

MARCH 2022

MONTHLY
ONE-LINER
GK DIGEST

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Monthly One-Liner GK Digest: March 2022

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Canada Approves the Use of Covifenz

- The Covifenz is the **world's first plant-derived Covid-19 vaccine**.
- It is jointly developed by **Medicago Inc. and GlaxoSmithKline Plc**.

International Monsoons Project Office (IMPO)

- The IMPO is hosted at the **Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune** for the initial 5 years.
- The IITM Pune is an institution under the **Ministry of Earth Sciences**.

Japan to Invest \$42 Billion in India

- **Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida** and **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** aims to **strengthen security ties** across the **Indo-Pacific region**.
- Aim to **reinforce security and economic ties** with India, the world's **second-most populous country** and **Asia's third-largest economy**.

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Cyclone Asani to Move Off Andaman and Nicobar towards Myanmar

- **Cyclone Asani** is estimated to move off the **Andaman Island** towards **Myanmar** and **South Bangladesh coast**.
- This cyclone will not make landfall in the **Andaman Islands**.

NATIONAL NEWS

Delhi to get India's First E-Waste Eco-Park

- It will perform **dismantling, recycling, refurbishing, and re-manufacturing** of the **e-waste** by using scientific and technological approaches.
- It will also have an **authorized refurbishing market** which will be a **secondary product sale marketplace** for **batteries, electronic goods, laptops, chargers, mobiles, and PCs**.

MeitY Startup Hub partnered with Google

- The MeitY Startup Hub is an **initiative under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**.
- They have partnered **for the program named Appscale Academy**.

DST partnered with Intel India

- The program was launched by the **Union Minister of State for Science and Technology (IC), Dr. Jitendra Singh**.
- The program will help **to inculcate digital knowledge among the students from classes 6 to 10**.

PayU partnered with VTEX

- PayU has partnered with VTEX with an aim **to grant multiple payment solutions to the merchants of VTEX**.
- The merchants of VTEX will **be able to access the PayU platform and its payment solutions**.

Greenfield Airport in Hollonhi, Arunachal Pradesh

- It is 15 kilometers from Itanagar, which will **offer air connectivity to Arunachal Pradesh's central city**.
- In this funds, **airport pavement, airside, terminal building, and city side works** will be done.

NaariShakti Conversation on 'STEM and Financial Literacy for Young Women'

- The event observed the **guest as Smriti Zubin Irani, Union Minister for Women and Child Development**.
- The panel discussion on **'Young Women in STEM: Opportunities, Challenges, and Solutions'** was held.

Pune Metro Rail Project inaugurated by PM Modi

- During this occasion, he also **interacted with differently-abled, visually impaired students** who were invited to be present inside the metro coach.

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- PM Modi and the students interacted with each other during a 10-minute ride in the Pune Metro.

Microsoft to setup its 4th Data Centre in India

- Major tech giant company, **Microsoft will be establishing its fourth data centre in India.**
- The data centre in Hyderabad will **fulfill the demand for Microsoft's cloud services for public and private firms.**

Multi-Year Strategic Agreement formed between Flipkart and Google Cloud

- It will help Flipkart to **attain its next phase of expansion and attain the goals of enrolling India's next 200 million buyers** and lakhs of vendors.
- Due to this partnership, **robust app access will be granted by Flipkart.**

AIM partnered with Snap Inc.

- They have partnered to **develop Augmented Reality (AR) skills among youths of India.**
- They will also launch a **nationwide Lensathon (AR-making hackathon).**

Walmart Global Tech partnered with IIT Madras

- They have partnered to **develop and speed up research in new areas of technology.**
- They have partnered to **have research and corporate social responsibility projects.**

India, Nepal and Bangladesh Finalized MoU to Implement BBIN MVA

- The BBIN MVA will **help to enhance regional trade and connectivity.**
- The BBIN connectivity project was **conceived after the SAARC failed to agree on a regional motor vehicles agreement during the summit held in 2014 in Nepal,** because of opposition from Pakistan.

AIM partnered with KidEx Venture Private Limited

- The AIM's flagship programs like **'Tinkerpreneur', 'ATL Marathon', and other ATL (Atal Tinkering Labs) related programs,** challenges will be hosted.
- The programs will be **available to more than 1 crore students affiliated with ATL's network in digital mode at zero cost.**

Odisha signed an Agreement with NABARD to Enhance Fish Production

- The agreement was signed to **create fish infrastructure in order to enhance fish production in the state.**
- The **Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund** will support the development of infrastructure in the marine sectors of the state.

PM Modi dedicated building of Rashtriya Raksha University to the Country

- The Prime Minister of India, **Narendra Modi dedicated the building of Rashtriya Raksha University to the nation.**

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- The **Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU)** is a new campus building complex at Lavad village near Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

MV Ram Prasad Bismil as the Longest Vessel to Sail on Brahmaputra River

- The **Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)** as well as **Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA)** worked together.
- The **Government of India** with **Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh** has funded with the ratio of **80:20** respectively.

In 5 years Mobile Broadband Subscribers Increased to More than Double

- In 5 years, **Mobile Broadband subscribers** have increased more than doubled to **765 million from 345 million**.
- In **2021**, according to the data, the data traffic has reached **17GB Per month**.

India's 1st Hydrogen-Powered Fuel Cell Car to be launched

- This project has been initiated by **Toyota Kirloskar Motor Pvt. Ltd.** along with **International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT)**.
- This project will help in running the **vehicles on hydrogen on roads and climate conditions**.

First Energy Café is launched IGL and Kinetic Green

- Recently, **Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL)** and **Kinetic Energy** have launched the first **"Energy Café"**.
- This is a **battery swapping station** that is designed under the collaboration to aim at **revolutionizing the electric vehicle industry of India**.

Britannia Industry Aims to Achieve a Diversity Ratio of 50% by 2024

- **FMCG Major Britannia industries** aims to achieve a diversity ratio of **50% by 2024**.
- At Britannia's Guwahati factory, the proportion of **women in the workforce is 60%** and it will be **increased to 65%**.

Suzuki Motor announced Rs. 10,440 crores to Invest to Build Electric Car

- **Suzuki Motor** has recently announced the investment of **Rs. 10,440 crores** to build a new electric car and battery factory in India.
- The Japanese automaker is likely to invest around **Rs. 3000 crores** for the new plant to increase the production of Electric Vehicles in India and **Rs. 7,300 crores** to manufacture electric batteries.

Reliance Retail Ventures acquired Clovia

- **Reliance Retail Ventures (RRVL)** has recently **acquired 89%** of the stake in Purple Panda Fashions, owned by the Clovia business.
- Clovia business is an **industry leader in the bridge-to-premium intimate wear category**.

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Classical Wind Music Instrument Narasinghapettai Nagaswaram got GI Tag

- The **Narasinghapettai nagaswaram**, a classical wind music instrument which is made by an artisan at **Kumbakonam** recently, got **Geographical Indication (GI)** tag.
- The GI registry has issued registration **certificate number 420**.

PM inaugurates Biplobi Bharat Gallery at Victoria Memorial Hall Kolkata

- It has been inaugurated on the occasion of **Shaheed Diwas**.
- The gallery displays the **contribution of the revolutionaries** in the freedom struggle and the events that led up to 1947.

Aadi Bazaar – Exhibition of Tribal Art & Craft

- Aadi Bazaar, a celebration of the **spirit of tribal craft, culture, cuisine & commerce** inaugurated at Bhopal Haat, Bhopal.
- **Organized by Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation Ltd. (TRIFED)**, Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

All India Nation-Wide Pension Adalat

- **Inaugurated by K. Rajaraman** (Secretary & Chairman, Digital communication Commission).
- Organized by - the **Controller General of Communication Accounts (CGCA)**.

“Dare2eraD TB” launched on the Occasion of World TB Day

- **Dr. Jitendra Singh** announced the launch of **Data-Driven Research to Eradicate TB- “Dare2eraD TB”** by the Department of Biotechnology, M/o Science & Technology, on the occasion of World TB Day.
- Aim - **To realize dream of Prime Minister Narendra Modi of a “TB Mukta Bharat” by the year 2025.**

4th Edition of Poshan Pakhwada

- **POSHAN Abhiyan** launched by the **Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi** on 8th March 2018 has reached a long way in ensuring wider people’s participation.
- Nodal Ministry - **Ministry of Women and Child Development**

North-East Festival - ISHAN MANTHAN

- Union Minister for Culture, Tourism & DONER **Shri G Kishan Reddy** launch the **Ishan Manthan Festival at Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts(IGNCA)**.
- It’s a 3-day festival to **celebrate the culture, art, handicrafts, cuisine, music of North-east India.**

NITI Aayog Collaboration with AIM and GIZ “Her&Now” Project

- **“Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs and Start-ups by Women (Her&Now)”** – It’s an Indo-German Development Cooperation Project which was implemented by **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)** and the **Ministry for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship**.

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- Under the collaboration, “Her&Now” will help impart ‘WINcubate Training Programme’ at Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) Incubation centres.

Oxygen Plus – Smart-Phone Based, Field-Portable Oxygen Kit

- **GRS India** is a DIPP (Department of Industry and Internal Trade) recognized start-up.
- **NECTOR** is an autonomous organization under the Department of Science and Technology.

Anti-Dumping Duty on 5 Chinese Products

- On the recommendation of the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) – the **Ministry of Finance** has imposed anti-dumping duty on 5 Chinese products, namely:
 1. flat-rolled products of aluminium,
 2. sodium hydrosulphite,
 3. silicone sealant,
 4. hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) component R-32 and
 5. hydrofluorocarbon blends

Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav 2022

- The mega festival Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav 2022 was inaugurated in **Rajamahendravaram (Rajahmundry), Andhra Pradesh** by the **Governor of Andhra Pradesh - Shri Biswabhusan Harichandan**.
- This is the **12th Edition** of this festival and is going to be celebrated in **Telegu states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**.

Decentralised Waste Management Technology Park

- Waste to Wealth Mission in collaboration with the **East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC)** inaugurated the park.
- Waste to Wealth Mission is a mission of the **Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India**.

Secretary (Telecom), Ministry of Communication released Two TEC Reports

- **For a hassle-free roll of 5G services Secretary** (Telecom released two Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) reports.
- **Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC)** is the technical arm of the **Department of Telecommunications**.

Legal Service Clinic

- **National Commission for Women** has launched a Legal Service clinic in collaboration with **Delhi State Legal Service Authority (DSLISA)**.
- It will act as a **single-window facility for resolving the grievances of women**.

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4th Foundation Day of National Education Society for Tribal Students

- NESTS is an autonomous organization established under the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**.
- Aim of this society is **to provide high-quality education to the tribal students in their own environment**.

National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC)

- Union Cabinet has approved the setting up of **NLMC on March 9, 2022**.
- Initial Authorized share capital – **INR 5000 crore** & paid-up share capital of INR 150 crore.

Assam and Meghalaya Agreement

- **CM of Assam and Meghalaya signed a historic agreement** in presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- The agreement has **solved 6 out of 12 issues between Assam and Meghalaya** and about 70 percent of the border has become dispute-free.

National Discourse on Food, Nutrition, Health and WASH (FNHW)

- **Ministry of Rural Development along with Roshni Centre and PCI** organized the program National Discourse on Food, Nutrition, Health and WASH (FNHW).
- Aim – **To address the issue of malnutrition at the household level in women and other health-related problems faced by women**.

Film Media Units Merged with National Films Development Corporation

- **Production of documentaries and short films** has been transferred from Films Division to NFDC.
- The organization of film festivals has been **transferred from the Directorate of Films Festivals**.

BANKING

India's GDP to be at 8.9% for FY22-- NSO

- It has been projected that **India's GDP for 2021-22 i.e. FY22 to be at 8.9%**.
- Earlier it had **estimated the projection to be at 9.2% for the same**.

'Banksakhi' Project

- The 'Banksakhi' project aims **to offer access to banking services to the people of Odisha** at their doorsteps in a hassle-free manner.
- The financial **tech support and infrastructure support will be granted by Mahagram**.

Union Bank of India partnered with Ambit Finvest

- The partnership was made **to offer credit support to the MSMEs in 11 states of India**. The Ambit Finvest has its offices in these 11 states and hence the credit support is granted here.

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- The MSMEs who are suffering due to high-interest rates or excluded to avail of other banking services can have low-interest rates of funds to execute their business operations.

UCO Bank partnered with Fisdom

- Various fintech services like Demat account, stockbroking services, pension funds, tax filing, etc. will be offered by the bank.
- UCO Bank will offer a 3-in-1 personal banking experience to its customers.

PNB Housing launched Watershed Developmental Projects in Rajasthan

- The Pehel Foundation which belongs to PNB Housing has partnered with Gurugram based NGO named Sehgal Foundation.
- They have partnered to launch an integrated watershed development project named Jal Khushhali, in the Karauli district of Rajasthan.

License of Sarjeraodada Naik Shirala Sahakari Bank Cancelled

- The Sarjeraodada Naik Shirala Sahakari Bank was inadequate with capital and earning prospects and so the license was cancelled.
- The bank was not in compliance with regulations set under Section 11(1), Section 22(3) (d) read with section 56 of Banking Regulation Act 1949.

Indian Oil partnered with Kotak Mahindra Bank

- They have partnered to launch the Indian Oil Kotak co-branded fuel credit card.
- The customers will get more value through various rewards programs upon spending on fuel and on special non-fuel and frequent-spend categories.

NSE partnered with Telangana

- They have partnered to support MSMEs of the state for listing.
- The listing of MSMEs will grant them better access to funds which will lead to their overall growth and will grant them national visibility.

Bharti Airtel partnered with Axis Bank

- They have partnered to launch 'Airtel Axis Bank Credit Card'.
- The credit card will offer various benefits like cash backs, discounts, vouchers that can be redeemed in a digital manner, pre-approved instant loans, Buy Now Pay Later offerings to the customers.

'UPI123Pay'

- The Reserve Bank of India has launched UPI for the feature phone and it is named 'UPI123Pay'.
- Along with this, 'DigiSaathi' was also launched which is the 24x7 helpline facility for digital payments.

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Star Women Care Insurance Policy

- The policy is a **woman-centric comprehensive health cover policy specially dedicated to granting health security to women at every stage of their lives.**
- It is available as **both an individual policy and a floater policy.**

India's Real GDP Growth Forecast to be at 7.8% for 2023-- CRISIL

- The **GDP growth rating agency named CRISIL has retained India's real GDP growth forecast at 7.8%** for the financial year 2023 i.e. 2022-23.
- As per the agency, there will be **nominal growth to come at 12-13%, higher than the 11.1% Budget Estimate, and the headline inflation to average 5.2%.**

EPF Interest Rate Reduced to 8.1% for FY22, low to Four Decades

- This reduction is **0.4% lower than the previous year. It was 8.5% in 2020-21 and 2019-20.**
- However, this **reduction in the interest rate on provident fund deposits** is witnessed as is the lowest in more than four decades.

Paytm Payments Bank asked to Stop the Onboarding of New Customers by RBI

- RBI has also directed **Paytm Payments Bank to appoint an IT audit firm that will perform a comprehensive System Audit of its IT system.**
- The decision by **RBI was taken under section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.**

LivQuik- 1st PPI insurer to Attain RBI's PPI Interoperability Guidelines

- **LivQuik has become the first Prepaid Payment Instrument (PPI) insurer to gain full interoperability** directed by RBI for their PPIs.
- The interoperability will **enable the customers to perform optimization of their payments and expenditure** under their wallets by connecting a card on Visa or RuPay networks or enabling UPI.

IZEaliant Technologies Acquired by Razorpay

- **Razorpay, a fintech unicorn has recently acquired payments startup IZealiant Technologies** for an undisclosed sum.
- **RazorPay is recently working with 45 banks in India** and has launched various solutions like A card of tokenization solution, Mandate HQ, etc.

BRO and GRSE is to Construct 27 Double-Lane Modular Bridges

- **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** and state-owned warship building firm **Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) Ltd.** has recently signed MoU to construct **27 carriageway double lane galvanized modular bridges of 7.5 meters.**
- The contract will be for **2 years.**

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Mahila Money and Visa launched Prepaid Card for Women Entrepreneurs

- According to the survey, **All-India Debt and Investment Survey (AIDIS)**, has found that around **80.7% of the women in the rural areas** and **81% of the women in urban** have their bank accounts.
- Also, approx. **55% of the women** do not use their bank account accounts actively.

Moody Slashes the Growth Estimate of India 2022 to 9.1%

- Recently, **Moody's** slashed India's growth estimate from **9.5% to 9.1%**.
- While India is a **good importer of crude oil and country** is particularly vulnerable to high oil prices.

UCO Bank to Open 200 New Branches by 2023

- **UCO Bank** is in process of opening new branches and the plan is to **open 200 branches** over the country **till 2023**.
- The CEO is to inaugurate an **ATM, current chest van, and a currency sorting machine** at the **bank's Dwarakanagar branch**.

RBI Expected to Grow Over Inflationary Fears in April

- The **CPI inflation** has remained at an **elevated level** due to **higher-than-expected vegetable prices** in February.
- Also, the Inflation level will remain at an elevated level due to **higher crude oil prices**.

Raid by Income Tax Department found Rs. 224 crores

- Income of **Rs. 224 crores** were found by **Income Tax Department** in the raid of the unicorn startup group.
- The **Unicorn startup group** is based in **Pune and Thane in Maharashtra**.

Reserve Bank Innovation Hub set up in Bengaluru

- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Thursday inaugurated the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) in Bengaluru, set up with an initial capital contribution of **Rs 100 crore** to encourage and nurture financial innovation.
- Aim- **to encourage and nurture innovation in the financial sector in India and work towards financial inclusion**.

UN Cuts India's GDP by 2% for 2022

- UNCTAD report revised **India's GDP growth to 4.6% for FY2022**.
- In its economic growth report, **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)** report **downgraded India's growth projection for FY2022 from 6.7% to 4.6%**.

SBI signs Co-Lending pact with 5 HFC's for Affordable Housing

- SBI has signed a **co-lending pact with five Housing Finance Companies** to further its reach to underserved sectors.

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- **SBI has signed a co-lending pact with PNB Housing Finance Ltd, IIFL Home Finance Ltd, Shriram Housing Finance Ltd, Edelweiss Housing Finance Ltd, and Capri Global Housing Finance Ltd.**

SEBI levies 5 lakh Penalty on Axis Bank

- **SEBI has levied a penalty of INR 5lakh on Axis Bank** for violation of Merchant Banker Regulations.
- SEBI imposed a **5 lakh penalty on Axis Bank for the violation of Regulation 27 of SEBI (Merchant Bankers) Regulations, 1992.**

Ink Manufacturing Unit VARNIKA

- Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL) set up ink manufacturing unit **Varnika**.
- It has a **manufacturing capacity of 1500 MT.**

3% Hike in Dearness Allowance

- Central government has approved the hiking of DA for **central government employees by 3%.**
- It will benefit approximately **4.8 million employees and 6.9 million, pensioners.**

SEBI Tightens Rules for Passive Breaches by Fund Management Companies

- **Passive breach happens when scheme asset allocation deviates** from that mentioned in this scheme information document (SID) unknowingly.
- In its circular, **SEBI has given 30 days' time to all fund management companies** to rectify the same.



India- 2nd in Global Investment in Digital Shopping in 2021

- **As per the London & Partners analysis of Dealroom. co-investment data,** India is the second-largest global venture capital investment hub for digital shopping companies.
- This sector of **India has increased by 175% i.e. USD 8 billion in 2020 to USD 22 billion in 2021.**

SKOCH State of Governance Rankings

- The states were assigned **ranks according to their performance in various projects at state, district, and Email Article Print Article municipal levels.**
- The first position was retained by **Andhra Pradesh for the second consecutive year.**

Export Preparedness Index 2021

- **NITI Aayog along with the Institute of Competitiveness** released the 2nd edition of **Export Preparedness Index 2021.** It takes into account the export achievements.
- **Gujarat** ranked the winner for the **2nd consecutive year.**

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REPORTS

16th The Wealth Report 2022

- As per the report, the **number of ultra-high nets worth individuals i.e. UHNWIs at the global level** has increased by 9.3% in 2021 to 6,10,569 which is from 5,58,828 in 2020.
- At the global level, **India is ranked at 3rd position in the report.** Thus, India is the 3rd billionaire populous country at the global level. India has 145 billionaires.

World Happiness Report: 2022

- Recently, **World Happiness Report: 2022** was released by **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network.**
- A big boost has been reflected from **Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Lebanon, Venezuela, and Afghanistan** as the falling countries according to the index.

Delhi Most Polluted Capital City for 4th Consecutive Year

- As per **World Air Quality Report 2021**, Delhi is the most polluted capital city out of 107 capital cities.
- Report prepared by – **IQAir – Swiss air quality technology company.**

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
Madhabi Puri Buch	Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
Samiran Gupta	To lead microblogging platform Twitter's public policy and philanthropy efforts in India and South Asia
Bhushan Patwardhan	Chairman of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)
Sanjay Pandey	New Mumbai Police Commissioner
Junaid Kamal Ahmad	Vice President of the International Lending Agency
Akshaye Widhani	CEO of Yash Raj Films (YRF)
Amitabh Bachchan	Brand Ambassador of UpGrad
TS Ramakrishnan	MD and CEO of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) Mutual Fund Asset Management Limited
Justice DN Patel	Chairperson of Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT)
Vidya Balan	Brand Ambassador of Bharti AXA Life Insurance
Sanjiv Kapoor	CEO of Jet Airways
Nitin Chugh	Group Head of Digital Banking at the level of Deputy MD by SBI
Mary Kom	Brand Ambassador for Lupin Ltd's Women's Cardiovascular Health Awareness Initiative named Shakti Campaign

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Yoon Suk-yeol	New President of South Korea
Ashwani Bhatia	Whole-Time member (WTM) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
Ajay Bhushan Pandey	Chairman of the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)
Prabha Narasimhan	CEO and MD of Colgate-Palmolive (India) Limited
Justice AK Sikri	Chairman of the high-powered committee set up to consider the cumulative and independent impact of the Char Dham Mahamarg Vikas Priyojana
Debasish Panda	Chairman of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
N Chandrasekaran	Chairman of Air India
Munish Varma	Managing Partner at SoftBank
Harish Chandra Mishra	The Lokayukta of Delhi
Chacko Purackal	MD & CEO of TATA Coffee
Kalpesh Tiwari	Chief HRO for Vahdam India
Noel Naval Tata	Additional Director and Vice Chairman of Tata Steel
Sumant Sinha	President of ASSOCHAM
Ajay Singh	Vice-President of ASSOCHAM
Gaurav Negi	CFO of Indigo Airlines
Indian American Raj Subramaniam	CEO of FedEx

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Award	Awardee
Boltzmann Medal 2022 by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics for his contribution to statistical physics	Professor Deepak Dhar
'Special Jury Award' at the 7th India Industry Water Conclave and the 9th edition of the FICCI Water Awards	National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)
ASSOCHAM Award for Sustainability Excellence in Energy Management	CtrlS
1st prize in the Ispat Rajbhasha Award for 2018-19 and 2020-21 and the Ispat Rajbhasha Prerna Award for 2019-20	National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
1 st March 2022	Zero Discrimination Day	Theme: 'Remove laws that harm, create laws that empower'
2 nd March 2022	46th Civil Accounts Day	--

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3 rd March 2022	World Wildlife Day	Theme: 'Recovering key species for ecosystem restoration'
3 rd March 2022	World Hearing Day	Theme: 'To hear for life, listen with care'
4 th March 2022	National Safety Day	Theme: 'Nurture young minds – Develop safety culture'
4 th March 2022	National Security Day	--
4 th March 2022	World Obesity Day	Theme: 'Everybody Needs to Act'
4 th March to 10 th March 2022	National Safety Week	--
8 th March 2022	International Women's Day	Theme: 'Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow'
9 th March 2022	No Smoking Day	--
10 th March 2022	International Day of Women Judges	--
10 th March 2022	Central Industrial Security Force Raising Day	--
10 th March 2022	World Kidney Day	Theme: 'Kidney Health for All'
13 th March 2022	World Rotaract Day	Theme: 'Rotary Making a Difference'
14 th March 2022	International Day of Mathematics	Theme: 'Mathematics Unites!'
16 th March 2022	National Vaccination Day	Theme: "Vaccines work for all"
18 th March 2022	Global Recycling Day	Theme: "Recycling Fraternity"
18 th March 2022	World Sleep Day	Theme: 'Quality Sleep, Sound Mind, Happy World'
20 th March 2022	World Sparrow Day	Theme: "I love sparrows"
21 st March 2022	International Day of Forests Day	Theme: 'Forests and Sustainable Production and Consumption'
21 st March 2022	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	Theme: 'Voices for Action Against Racism'
22 nd March 2022	World Water Day	Theme: "Groundwater-Making the Invisible Visible"
23 rd March 2022	Shaheed Diwas	--
23 rd March 2022	World Meteorological Day	Theme: "early warning and early action"
25 th March 2022	International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery	Theme: "Stories of Courage: Resistance to Slavery and Unity against Racism".
25 th March 2022	International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members	--
26 th March 2022	Earth Hour	--

MOUS SIGNED

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JKTPO signed MoU with LEAD

- The **Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO)** signed MoU with Ladakh Jammu and Kashmir Economic Growth and Development Dialogue (LEAD).
- The MoU will **allow showcasing the sector-wise opportunities in the J&K to the potential investors so that they will make investments.**

HPCL signed MoU with SECI

- They have signed MoU **to enhance cooperation in the field of renewable energy, electric mobility, alternative fuels** and develop ESG Projects.
- The MoU was signed **to attain the objectives set for green energy and support the efforts being taken by GoI towards a carbon-neutral economy.**

India and Nepal signed MoU

- **India and Nepal have entered into MoU during a virtual ceremony.** The MoU was signed for the long-term supply of urea and DAP (Di-ammonium phosphate) fertilizers.
- The MoU will also **enhance agriculture cooperation between both countries.**

India signed HCA with ITU

- The HCA was signed **to set up an area office and innovation center of ITU in New Delhi.**
- It was signed during **World Telecommunications Standardisation Assembly-20 (WTSA-20)** held in Geneva, Switzerland.

TDB signed MoU with Skyshade Daylights Private Limited

- The MoU was signed **to promote start-ups in Daylight Harvesting Technology.**
- The TDB is a **statutory body of the Department of Science & Technology.**

Axis Bank signed MoU with IPE Global Limited

- The MoU was signed **for granting loans for the healthcare sector.**
- They have signed MoU **for the SAMRIDH Healthcare Blended Finance Facility with finance of upto USD 150 million.**

NIESBUD signed MoU with MoRD

- The NIESBUD is an **autonomous entity under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.**
- The MoU was signed **to develop a sustainable model to promote entrepreneurship at the grassroots level.**

MoU approved between India's ICMR and Germany's DFG

- The MoU was approved **to enhance cooperation in the field of scientific research and technological development.**

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- The MoU will allow **both countries to explore fields like medical sciences, perform research in toxicology, rare diseases, etc.**

India and Singapore signed MoU

- The MoU was signed between **India's Department of Science & Technology and the Ministry of Trade & Industry of Singapore.**
- Therefore, due to this **MoU, industries and research institutes of both countries** will develop new products which will tackle economic and societal challenges.

BIS signed MoU with IIT Roorkee

- The MoU was signed **to establish 'BIS Standardization Chair Professor' at IIT Roorkee.**
- This will be the **first Standardization Chair of BIS which will be set up in an academic institution.**

HAL and Safran Helicopter Engines signed MoU

- **HAL** has recently signed an **MoU with a French firm Safran Helicopter Engines** to extend cooperation on chopper engines.
- A modern facility of **Helicopter Engines MRO Pvt Ltd (HE-MRO)**, a joint venture of HAL and Safran at **Sattari, 40 km** from Panaji, in Goa.

NMDC signed MoU with IIT Kharagpur

- The MoU for '**Drone-Based Mineral Exploration**' was marked on a virtual stage.
- NMDC is conducting exploration for different minerals within the **State of Madhya Pradesh** additionally within the **Beloda-Belmundi** piece in Chhattisgarh for Jewels.

India-Oman sign Programme of Cooperation (POC)

- It has been signed to **sustainable harness resources in the field of Science and Technology.**
- **Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology** will coordinate and implement on behalf of the Indian government.

IGSTU signs MOU with Tata Steel and LOI with BASF Chemicals India Pvt. Ltd.

- **A new MoU and LoI have been signed to foster Science and Technology led innovations through Indo-German R&D networking,** including industrial research partnership in PPP mode.
- IGSTC signed a Letter of intent (LOI) with BASF **to foster Science and Technology led innovations through Indo-German R&D networking.**

IIE Signs MOU with MoRD to Promote Entrepreneurship in Rural India

- **Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship** (under the aegis of the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship**) has signed MOU with **the Ministry of Rural Development** to promote entrepreneurship amongst rural youth.
- The agreement has been signed to promote **Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP).**

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme

- The youths will be able to recognize their talents and interests through this scheme.
- A portal to register for the scheme and get related information about the scheme was also launched.

'Sambhav' and 'Svavlamban' Initiatives

- These initiatives were launched at the International Summit on Plastics Recycling and Waste Management.
- Both the initiatives were launched to solve the issue of plastic waste in India.

'Donate-a-Pension' Initiative

- The initiative aims to encourage people to donate the premium contribution of their immediate support staff such as domestic workers, drivers, nurses, etc. in their houses or establishment or any other eligible unorganized worker.
- The donar can pay one year's initial contribution at one time or for more than a year period as well.

'Kaushalya Matritva Yojana' -- Chhattisgarh

- The launch took place by handing out Rs 5000 checks to five beneficiaries for safe motherhood.
- The scheme aims to give financial support to the women so that they can opt for good nutrition for themselves and their newborn children.

'Aama Yojana' and 'Bahini Scheme' -- Sikkim

- The 'Aama Yojana' aims to grant help to non-working mothers.
- The 'Bahini Scheme' aims to support girl students in Sikkim.

'Matrushakti Udaymita Scheme' -- Haryana

- The women whose family annual income is less than 5 lakh rupees as per the Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) verified data will have the benefit of the scheme.
- So, women can get access to soft loans by financial institutions to the extent of 3 lakh rupees.

MSME Innovative Scheme and MSME Idea Hackathon 2022

- The Union Minister for MSME, Narayan Rane has launched the MSME Innovative Scheme and MSME Idea Hackathon 2022.
- Both the programs will help the entrepreneurs to launch new businesses.

SUJLAM 2.0 Campaign for Greywater Management

- Under the aegis of the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS), Ministry of Jal shakti.
- Launched by Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister of Jal Shakti.

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Webinar Series “Swachh Talks”

- SBMU launched the peer-learning webinar series “SwachhTalks” on 25th March 2022.
- The agenda of this webinar is to **end manual scavenging in identified 100 cities** and shift to machine-based drainage cleaning to ensure the safety and security of our SafaiMitra.

Sagar Parikrama

- Programme ‘Sagar Parikrama’ was launched by the government of India on the occasion of the 75th Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- The 1st phase was organized in **Gujarat from Mandvi** and ended at **Porbandar, Gujarat**.

Lakshya Zero Dumpsite Programme

- GOI has approved the INR 433.74 crores Legal Waste Remediation Proposal of **Maharashtra** and the INR 178.6 crore proposal of **Telangana**.
- It is one of the aims of **Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0** to deal with the legacy of dross and dregs which result in **garbage hills built up at dumpsites**.

Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) 3.0

- The scope of the **Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS)** has been enhanced till **31.3.2023**.
- New borrowers under ECLGS 3.0 who borrowed after 31.03.2021 but up to 31.01.2022 will now be eligible **to avail of emergency credit facilities**.



9th SLINEX (Sri Lanka–India Naval Exercise)

- The **9th edition of the Bilateral Naval Exercise between India and Sri Lanka named SLINEX** has commenced from 7th March and will be held till 10th March 2022.
- The objective of the SLINEX is **to enhance interoperability and develop mutual understanding between the navies of both countries**.

3rd Edition of EX-DUSTLINK

- **Indian Army Contingent for Joint Exercise** with Uzbekistan Army Departs for Yangiariq in Uzbekistan.
- It's a joint training **exercise between Indian and Uzbekistan Armies**.

DRDO Tests Medium Range Surface to Air Missile

- The missile intercepted **aerial targets and destroyed them**.
- MRSAM is a Surface to Air Missile developed jointly by **DRDO and Israel Aerospace Industries**.

Diamond Jubilee of Chetak Helicopter

- **Chetak Helicopter** completed **60 years** of service to the nation.

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- Organized by - **Air Force Station Hakimpet** under the aegis of **Indian Air Force & Training Command**.

IONS Maritime Exercise 2022 (IMEX 22)

- 1st edition of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) - (IMEX-22)** was conducted at Goa and in the Arabian Sea from 26 – 30 Mar 22.
- Aim - To **enhance interoperability in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)** operations among member navies.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NASA launched Third in a Series of Next-Generation Weather Satellites

- Once it gets positioned in its **geostationary orbit it will be renamed from GOES-T to GOES-18**.
- It will further function above the **US West Coast and the Pacific Ocean**. Here it will monitor weather sweeping in from the west to the east over the US.

Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuits (MMICs)

- The MMICs are a type of **integrated circuit (IC) device** and play a vital role in various applications of various sectors.
- They operate at **microwave frequencies ranging from 300 MHz to 300 GHz**.

China Developed a Machine Which can Destroy Satellite in the Space

- Researchers from **China** have developed a microwave machine named **“Relativistic Klystron Amplifier (RKA)”** which can **destroy or jam satellites in space**.
- This device can generate a wave burst of **5MW** in the Ka-band which is usually used for both civil and military purposes.

Param Shakti- Petascale Supercomputer

- NSM is a joint initiative of **MeitY** and the **Department of Science and Technology**.
- The supercomputer was inaugurated by **Governor of West Bengal – Jagdeep Dhankar**.

SPORTS

Miss Jiya Rai Swims Across Palk Strait in Record Time

- Swam across the Palk Strait from **Talaimannar (Sri Lanka)** to **Dhanuskodi (India)**, a distance of 29 km, in 13 hours and 10 minutes.
- She has Autism Spectrum Disorder and is the recipient of the prestigious **Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Purashkar - 2022**.

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India's 1st Ever SAI NCOE for MTB and BMX to be Set-up in Shimla

- India's first-ever SAI National Centre of Excellence for Mountain Terrain Biking and Bicycle Motocross is being set up in Shimla.
- Being set up by - **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in collaboration with Sports Department of Government of Himachal Pradesh.**

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

PM Modi addressed a Webinar on the Vision of GatiShakti

- The webinar allowed the **dignitaries, industry experts and stakeholders to discuss and share their views** to enhance the logistics sector of India.
- It is the sixth webinar in the **series of post-budget webinars which is addressed by PM Modi.**

3rd NIC Tech Conclave

- The 3rd NIC Tech Conclave was inaugurated by **Union Communications and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in New Delhi.**
- The conclave aims **to enhance the IT sector, develop ICT technologies and their use in various cases.**

Study in India (SII) 2022 Meeting

- The event was inaugurated by the **Education Minister of Bangladesh Dr. Dipu Moni and the High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh Vikram Doraiswami.**
- The event objective was **to have an educational exchange between both countries which will enhance knowledge sharing and boost partnership from both ends.**

Indo-Pacific Military Exchange 2022 Conference

- The conference is co-hosted by **Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) and US Indo-Pacific Command.**
- It is held under the theme of **'Military healthcare in a volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous (VUCA) world'.**

3rd National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF)

- The main moto of the NYPF is **to listen to the views and voices of youths between the age group of 18 to 25 years.**
- In this event, the **top three National level youth winners get an opportunity to speak before the Lok Sabha Speaker** during the valedictory function.

India-Indonesia holds Second Security Dialogue in Jakarta

- The IISD is a forum that brings the coordinating minister for **Political, Legal, and Security Affairs of Indonesia and the National Security Adviser of India.**
- The importance of traditional friendly relationships and **Comprehensive Strategic Partnership** between the two countries.

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Wings India 2022

- **Asia's largest Civil Aviation Event** organized by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MOCA) and FICCI jointly.
- Wings India Award 2022 will be conferred at the event **to Aviation-related Companies/institutes/organizations.**

NMCG Organizes YAMUNOTSAV

- NMCG organized it in association with a group of **NGOs at ASITA East River Front.**
- NMCG is constructing **3 Sewage treatment plants at the cost of Rs 2300 crore** to prevent all major drains and dirty water from falling in the Yamuna river.

Matua Dharma Maha Mela

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed **the Matua Dharma Maha Mela** on 28th March 2022 via video conferencing.
- **Mela celebrated on the occasion of the 211th birth anniversary** of Shree Harichand Thakur Ji.

Mega International Summit on MSMEs' Competitiveness & Growth

- Ministry of MSME has organized a 2-day summit in association with the **Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad.**
- It is being held at **India International Centre, New Delhi.**

BIMSTEC Summit 2022

- The main outcome of this year's Summit was the **adoption and signing of the BIMSTEC charter.** IT formalized the BIMSTEC grouping into an organization with **flags, emblems, and listed principles to adhere to.**
- India pledged **1 million US dollars to strengthen the capacity of the BIMSTEC Secretariat.**