the life and work of the BSF personnel on our border. The tourist can see missiles, tanks, aircraft etc which are used by the Indian Army and BSF at Nadabet.

- Exercise **KRIPAN SHAKTI**, an Integrated Fire Power exercise was recently conducted by **The Indian Army's Trishakti Corps** at the **Teesta Field Firing Ranges (TFFR), near Siliguri, West Bengal**. The exercise was led by Lieutenant General Tarun Kumar and General Officer Commanding Trishakti Corps.
- In New Delhi, the **Army Commanders' Conference**, an **apex level biannual** event, has commenced. The conference serves as an institutional forum for **high-level discussions** that lead to **major policy decisions** for the **Indian Army**.
- The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** kicked off the **8th edition** of the two-day National Level Pollution Response Exercise, '**NATPOLREX-VIII**', on April 19, 2022, off Mormugao harbour, Goa. The marine spill preparedness exercise was inaugurated by Defence Secretary **Dr Ajay Kumar**.
- The **Indian Navy** launched the sixth and last submarine, **Yard 11880**, of the French Scorpene-class under **Project 75**, at the **Kanhoji Angre Wet Basin of Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL) in Mumbai**. The submarine has been named '**Vagsheer**'. The submarine will now undergo rigorous harbour trials and sea trials, before being commissioned in the Indian Navy. These submarines are designed by French naval defence and energy company 'DCNS' while Mazagon Dock Limited, Mumbai has manufactured them.
- A national seminar on Logistics Management '**LOGISEM VAYU - 2022**' was held on 28 April 2022 at Air Force Auditorium, New Delhi. The Chief of the Air Staff Vivek Ram Chaudhari inaugurated the seminar and delivered the keynote address. He emphasized the need for exploiting advancements in digital technologies, which would aid in sustaining logistics stamina in support of operations. CAS also urged stakeholders in IAF to work towards achieving the broad aims of the National Logistics Policy (NLP) and Atmanirbharta goals of Govt of India.



Science and Technology

- **Microsoft** launched a new digital and inclusive platform for startup founders in India. The platform called as '**Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub**' in India, will support startup founders in India at every stage of their startup journey. This platform will offer over **USD 300,000 worth** of benefits and credits to startups, including free access to the technology, tools, and resources from the tech giant and partners. The initiative will help the Startups to gain mentorship and skilling opportunities with industry experts and Microsoft Learn.
- The **National Supercomputing Mission (NSM)**, a collaborative project of the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** and the Department of Science and Technology, has dedicated **PARAM Shakti**, a Petascale Supercomputer, to the country at **IIT Kharagpur (DST)**.
- **Pixxel**, a space data startup, launched its first fully operational satellite, **TD-2**, on **SpaceX's Transporter-4 mission**. **TD-2** is **Pixxel's** first full-fledged satellite, carrying one of the **highest-resolution hyperspectral commercial cameras** ever flown, taking the company one step closer to developing a global health monitoring system that operates **24 hours a day, seven days a week**.
- The tech firm has secured up to **83 launches** over a **five-year period**, which the company claims is the greatest commercial launch vehicle procurement in history. **Arianespace, Blue Origin, and United Launch Alliance (ULA)** have agreed to deploy the majority of **Amazon's Project Kuiper satellites**, which aim to provide **high-speed, low-latency broadband** to a wide variety of clients around the world.
- Astronomers have discovered an identical **twin of Jupiter** dubbed as **K2-2016-BLG-0005Lb**, Which has a similar mass and is at a similar location (420 million miles away) from its star as **Jupiter is from our Sun (462 million miles away)**. The study has been published as a preprint on ArXiv.org and submitted to the journal Monthly Notices of the **Royal Astronomical Society**.
- Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology, Madras**, have unveiled India's first **Polycentric Prosthetic Knee**, which seeks to improve the conditions for thousands above the amputees. '**Kadam**,' a **polycentric knee** for above Knee Prosthesis created in collaboration with **Society for Biomedical Technology (SBMT)** and Mobility India, and is also a '**Made in India**' product.

- According to the most recent report of **NASA's Orbital Debris Program Office's Orbital Debris Quarterly News**, there are 25,182 pieces of **space debris** larger than 10 cm in lower earth orbits near **2,000 kilometres** of the planet's surface. India is responsible for only **114 space debris items**, whereas the **United States has 5,126 space debris objects in Earth's orbit** and **China has 3,854 space debris objects in Earth's orbit**, including spent rocket bodies.
- **A study led by experts from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru**, discovered that microplastics and other contaminants may be causing growth abnormalities and skeletal deformities in fish in the **Cauvery river**. In the states of **Tamil Nadu and Karnataka**, the **Cauvery** provides a source of drinking water for humans and animals, as well as agriculture. **Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety** is the publication where the research was published.
- **IIT Guwahati, Assam** has partnered with **NTPC Limited** to design and develop a highly energy-efficient plant to capture carbon dioxide(CO₂) from power plants. This technology works on flue gas (a mixture of gases produced by the burning of fuel or other) using a newly-activated amine solvent (IITGS), consumes up to 11% less energy compared to commercial activated MDEA (Methyl diethanolamine) solvent and up to 31% energy compared to the MEA (monoethanolamine) solvent.
- The launch of the **Digital India RISC-V (DIR-V) program** was announced on 27th April 2022 by the government of India with the aim of creating Microprocessors for the country's and the world's future and to achieve industry-grade commercial silicon and design for the next generation of microprocessors by the month of December 2023.
- **Dr Sreeram Chauliahas** authored a new book titled "**Crunch Time: Narendra Modi's National Security Crises**". The book was released by **Meenakshi Lekhi**, Minister of State for External Affairs at the India International Centre in New Delhi, Delhi.
- Award-winning children's writer and historian, **Devika Rangachari** has authored a new novel titled "**Queen of Fire**", which explores the story of **Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi**.
- Union Minister of Education and Skill Development, **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan** released a book titled "**Birsa Munda – Janjatiya Nayak**". The book has been written by **Prof. Alok Chakrawal**, Vice-Chancellor, Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.
- A new book titled "**Decoding Indian Babudom**" authored by **Ashwini Shrivastava** and published by **Vitasta Publishing Private Limited** launched. This is a first-of-its-kind book by a journalist covering the bureaucratic system of India.
- "**The Maverick Effect**", tells the untold story of how in the 1970s and 80s a 'band of dreamers' joined hands to create NASSCOM and pave the way for the IT revolution in India. The book, touted to be an authoritative biography of the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM), the apex body of software and IT service companies, is written by **Harish Mehta**.
- **Meena Nayyar**, Mother of Captain **Anuj Nayyar** and **Himmat Singh Shekhawat**, a part of Rashtriya Riders, a biking group that pays homage to martyrs and their families has authored a new book titled "**Tiger of Drass: Capt. Anuj Nayyar, 23, Kargil Hero**", published by HarperCollins Publishers India.
- In the history of the **International Booker Prize**, the novel "**Tomb of Sand**", authored by **Geetanjali Shree**, has become the first Hindi language work of fiction to be shortlisted for the prestigious literary prize.
- Former Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) and chief of Supreme court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) in 2017, **Vinod Rai** has penned a book titled as, "**Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings with BCCI**" in which the former bureaucrat encapsulates his **33-month** stint at the BCCI.
- Indian author **Prem Rawat** has launched his book "**Hear Yourself**" for the Indian subcontinent in Mumbai. This New York Times bestseller book is already available in 58 countries and five languages. This book is to help people understand their own potential. It will help them find peace in a noisy world. He also advised the audience that they have more wisdom in themselves than they perceive. This book is to help them develop better self-understanding.

Books & Authors

- Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu**, released a book titled '**Spoorthi Pradatha Sri Somayya**' authored by **Syam Prasad**. The book is based on the life story of late Shri Somepalli Somaiah, a social worker from Andhra Pradesh. He inspired youth to dedicate their lives to social welfare.
- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW), **Narendra Singh Tomar** has released a book titled "**Indian Agriculture towards 2030: Pathways for Enhancing Farmers' Income, Nutritional Security and Sustainable Food and Farm Systems**", at an event organized by NITI Aayog and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.

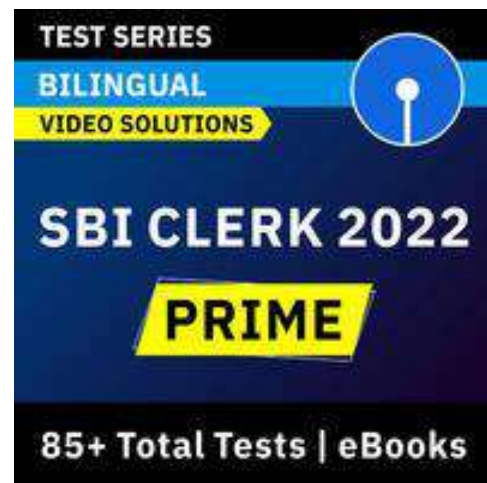
- **Dr BR Ambedkar's 131st birth anniversary**, a new book titled **"The Boy Who Wrote a Constitution: A play for Children on Human Rights"** authored by **Rajesh Talwar**, a fact-based drama on **Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar's** own recollections of his childhood has been released. It is published by **Ponytale Books**. Talwar's also authored books include **"The Vanishing of Subhash Bose"**, **"Gandhi, Ambedkar, and the Four-Legged Scorpion"**, and **"Aurangzeb"**.
- Chief Minister of Odisha, **Naveen Patnaik** released 2 books, a coffee table book titled **"The Magic of Mangalajodi"** by **Avinash Khemka**; and a compilation of the Sikh history of eastern India titled **"My Research Works On Sikh History & Philosophy"**, authored by **Abinash Mahapatra**. The coffee table book **"The Magic of Mangalajodi"** provides a bird's eye view of Mangalajodi in Chilika lake through various images and descriptions.
- HarperCollins India has published a new book titled **"Chinese Spies: From Chairman Mao to Xi Jinping"** authored by French journalist **Roger Faligot** and translated by writer, editor and translator, **Natasha Lehrer**.
- **Padma Bhushan Vinod Rai**, former(11th) Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) India, has authored a new book titled **"Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings in the BCCI"**. The book features his 33-month stint as the Chairman of the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).
- **Devendra Fadnavis**, former Chief Minister(CM) of Maharashtra, released a Marathi book on **Amit Shah**, Union Minister of Home Affairs, titled **"Amit Shah Ani Bhajapachi Vatchal"**, a Marathi version of the book **"Amit Shah and The March of BJP"**. The book is published by **Bloomsbury India**.



Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- The first forest fire was recorded in **Chandrapur district, the third hottest place in the entire world**. The fire was witnessed in the **area of Irai dam**. The fire was seen at the border of Regional forest area, private farms, and buffer zone of national tiger project.
- In **Ladakh**, a community museum opened in the **Gya - Sasoma** villages of the **Leh district** to preserve and promote the region's rich cultural history. **Tashi Gyaltson**, Chairman of the **Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh**, inaugurated the **Community Museum**.
- On **World Health Day** and the **75th day of the countdown to International Day of Yoga**, the **Ministry of Ayush** is hosting a magnificent programme for the presentation of the **Common Yoga Protocol** in the backdrop of **15th August Park, Lal Quila, (Red Fort) Delhi**.
- The **National Commission for Women** launched an **Anti-Human Trafficking Cell** to improve effectiveness in tackling cases of human trafficking, raising awareness among women and girls, capacity building and training of Anti Trafficking Units and increasing responsiveness of law enforcement agencies. The Cell has been set up with an aim of increasing awareness among law enforcement officials and facilitating their capacity building.
- The **Bhima Bhoi Chair at Delhi University** and **Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh**, have been authorised by the **University Grants Commission**. **Bhima Bhoi** was a **saint, poet, and philosopher** from **Odisha**. He battled against the caste system in Hinduism. **Bhima Bhoi**, a saint, poet, and philosopher from **Odisha**, India, was born in 1850 and died in 1895. **Bhima Bhoi** was a **Mahima Swamy bhakta** (commonly referred to as **Mahima Gosain** and whose birth name is said to have been **Mukunda Das**). **Bhima Bhoi** would be initiated into **Mahima Dharma**, an Indian religious tradition that challenged caste Hinduism on its own terms, from **Mahima Swamy**.
- The **South-Central Railway** has introduced the **"One Station, One Product"** campaign at six main stations across its six divisions. **Arun Kumar Jain, SCR in-charge General Manager**, has opened stalls at **Secunderabad Station** as part of the new initiative. The Railway stations are ideal for promoting indigenous and local products, and the programme aims to turn them into a sales and promotional centre.

- The President of India, Shri **Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated the five-day long **Madhavpur Ghed Fair**, at Madhavpur Ghed, Porbandar in Gujarat. The Madhavpur Ghed Fair is being organised by the Government of Gujarat in association with the Ministry of Culture since 2018 every year to celebrate the sacred union of **Lord Krishna and Rukmini**.
- **BRO Director General Lieutenant General Rajeev Chaudhary** announced that the **Border Roads Organisation** will build the world's highest tunnel at **Shinku La Pass, at 16,580 feet**, to connect **Himachal Pradesh** and **Ladakh**. He said this while opening the strategically crucial **Himachal to Zaskar Road at Shinku La Pass**, where more than a half-dozen vehicles crossed from the **Zaskar side** towards **Manali**.
- India's first-ever radio channel for the visually impaired, named '**Radio Aksh**' has been launched in **Nagpur, Maharashtra**. Nagpur's 96-year-old institution, **The Blind Relief Association Nagpur (TBRAN)** and **Samdrushti Kshamata Vikas Avam Anusandhan Mandal (Saksham)** are the organisations behind this idea. The channel will be available on various internet radio platforms for free.
- **Leh** has taken the first step in building an IT sector. **SS Khandare, the Additional Director General of Police for Ladakh**, has opened **Ethosh Digital's first IT Training and Services centre in Leh**.
- **Biliti Electric Inc (Biliti)**, based in California, United States of America, has announced its intention to establish the world's largest electric three-wheeler manufacturing facility in **Telangana**. The plant will be built in 2 phases over an area of 200 acres. Phase I of 13.5 acres with a capacity to produce **18000 Electric Vehicles (EV)** per year will become operational in 2023 and the larger facility of 200 acres with a production capacity of 240000 EV per year will become operational in 2024.
- **Guadalajara, Mexico** was named **World Book Capital for the year 2022** by the Director-General of UNESCO, **Audrey Azoulay**, on the recommendation of the World Book Capital Advisory Committee. The city, already a UNESCO Creative City since 2017, was selected for its comprehensive plan for policies around the book to trigger social change, combat violence and build a culture of peace.
- **Mr. Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, Minister of Steel**, praised India's steel sector on its remarkable performance on a **global scale** and encouraged it to continue at this level in the year **2022**. This **production momentum** will help **India** to meet the predicted level of **500 million tonnes of production capacity** in the following **25 years**.
- According to the **Ministry of Culture, India** entered the **Guinness Book of World Records** by simultaneously **waving 78,220 flags** at the '**Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav**' programme in **Bhojpur, Bihar**. India made history and entered the Guinness Book of World **Records** by simultaneously waving the largest number of national flags. **Amit Shah, the Union Home Minister**, was present at the historic event.
- **Deepika Padukone** will grace the **Cannes Film Festival** as a member of the jury, this year. The actress-producer has attended the prestigious film festival several times in the past, in the capacity of an ambassador of the beauty brand L'Oreal. The jury for the **75th edition** of the film festival is headed by French actor **Vincent Lindon**, who won Best Actor at Cannes in 2015.
- **IndiGo** becomes the first airline in Asia to land its aircraft using the indigenous navigation system **GAGAN**. This is a huge leap for Indian Civil Aviation and a firm step toward Aatmanirbhar Bharat, as India becomes the third country in the world to have its own SBAS system after the USA and Japan.
- In the Union Territory of **Jammu and Kashmir**, the **Samba district** of the Jammu division has become the first district in India to cover **100% of households** under the **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY)- SEHAT** scheme.
- The Ministry of Civil Aviation organized a mega event- **Yog Prabha at Safdarjung Airport in New Delhi**. The event was inaugurated by Union Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia and the Minister of State for Civil Aviation Dr. VK Singh. Over 900 officials participated in this mega event.



Obituaries

- Veteran Belgian footballer, **Miguel Van Damme** has passed away aged 28 after a long battle with leukaemia. Van Damme was diagnosed with leukaemia in 2016 and was undergoing treatment for cancer for over five years. During his eight-year professional career, Van Damme played for Cercle Brugge and made 40 appearances for the team.
- The 3rd Chief Minister of Sikkim, **Bhim Bahadur Gurung** has passed away at his residence in **Lumsui in Gangtok, Sikkim**. B. Gurung served as a teacher and a staff reporter in a Calcutta (Kolkata)-based newspaper the **Amrita Bazar Patrika** and he also edited the first news-based Nepali Journal of Sikkim, called Kanchenjunga. Gurung started his political career with **Sikkim Rajya Congress Party in 1947** and was later appointed as the General Secretary in 1958. He served as the 3rd CM of Sikkim from 11 May to **24 May 1984**, the shortest term in the history of Sikkim. Between 2014 and 2015 he served as the political advisor to the CM of Sikkim.
- Pulitzer Prize awardee American poet, **Richard Howard** passed away at age of 92. Richard Joseph Howard was born on 13 October 1929 in Cleveland, Ohio, United States (US). He was an American poet, literary critic, essayist, teacher, and translator.
- Actor-screenwriter **Shiv Kumar Subramaniam** has passed away, he was known for his roles in the serial **Mukti Bandhan and Meenakshi Sundareswar**. He started his career by writing a screenplay for the 1989 film Parinda which was directed by Vidhu Vinod Chopra. He won the Filmfare Award for Best Story for Hazaron Khawaishein Aisis. He has worked in films like **2 States, Hichki, Nail Polish, Rocky Handsome and more**.
- Veteran Hindi television presenter and actor, **Manju Singh** has passed away due to cardiac arrest. She was one of the pioneers in the Indian television industry and was fondly remembered as didi. She was the anchor of the children's program, **Khel Khilone for 7 years**.
- Popular Odia singer and music director **Prafulla Kar** has passed away following age-related ailments. Kar was an eminent musician, singer, lyricist, writer and columnist. He received the prestigious Padma Shri award in 2015.
- Eminent writer of Odisha and Padma Shri awardee (2020), **Binapani Mohanty** passed away at the age of 85. She was born in Berhampur and started her teaching career as a lecturer in Economy in 1960.
- Former president of Kenya, **Mwai Kibaki** passed away at the age of 90. He led the country from 2002 to 2013. During his rule, more than 1,100 people died in bloody ethnic battles after disputed 2007 polls, but to prevent such unrest he adopted a new constitution with reforms. His rule was ruined by uncontrolled corruption and lavish spending on flagship projects which increased the country's debt.

- Eminent structural biologist **M. Vijayan**, DAE Homi Bhabha Professor at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), passed away in Bengaluru. Vijayan, who was instrumental in the development of macromolecular crystallography in India, was 80.
- Former Indian women's hockey team captain, **Elvera Britto** has passed away at 81 due to old-age-related problems. He led Karnataka's domestic team to win seven national titles. She ruled the domestic circuit from **1960 to 1967**. She also represented India against Japan, Sri Lanka, and Australia. She is the second women hockey player to be conferred with the **Arjuna Award (1965) after Anne Lumsden**.
- The former Chief Minister of Meghalaya, **James Dringwell Rymbai**, died at the age of 88. He was born in **Meghalaya on October 26th, 1934**.
- Film and TV actor **Salim Ghouse** passed away in Mumbai after suffering a cardiac arrest. He started his acting journey in 1978 with the movie Swarg Narak, following which he featured in films like **Chakra (1981), Saaransh (1984), Mohan Joshi Hazir Ho! (1984)**, and several others.

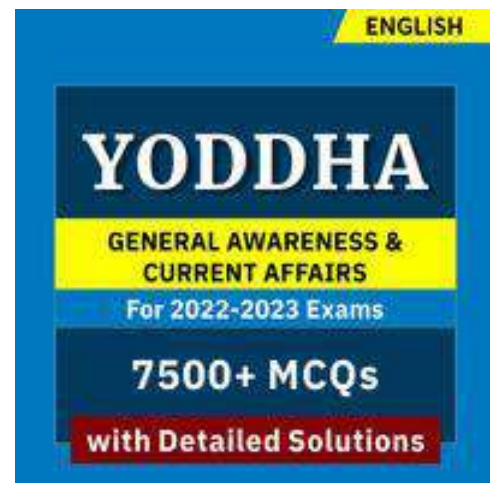
Static Takeaways

- Malta Capital: Valletta; Currency: Euro
- Manipur Capital: Imphal; Governor: La. Ganesan.
- Central Bank of India Founded: 21 December 1911;
- Central Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- Central Bank of India Tagline: 'Central' to you since 1911.
- PVR Cinemas Founded: June 1997;
- PVR Cinemas Headquarters: Gurugram;
- Google Founded: 4 September 1998;
- Google Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States.
- HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company Headquarters: Mumbai;
- HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company Founded: 2002.
- International Labour Organisation Founded: 1919;
- International Labour Organisation Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Broadcast Audience Research Council Founded: 2010;
- Broadcast Audience Research Council Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Badminton Association of India Founded: 1934;
- Badminton Association of India Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Stockholm International Water Institute Headquarters location: Stockholm, Sweden;
- Stockholm International Water Institute Founded: 1991.

- United Nations Environment Programme Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya.
- World Wide Fund Headquarters: Gland, Switzerland.
- World Wide Fund Founded: 29 April 1961, Morges, Switzerland.
- World Autism Organisation: 1998;
- World Autism Organisation Founded: Luxembourg.
- Double Negative (DNEG) Headquarters: London, United Kingdom;
- Double Negative (DNEG) Founded: 1998, London, United Kingdom.
- UNESCO Founded: 16 November 1945;
- UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France;
- UNESCO Members: 193 countries;
- International Board on Books for Young People Founded: 1953, Zürich, Switzerland.
- International Board on Books for Young People Headquarters: Basel, Switzerland.
- National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers Founded: 2006, India;
- National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Axis Bank Founded: 3 December 1993;
- Axis Bank Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Axis Bank Tagline: Badhti Ka Naam Zindagi.
- China Capital: Beijing;
- China Currency: Renminbi;
- China President: Xi Jinping.
- Microsoft Headquarters: Redmond, Washington, United States.
- Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports: Anurag Singh Thakur.
- Hungary Capital: Budapest;
- Hungary Currency: Hungarian forint.
- United Nations Human Rights Council Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- United Nations Human Rights Council Founded: 15 March 2006.
- Serbia Capital: Belgrade;
- Serbia Currency: Serbian dinar;
- Serbia President: Aleksandar Vučić.
- China Capital: Beijing;
- China Currency: Renminbi;
- China President: Xi Jinping.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited Founded: 1940;
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka;
- HDFC Bank Headquarters: Mumbai;
- HDFC Bank Founded: August 1994;
- HDFC Bank Tagline: We understand your world.
- SBI Founded: 1 July 1955;
- SBI Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Union Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Union Bank of India CEO: Rajkiran Rai G. (1 Jul 2017-);
- Union Bank of India Founded: 11 November 1919, Mumbai.
- Punjab National Bank Founded: 1894;
- Punjab National Bank Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Punjab National Bank Tagline: The Name You Can Bank Upon.
- Flipkart headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka;
- Asian Development Bank Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines;
- Asian Development Bank Membership: 68 countries;
- Asian Development Bank Founded: 19 December 1966.
- World Bank Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States.
- World Bank Formation: July 1944.
- AIIB Headquarters: Beijing, China;
- AIIB Membership: 105 Members;
- AIIB Formation: 16 January 2016;
- AIIB Head: Jin Liqun.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikanta Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- DMRC Opened: 24 December 2002.
- DCB Bank Headquarters: Mumbai;
- DCB Bank Founded: 1930.
- World Health Organization Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- World Health Organization Founded: 7 April 1948;
- National Commission for Women Formed: 1992;
- National Commission for Women Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Amazon Founded: 5 July 1994.
- DRDO Headquarters: New Delhi;
- DRDO Established: 1958.
- Minister of Civil Aviation: Jyotiraditya M. Scindia;
- Airports Authority of India Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Airports Authority of India Founded: 1 April 1995;
- Infosys Founded: 7 July 1981;
- Infosys Headquarters: Bengaluru;
- Rolls-Royce Founded: 1904;
- Rolls-Royce Headquarters: Westhampnett, United Kingdom;
- Central Reserve Police Force Headquarters: New Delhi, India.
- Central Reserve Police Force Formed: 27 July 1939.
- Central Reserve Police Force Motto: Service and Loyalty.
- Pakistan Capital: Islamabad;
- Pakistan President: Arif Alvi;
- Pakistan Population: 22.09 crores;

- Pakistan Currency: Pakistani rupee.
- Ecuador Capital: Quito;
- Ecuador Currency: United States Dollar;
- Ecuador President: Guillermo Lasso.
- World Trade Organization Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- World Trade Organization Founded: 1 January 1995;
- ISRO Founded: 15 August 1969;
- ISRO Headquarters: Bengaluru;
- Microsoft Founded: 4 April 1975, Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States
- Microsoft Headquarters: Redmond, Washington, United States
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Headquarters: Mumbai
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Founded: 1952
- IndusInd Bank Founded: 1994;
- IndusInd Bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- IndusInd Bank Tagline: We Make You Feel Richer.
- Border Security Force Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Border Security Force Founded: 1 December 1965;
- India's External Affairs Minister: Dr. S Jaishankar;
- Netherlands Capital: Amsterdam;
- Netherlands Currency: Euro;
- Netherlands Prime minister: Mark Rutte.
- ICC Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates;
- ICC Founded: 15 June 1909.
- White Ribbon Alliance India was launched in 1999.
- Headquarters of WHO: Geneva, Switzerland.
- WHO was founded: 7 April 1948.
- Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri
- Israel Capital: Jerusalem;
- Israel President: Isaac Herzog;
- Israel Prime minister: Naftali Bennett;
- Israel Currency: Israeli Shekel.
- Fino Payments Bank Founded: 4 April 2017
- Fino Payments Bank Headquarters: Juinagar, Navi Mumbai
- National Security Advisor: Ajit Doval
- Union Agriculture Minister: Shri Narendra Singh Tomar
- Ivory Coast Capital: Yamoussoukro;
- Ivory Coast Currency: West African CFA franc;
- Ivory Coast President: Alassane Ouattara.
- Mastercard Founded: 16 December 1966, United States;
- Mastercard Headquarters: Purchase, Harrison, New York, United States;
- SBI Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara;
- SBI Establishment: 1955;

- SBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- World Bank Founded: July 1944, United States;
- World Bank Headquarters: Washington DC, USA;
- World Bank Member Countries: 189 (including India).
- Paytm Founded: August 2010;
- Paytm Headquarters: Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India;
- Wipro Founded: 29 December 1945, India;
- Wipro Headquarters: Bengaluru.
- Digit Insurance Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka;
- Puduchery Chief Secretary: Shri Ashwini Kumar
- NDMC chairman: Shri Naresh Kumar
- Union Defence Minister: Rajnath Singh
- Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs: Shri Kaushal Kishore
- Minister of Education, Andhra Pradesh: Dr Audimulapu Suresh
- Mayor, Surat: Hemali Kalpeshkumar Boghawala
- Secretary, MoHUA: Shri Manoj Joshi
- Prime Minister of Mauritius: Shri Pravind Jugnauth
- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, and AYUSH: Sarbananda Sonowal
- Secretary of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways: Dr. Sanjeev Ranjan
- Chairman of the Inland Waterways Authority of India: Sanjay Bandopadhyay
- World Bank Founded: July 1944, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States;
- World Bank Headquarters: Washington DC, USA;
- World Bank Member Countries: 189 (including India).
- Headquarters of International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS): Paris, France;
- International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Founded: 1965;
- United Nations Environment Programme Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya.
- United Nations Environment Programme Founded: 5 June 1972, Nairobi, Kenya.
- Minister of Information and Broadcasting : Anurag Thakur



Heads of various organizations in News in month of April 2022

Sr. No.	Head of Organization	Name of Person
1	Central Bank of India MD & CEO	Matam Venkata Rao
2	PVR Cinemas Founder & CEO	Ajay Bijli
3	Google CEO	Sundar Pichai
4	HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company CEO	Ritesh Kumar
5	Broadcast Audience Research Council CEO	Nakul Chopra
6	Stockholm International Water Institute Executive Director	Torgny Holmgren
7	United Nations Environment Programme Head	Inger Andersen
8	United Nations Environment Programme Founder	Maurice Strong
9	World Wide Fund President and CEO	Carter Roberts
10	World Autism Organisation President	Dr Samira Al Saad
11	UNESCO Head	Audrey Azoulay
12	International Board on Books for Young People Founder	Jella Lepman
13	Axis Bank MD & CEO	Amitabh Chaudhary
14	Axis Bank Chairperson	Shri Rakesh Makhija
15	Microsoft CEO and Chairman	Satya Nadella
16	United Nations Human Rights Council President	Federico Villegas
17	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited CMD	R Madhavan
18	HDFC Bank CEO	Sashidhar Jagdishan
19	HDFC Bank Chairman	Atanu Chakraborty
20	SBI Chairman	Dinesh Kumar Khara
21	Punjab National Bank MD & CEO	Atul Kumar Goel
22	Flipkart CEO	Kalyan Krishnamurthy
23	Asian Development Bank President	Masatsugu Asakawa
25	World Bank President	David Malpass
26	DCB Bank CEO	Murali M. Natrajan
27	World Health Organization Director-General	Tedros Adhanom
28	National Commission for Women executive	Lalitha Kumaramangalam
29	Amazon CEO	Andrew R. Jassy
30	Chairman DRDO	Dr G Satheesh Reddy
31	Airports Authority of India Chairman	Arvind Singh
32	Infosys CEO	Salil Parekh
33	Rolls-Royce CEO	Torsten Müller-Ötvös
34	Rolls-Royce Founders	Henry Royce, Charles Rolls
35	CRPF director general	Kuldiep Singh
36	Director-General of the World Trade Organization	Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala
37	ISRO Chairman	S Somanath
38	Microsoft Founders	Bill Gates, Paul Allen
39	Microsoft CEO	Satya Nadella
40	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Chairman	Arun Kumar Singh
41	IndusInd Bank MD & CEO	Sumant Kathpalia

Sr. No.	Head of Organization	Name of Person
42	Border Security Force Director General	Pankaj Kumar Singh
43	Chief of the Army Staff	General Manoj Mukund Naravane
44	ICC Chairman	Greg Barclay
45	ICC CEO	Geoff Allardice
46	Director general of WHO	Tedros Adhanom
47	Fino Payments Bank MD & CEO	Rishi Gupta
48	UNICEF India's Chief of Social Policy	Hyun Hee Ban
49	Officer in Charge – Deputy Representative UNICEF	Arjan de Wagt
50	Mastercard CEO	Michael Miebach
51	Mastercard Executive Chairman	Ajay Banga
52	World Bank President	David Robert Malpass
53	Deutsche Bank's head of corporate banking technology in India	Puneet Narang
54	TCS Research and Innovation's Principal Scientist	Girish Keshav Palshikar
55	Paytm CEO	Vijay Shekhar Sharma
56	Wipro CEO	Thierry Delaporte
57	Wipro Founder	M.H. Hasham Premji
58	Wipro Owner	Azim Premji
59	Digit Insurance Chairman	Kamesh Goyal
60	Indian Army Chief	Lieutenant General Manoj Pande
61	Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO)	Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
62	Chairman of the Mumbai Port Authority	Rajiv Jalota
63	World Bank President	David Robert Malpass
64	President of International Council on Monuments and Sites	Toshiyuki Kono
65	United Nations Environment Programme Head	Inger Andersen
66	United Nations Environment Programme Founder	Maurice Strong

Banking Abbreviations: Complete List of Terms for Banking & Finance Exam

Abbreviation	Full Form
2FA	Two Factor Authentication
A&AS	Account & Audit Section
ACLF	Additional Collateralised Lending Facility
AIDBs	All India Development Banks
AIFIs	All India Financial Institutions
ALM	Asset Liability Management
ANBC	Adjusted Net Bank Credit
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
APACS	Association of Payment and Clearing Services
APSFC	andhra Pradesh State Financial Corporation
ARCIL	Asset Reconstruction Company of India Limited
ARCs	Asset Reconstruction Companies
ATM	Automated Teller Machine
BACS	Bankers Automated Clearing System
BCBS	Basel Committee On Banking Supervision
BCP	Branch Credit Plan

Abbreviation	Full Form
BFS	Board of Financial Supervision
BLBC	Block-Level Bankers Committee
BO	Banking Ombudsman
BOD	Board of Directors
BPC	Benefits Processing Corp
BPLR	Benchmark Prime Lending Rate
CAAP	Capital Adequacy Assessment Process
CAMELS	Capital, Assets, Management, Earnings, Liquidity, and Systems and Control
CBT	Computer-Based Terminal
CC	Cash Credit
CDR	Corporate Debt Restructuring
CDs	Certificates of Deposit
CED	Centre For Entrepreneurship Development
CFMS	Centralised Funds Management System
CFS	Committee on The Financial System
CFS	Consolidated Financial Statements
CHAPS	Clearing House Automated Payment System
CIBIL	Credit Information Bureau of India Ltd.
CLB	Company Law Board
CLF	Collateralised Lending Facility
CMA	Collateral Management Agreement
CNP	Card Not Present
CPs	Commercial Papers
CRAR	Capital to Risk-Weighted Asset Ratio
CRM	Customer Relationship Management
CRR	Cash Reserve Ratio
CSGLA	Constituent's Subsidiary General Ledger Account
DCCB	District Central Cooperative Banks
DCP	District Credit Plan
DD	Demand Draft
DDM	District Development Manager
DFI	Development Financial Institutions
DFID	Department For International Development
DICGC	Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation
DIR	Differential Interest Rate
DNPD	Derivatives and New Products Departments
DPN	Derivative Usance Promissory Note
DPs	Depository Participants
DR!	Beneficiaries of Differential Interest Rate
ECB	External Commercial Borrowing
ECS	Electronic Clearing Service
ED	Enforcement Directorate
EFT	Electronic Funds Transfer
EFTPOS	Electronic Funds Transfer Point of Sale
EMI	Equated Monthly Instalment
EPS	Earnings Per Share

Abbreviation	Full Form
ETFs	Exchange Traded Funds
EXIM Bank	Export-Import Bank of India
FATF	FERA Financial Action Task Force
FCA	Foreign Currency Assets
FCD	Fully Convertible Debentures
FCNRA	Foreign Currency Non-Resident Account
FD	Fixed Deposit
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FEMA	Foreign Exchange Management Act
FIMMDA	Fixed Income Money Market and Derivatives Association of India
FIs	Financial Institutions
FRNs	Floating Rate Notes
FRO	Foreigners Registration officer
FRRO	Foreigners Regional Registration officer
FSS	Financial Software Systems
GDCF	Gross Domestic Capital Formation
GIC	General Insurance Corporation of India
GIPSA	General Insurance Public Sector Association
GSTPA	Global Straight Through Processing Association
HFCs	Housing Finance Companies
HPFC	Himachal Pradesh Financial Corporation
HSBC	Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
HUDCO	Housing and Urban Development Corporation
IBA	Indian Banks' Association
IBRD	International Bank For Reconstruction and Development
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
ICC	Integrated Circuit Card
ICICI	Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited
ICRA	Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency
IDBI	Industrial Development Bank of India
IDFC	Infrastructure Development Finance Company Limited
IDRBT	Institute For Development and Research In Banking Technology
IFCI	Industrial Finance Corporation of India Limited
IIB I	Industrial Investment Bank of India Limited
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INFINET	Indian Financial Network
IP	Internet Provider
IPO	Initial Public offering
IPSS	Integrated Payment and Settlement System
IRE	Internal Rating Based
IRa	Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India Limited
IRDP	Integrated Rural Development Programme
IRR	Internal Rate of Return
ISIN	International Securities Identification Number
ISO	International Standard Organisation
IVP	Indira Vikas Patra

Abbreviation	Full Form
JCB	Japan Credit Bureau
JLGs	Joint Liability Groups
KCC	Kisan Credit Card
KVP	Kisan Vikas Patra
KYC	Know Your Customer
LAF	Liquidity Adjustment Facility
LAN	Local Area Network
LBS	Lead Bank Scheme
LETS	Local Exchange Trading Systems
LIC	Life Insurance Corporation of India
LOC	Lines of Credit
LTF	Long-Term Finance
MBFC	Mutual Benefit Financial Company
MFIs	Micro-Financial Institutions
MICR	Magnetic Ink Character Recognition
MIRSD	Market Intermediaries Registration and Supervision Department
MNBCs	Miscellaneous Non-Banking Companies
MPBF	Maximum Permissible Bank Finance
MRD	Market Regulation Department
MSS	Market Stabilisation Scheme
M&As	Mergers and Acquisitions
MTNs	Medium-Term Notes
NABARD	National Bank For Agriculture and Rural Development
NAFCUB	National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies
NAFED	National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation
NAV	Net Asset Value
NBC	Net Bank Credit
NBFCs	Non-Bank Financial Companies
NCAER	National Council of Applied Economic Research
NCC	National Clearing Cells
NCS	Network Computing System
NDA	Net Domestic Assets
NDC	Non-Dues Certificate
NDS	Negotiated Dealing System
NDTL	Net Demand and Time Liabilities
NFA	Net Foreign Assets
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHB	National Housing Bank
NI	Net Interest Income
Nof	Net Owned Funds
NPAs	Non-Performing Assets
NPLM	Non-Performing Loan Management
NPS	Non-Priority Sector
NRE	Non-Resident (External) Rupee Account
NRI	Non-Resident Indian
NRNR	Non-Resident Non-Repatriable Term Deposit Account

Abbreviation	Full Form
NRO	Non-Resident Ordinary Account
NRSR	Non-Resident (Special) Rupee Account
NSE	National Stock Exchange
NSIC	National Small Industries Corporation
NSS	National Savings Scheme
OBC	Oriental Bank of Commerce
OBE	Off-Balance Sheet Exposures
OBUs	Offshore Banking Units
OCB	Overseas Corporate Bodies
OD	Overdraft
OFCS	Offshore Financial Centers
OTCEI	Over The Counter Exchange of India Limited
OTS	One-Time Settlement
PACS	Primary Agricultural Credit Societies
PAN	Permanent Account Number
PBS	Projected Balance Sheet
PBT	Profit Before Tax
PC	Participation Certificate
PCA	Prompt Corrective Action
PCDs	Partly Convertible Debentures
PFI	Public Financial Institutions
PIN	Personal Identification Number
PIO	People of Indian Origin
PKI	Public Key Infrastructure
PLI	Prime Lending Institutions
PLP	Potential Linked Plan
PLR	Prime Lending Rate
PMLA	Prevention of Money Laundering Act
POA	Power of Attorney
POS	Point of Sale
PSBs	Public Sector Banks
PTCs	Pass-Through Certificates
QIB	Qualified Institutional Buyers
QIP	Qualified Institutional Placement
QIS	Quantitative Impact Study
RAROC	Risk-Adjusted Return On Capital
RBI	Reserve Bank of India
RBS	Risk-Based Supervision
RCF	Risk Capital Foundation
RCI	Refinance Corporation For Industry
REPOS	Ready Forward Contracts
RFID	Radio Frequency Identification
RML	Reverse Mortgage Loan
RNBCs	Residuary Non-Banking Companies
ROA	Return On Assets
ROC	Registration of Companies

Abbreviation	Full Form
ROE	Return On Equity
RRBs	Regional Rural Banks
RTGS	Real Time Gross Settlement
SACs	Settlement Advisory Committees
SAMIS	Strategic Asset Management Information System
SARFAES	Securities and Reconstruction of Financial and Enforcement of Security Interest
SBI	State Bank of India
SCB	State Cooperative Apex Bank
SEPUP	Self-Employment Programme For Urban Poor
SEZs	Special Economic Zones
SFCs	State Financial Corporations
SFMS	Structured Financial Messaging Solution
SGSY	Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana
SHGs	Self-Help Groups
SIDC	State Industrial Development Corporation
SIM	Subscriber Identity Module
SJSRY	Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana
SLBC	State-Level Bankers' Committee
SLR	Statutory Liquidity Ratio
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SPOM	Self-Programmable One-Chip Microcomputer
Spy	Special Purpose Vehicle
SSIDC	State Small Industries Development Corporation
SSIs	Small Scale Industries
STF	Short-Term Finance
STP	Straight -Through Processing
SW IFT	Society For Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication
T/T	Telegraphic Transfer
TAN	Transaction Number/Tax Deduction Account Number
TCS	Tata Consultancy Services
TDF	Technical Development Fund
TDICI	Technology Development and Information Company of India Limited
UBI	United Bank of India
UTI	Unit Trust of India
VCFs	Venture Capital Funds
VCP	Village Credit Plan
VRS	Voluntary Retirement Scheme
VUB	Vseobecni Uverova Banka
WAN	Wide Area Network
WCDL	Working Capital Demand Loan
WOS	Wholly Owned Subsidiary
WWW	World Wide Web