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Monthly One- Liner GK Digest: October 2022



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Today

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MONTHLY ONE-LINER GK DIGEST: OCTOBER 2022

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Russia Annexes Parts of Ukraine

- These regions have a **historic connection** with Russia and many people in **Eastern Ukraine** are of Russian ethnicity and Russian-speaking population.
- A **referendum** was organized in these regions by the Russian government and according to Moscow, the people overwhelmingly **supported the annexation**.

India-Armenia Defense Export Deal

- The export order consists of **six** additional first-ever export of **anti-tank rockets, Pinaka Multi-Barrel Rocket Launchers, and ammunitions**.

- This deal will help the **Armenian Army**, which is engaged in a prolonged **border conflict (Nagorno-Karabakh Region)** with Azerbaijan.

India Abstains from UNSC Resolution against Russia

- **India abstained from voting** after underlining that it was important for the concerned parties to return to the **negotiating table** and that **escalation of tension** was in **no one's interest**.
- The resolution was **tabled** by the **USA and Albania** but was **vetoed by Russia** and couldn't be adopted.

IFC launches financing facility for Food Crisis

- IFC has taken this step **to increase the private sector's ability to respond to global food prices**. It also aims to support total food production.
- The core part of this financing will be **to augment the trade of food commodities and provide support for efficient food production and inputs to the farmers**.

UN Peacekeeping Chief asked for reforms

- UN Peacekeeping Chief states that **UN Peacekeepers need robust mandates**.
- One of the missions includes, "**clear and realistic mandates**" and "deployed prudently with full recognition".

OECD released CARF

- It provides for **reporting tax information** on transactions in Crypto-Assets in a standardized manner.
- CARF intends to combat international tax evasion using **digital assets like Cryptocurrency**.

Russian President recognizes independence for Ukrainian Regions

- Ukrainian regions of **Kherson and Zaporizhzhia** are recognized as independent by an order from Vladimir Putin.
- These regions are located in the **southern part of Ukraine**.

NATO begins Nuclear Exercise

- Amid Russian war tensions, the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization** began its annual nuclear exercise.
- It is conducted in **northwestern Europe** as tensions simmer over military actions in Ukraine.

Indus Water Treaty, World Bank appoints Experts

- **Sean Murphy** has been appointed as the **Chairman of the Court of Arbitration**.
- The matter is regarding the **Kishenganga and Ratle Hydroelectric power plants**.

India, France re-elected for ISA leadership

- **France's Minister of State for Development**, Francophonie, and International Partnerships will be its co-president.
- The alliance will work to **improve energy access and security worldwide**.

Pakistan Out of the FATF's Grey List

- The **FATF** removed **Pakistan** from its **Grey List** after the institution was satisfied with its efforts in improving its **Anti-Money Laundering and Combating Financial Terrorism (AML/CFT) regime**.
- After failing to curb **terror financing and money laundering**, **Pakistan** was kept on the **Grey List** by the FATF in **2018**.

Third Term for Xi Jinping

- **Xi Jinping** was elected as the **General Secretary** of the **Communist Party of China** for **3rd** five-year tenure by the 7-member **Standing Committee**.
- The election of Xi ended the **three-decade-long** convention of **two-term** or **10 years** of ruling tenure of his predecessors.

Russia Alleges Use of "Dirty Bombs" by Ukraine

- UN Ambassador of Russia, **Vassily Nebenzia**, wrote a letter to the United Nations concerning the use of **"dirty bombs"** by Ukraine.

- In the letter, Russia claimed the use of **"dirty bombs"** by the Ukrainian forces in the Russian-occupied town of **Kherson**.

Australia Withdraws Recognition of Jerusalem as Capital of Israel

- The Cabinet, under PM **Anthony Albanese** re-recognized **Tel Aviv** as the capital of Israel.
- In **2018**, former PM of Australia, **Scott Morrison**, recognized **Jerusalem** as the capital of Israel.

Viral Spillover Risk in Arctic Lake

- Sediment deposits and soil samples were collected by the researchers from **Lake Hazen** in Canada to understand the **'viral spillover'** phenomenon.
- The research team then undertook **DNA and RNA sequencing** to study the virus composition in the lake.

Blue Flag Tag

- Recently, two beaches in the **Union Territory (UT) of Lakshadweep** were awarded the international eco-label, **"Blue Flag"**.
- With these two new entrants, the number of beaches in **India** with **Blue Flag Certification** rose to **12**.

Forest Declaration Assessment 2022

- The South-American nation saw a rise of **3%** in the rate of deforestation in **2021**.
- The report mentioned that the **global tree cover** increased by **130.9 million hectares** over the past **20 years**.

NATIONAL NEWS

5G Services Launch in India

- In **phase I**, it will be launched across **13 cities** in India: **Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Gandhinagar, Ahmedabad, Jamnagar, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Gurugram, Bengaluru, Lucknow, and Pune**.

- Major metropolitan cities viz. **New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata** will be the first to receive the 5G telephony services.

Supreme Court Verdict on Abortion

- The **Supreme Court of India** held that any distinction between a married and an unmarried woman under abortion law was **“artificial and constitutionally unsustainable”**.
- The apex court held that abortion for a **single and unmarried woman** whose pregnancies are between **20 to 24 weeks** cannot be denied.

GOI Extends AFSPA in Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh

- The **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** extended the **Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA)** in select districts of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh for **six months**.
- The **MHA** in its notification mentioned that under **Section 3** of the **AFSPA 1958**, areas of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland were declared as **“disturbed areas”** for a period of **six months** with effect from **October 1, 2022**.

Pegatron Start iPhone manufacturing in Chennai

- Pegatron** is the **third** company to set up the Apple production facility in India (the other two are Taiwanese companies Foxconn and Wistron).
- Pegatron’s iPhone** manufacturing factory was opened in the **Mahindra World City** in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

FSI Report on Tiger Safari Project

- The report revealed that **6,093 trees** were illegally cut down in Uttarakhand’s Corbett Tiger Reserve for the **Pakhro Tiger Safari Project**.
- The report is disturbing as the **Uttarakhand Forest Department** gave in writing that only **163 trees** needed to be cut to the **Forest Advisory Committee (FAC)**.

NMCG Approves 14 Projects

- The sewerage management projects in **Uttar Pradesh** include **zero untreated discharge** from three drains **Samne Ghat, Assi, and Nakhha**.
- NMCG** is the implementation arm of the **National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA)** and was established in **2011** under the **Societies Registration Act 1860**. The current **Director General** of NMCG is **G Asok Kumar**.

NIMHANS and HelpAge India’s “Sarthak”

- Sarthak** is a community-based initiative that provides **training** to healthcare workers, nurses, and volunteers on **geriatric mental health**.
- Under this initiative, around **10,000 mental-health workers** and **volunteers** will be trained to **identify and counter issues** related to mental health, faced by **old age people**.

U.S.-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership

- It will help India in achieving its **goal of approximately 50 percent** cumulative electric power installed capacity to be **from any non-fossil fuel-based resource** by the year 2030.
- It will also help in **augmenting the bond in the India-US partnership** in the energy sector.

Railways adopt a new approach for Green Environment

- The government of India has set a **target of 33%** emissions intensity reduction as part of its **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)**.
- Railways are setting up **Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFC)** throughout the country. The first phase of it will be to reduce emissions by **457 million tons of CO2 over a 30-year period**.

PM declares Modhera as First 24*7 solar powered village

- PM Modi declares Modhera village **as well as the Sun Temple of Modhera** as the first village and heritage site in India.
- It was declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site in the year 2014**.

Uniform safety standards for EVs

- The **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** has also released **additional safety guidelines** in this regard.
- **Bureau of Indian Standards** has earlier issued performance norms for **lithium-ion battery packs** and traction systems.

Amul to merge with Five Cooperative Societies

- Amul will be merged to form a **multi-state cooperative society (MSCS)**.
- It was announced in the **70th Plenary Session of the North Eastern Council**.

NMCG organises webinar series on wetland conservation

- The title of the webinar series is, **“Igniting Young Minds, Rejuvenating Rivers”**.
- It was held in collaboration with APAC News and was headed by **NMCG Director General Shri G. Ashok Kumar**.

Tele-MANAS initiative launched on World Mental Health Day

- **T.C. Gehlot, Governor of Karnataka** has virtually launched the Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking across States (**Tele-MANAS**).
- It intends to offer **24/7 tele-mental health services** throughout India free of cost.

Nitin Gadkari launches Toyota’s Pilot Project

- Union Minister of Road Transport and Highway Nitin Gadkari has launched Toyota’s first-of-its-kind pilot project on **Flex Fuel-Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicle (FFV-SHEV)**.
- In this launch, the **Toyota Corolla Altis FFV-SHEV** was imported from Toyota Brazil for a pilot project which was unveiled.

Tamil Nadu notifies the First Sanctuary for Endangered Slender Lorises

- Tamil Nadu government notified the **Kadavur Slender Loris Sanctuary**, it is the first of its kind in the nation.
- It is made in the **Karur and Dindigul districts of Tamil Nadu**.

Adani group receives licence from DoT to provide Telecom Services

- In 6 circles, **Adani Group** has received a unified licence from the **Department of Telecommunication** for access service.
- The expenditure on this project has been around **Rs. 200 crores**.

Prime Minister to dedicate 75 DBU to 75 Districts

- It was announced in the budget speech of **2022-23 by the finance minister**.
- It will enable customers to **have cost-effective, convenient access and enhanced digital experience** of banking products.

Punjab and Haryana CM discusses SYL issue

- The stand of Punjab is that the water will remain with them and **not allow any water to flow to Haryana**.
- The issue is pertaining to the **construction of the canal**.

Railway Minister inaugurates India’s first aluminium Freight Rake

- Union Minister for Railways **Ashwini Vaishnaw** flagged off 61-wagon aluminum rakes at Bhubaneswar railway station.
- It will carry coal for Hindalco’s Aditya smelter in Odisha with **Chhattisgarh** as its destination.

Amit Shah launches MBBS course in Hindi

- A call by the PM to provide **technical and medical education in regional languages** is taken as an imperative step toward reforming the education system of the nation.
- Further, students will be allowed to **conduct research in their own language**.

India hosts General Assembly Interpol

- The Prime Minister addressed the **meeting and focused on imperative issues**.

- The agenda of the meeting was to include **presentations, workshops, and discussions on selected subjects.**

National Credit Framework draft launched

- Shri Dharmendra Pradhan has launched the draft of the **National Credit Framework (NCF).**
- It is a **next-generation and multi-dimensional instrument** under National Education Policy to empower students.

Shiv Nadar tops Philanthropy List

- **Founder of HCL Technologies Shiv Nadar** reclaimed 'India's most generous title'.
- He has made an annual donation of **Rs. 1,161 crores.**

Mission Schools of Excellence

- The primary objective of the **"Mission Schools of Excellence"** initiative is to **reform the curriculum of schools** in Gujarat along with **improving their infrastructures.**
- At the inaugural event, PM Modi urged all states of India to set up state-of-the-art centers to **help boost the quality of education in schools.**

PM launches Mission DefSpace for Armed Forces

- The primary objective of the **"Mission DefSpace"** is to develop cutting-edge solutions for defence forces in the space industry.
- This initiative was launched in order to prepare the country for **future space opportunities.**

Mission LiFE Movement

- **PM Modi** launched the **"Mission LiFE Movement (Lifestyle for the Environment)"** in the presence of the UN Secretary-General **Antonio Guterres** from the **Statue of Unity.**
- The primary objective of the movement is to **tackle climate change** and hence, **protect the environment.**

Asia's Largest CBG Plant

- The **Compressed Bio Gas (CBG)** plant in **Lehragaga** has been constructed at a total outlay of **Rs. 230 crores** and is spread over **20 acres** of land.
- Germany-based bio-energy company, **Verbio AG** has commissioned the project via a Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

Kashi-Tamil Sangamam

- The **"Kashi-Tamil Sangamam"** program will be held from **November 16 2022** and will conclude on **December 20, 2022.**
- It will be a part of the **"Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat"** initiative with the objective to **"strengthen"** and **"rekindle"** the **civilizational and cultural bond** between **Varanasi and Tamil Nadu.**

CCI Imposes Penalty on Google

- The **CCI** in its investigation found that **Google** abused its assertive positions to protect its applications viz. **YouTube and Chrome** in mobile web browsers and online video hosting.
- It found out that Google used its powerful stature to mandate Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to pre-install its entire **Google Mobile Suite** like **YouTube, Chrome, Maps, Search, Google Play store,** etc. on mobile phones and place them in eminent positions.

India's First Migration Monitoring System

- The primary objective of Maha MTS is to increase the **interoperability** of schemes related to **universal health and nutrition.**
- The Maha MTS, through a **Unique Identification Number,** will **track** the movements of seasonal migrant beneficiaries.

MHA Cancels License of RGF and RGCT

- The **FCRA** license of the **Rajiv Gandhi Foundation (RGF)** and **Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust (RGCT)** was revoked after investigations carried out by an inter-ministerial committee, formed in **2020** by the **MHA.**
- The committee investigated the funds received by RGF and RGCT in relation to the suspected violation of the **Foreign Contribution Regulation Act**

(FCRA), the **Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA)**, and the **Income Tax Act**.

New Varieties of Basmati Rice

- The other **two varieties** can be **directly sown** and save nearly **35%** of the water required for sowing.
- In addition to this, these two varieties are **herbicides** too and will assist farmers to control weeds even more efficiently.

NSO Released Employment Outlook of India

- The data gave **gender-based** information regarding the number of **employees who paid contributions** and the number of **newly registered employees** who are paying contributions.
- It also gave **gender-based** information regarding **existing subscribers** of the NPS and **new subscribers** contributing to the same.

Trees Beyond Forests Initiative

- The goal of the state government of Assam is to **increase tree cover outside** of traditional forests by **2.8 million hectares**.
- This initiative will enhance India's attempt towards reaching the target of adding **2.5 to 3 billion tons of carbon sink** by **2030**.

Sprite Becomes Billion Dollar Brand in India

- The global soft drinks company said that it recorded **strong growth** in India in the **third quarter (Q3)** of **2022**.
- **Occasion-based** and **locally adapted** marketing campaigns have been cited as major reasons behind the boom.

Jakson Green to Invest in Green Projects in Rajasthan

- **Jakson Green** declared to invest a sum of **Rs. 22,400 crores** to set up a **Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia** plant in Rajasthan.
- The overall **capacity** of the plant will be **3,65,000 tons per annum**.

Gujarat Achieves Har Ghar Jal Status

- The state of **Gujarat** achieved this milestone on **Bestu Varas** or Gujarati New Year (26th October 2022).
- According to the government's data, nearly **91.73 lakh** households in Gujarat were provided with tap water connections.

Sony and Zee Agree to Sell 3 Hindi Channels

- **Sony and Zee media groups** agreed to sell their three Hindi channels to **address possible anti-competition concerns** originating from their proposed merger.
- After the agreement to **divest** itself from these channels, the Sony and Zee media groups submitted their proposals to the **Competition Commission of India (CCI)**.

Tata and Airbus to Produce Transport Planes for IAF

- Tata's defence division, **Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL)** and the European aviation giant **Airbus** will jointly manufacture **C-295** Cargo aircraft for the **IAF**.
- It will be for the **first time** that the C-295 transport planes will be produced **outside of Europe**.

Shiprocket Joins ONDC Network

- The primary objective behind the step was to provide **logistical support** and **enable sellers** from all segments of society to **ship products** to cities and towns across India.
- The initiative of the **Shiprocket** is set to serve over **100,000 customers** and **sellers** from across **24,000 PIN Codes** in India.

First Indian Geo-Heritage Site

- It was the **first** list of the **100 Global Geo-Heritage Sites** released by the **International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS)** in **Zumaia, Spain**.
- The **100 geo-heritage** sites were selected from **56 countries**.

Goa Maritime Symposium 2022

- The two-day **Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS)** will be conducted from **31 October to 01 November 2022**.

- The theme of GMS-2022 is, “**Maritime Security Challenges in the Indian Ocean Region: Converting Common Maritime Priorities into Collaborative Mitigation Frameworks**”.

BANKING

JSW Cement Secures Loan from MUFG Bank

- **JSW Cement Ltd.** raised the loan for **capital expenditure** with an increased focus on **sustainability**.
- The loan is the **first transaction** undertaken by **MUFG Bank India Ltd.** out of its new **GIFT City, Gandhinagar**, and Gujarat branch.

HDFC Life’s Insure India

- The primary objective of the **Insure India** campaign is to raise awareness amongst and educate Indians about life insurance.
- The aim of the campaign is to make **long-term security plans** available for common Indians so that it can help them secure their future.

SBI Launches “Gram Seva Program”

- The bank will adopt remote villages across **Aspirational Districts in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal**.
- The Gram Seva Program comes under the **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** of the SBI and will primarily focus on areas like **healthcare, education, livelihoods, and infrastructure**.

RBI Launches DAKSH

- **DAKSH** is a web-based end-to-end application through which the RBI will monitor compliance requirements in a more focused manner.
- It was launched with the prime objective of improving the compliance culture even further in **Supervised Entities (SEs)** viz. Banks, NBFCs, etc.

ICICI launches ‘Smart Wire’ Facility

- This scheme is an online solution to allow NRI and resident customers to make **SWIFT-based remittances**.
- **ICICI Bank is the first to introduce** a quick and easy solution to receive such remittances.

Government pushes IDBI Bank disinvestment process

- Reserve Bank of India is considering tweaking the promoter criteria which will bring a **wider pool of bidders for public sector banks**.
- The budget for 2021-22 proposed to **privatize two public sector banks along with** a general insurance company.

NPCI launches programme to collaborate with Partners

- **National Payments Corporations of India (NPCI)** and **NPCI Partner Program (NPP)** will collaborate with technological service providers and other entities.
- It will connect with innovative and **other payment-oriented service providers**.

RBI cancels license of co-operative bank of Pune

- RBI has canceled the license for **Seva Vikas co-operative bank of Pune**.
- The bank ceased as it ceased to comply with the provisions **under sections 11(1) and section 22(3) read with section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949**.

RBI regulates use of Credit Ratings

- The new credit ratings are assigned to loans **where the name of the lending institution is not disclosed**.
- The regulation of RBI refers to the **External Credit Assessment Institutions** which provide ratings to debt.

RBI to raise minimum capital requirement to set up ARCs

- The existing ARCs will be required to meet the minimum net owned fund requirement of **Rs. 200 crores**.
- This is needed to be done **by March 31, 2024**, and to an amount of Rs. 300 crores by March 31, 2026.

NIPL Collaborates with worldline to facilitate UPI Payments

- Under this partnership, worldline will be the **first European Union acquirer** to provide European merchants with UPI and RuPay.
- **UPI and RuPay** are both offered by NPCI.

Dvara E-Dairy partners with Jana Small Finance Bank

- It is given in order to provide comprehensive carole management **cattle solutions to small and medium farmers.**
- It is given to **purchase and maintain cattle** which helps in decreasing the risk and identifying the right borrower.

RBI cancels the registration of 8 NBFCs

- Reserve Bank of India **canceled the Certificates of Registration (CoR)** of eight Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC).
- These include **Ashwini Investment Private Ltd, RM Securities Pvt Ltd, Amity Finance Private Ltd, and Matrix Merchandise Ltd.**

KBL launches New Depository Scheme

- Karnataka Bank Scheme has launched the '**KBL Centenary Deopsit Scheme**'.
- The deposit scheme is launched as part of the **centenary year** of the Karnataka bank.

LIC launches Dhan Varsha Plan

- Life Insurance Corporation of India launched the '**Dhan Varsha**' Insurance Plan.
- It provides financial assistance to the family in the **event of an untimely death of the life assured in a policy term.**

MMSFL partners with IPPB

- **Mahindra and Mahindra Financial Services Limited** announced a strategic partnership with **India Post Payments Bank Limited.**
- It is done to enhance **its credit access** to a larger customer base.

RBI provides in-principle approval to Cygnet

- **NBFC Account Aggregator** is one of the largest open financing data-sharing protocols regulated by RBI.
- It also facilitates financial institutions to easily **access the consumers' consent-based financial data.**

IPPB and RBIH to collaborate

- **India Post Payments Bank and Reserve Bank Innovation Hub** have collaborated for enhancing financial solutions.
- This collaboration will have an impact on the masses **by leveraging the deep rural reach of the IPPB-Department of Posts** to take rural finance to the major part of the country.

CCI imposes monetary and non-monetary Sanctions

- **Sanctions are imposed on these companies** for indulging in anti-competitive conduct.
- They have also made an **anti-competitive arrangement with OYO.**

NBBL partners with kmbl for credit card Payments

- **NPCI Bharat Billpay** has partnered with **Kotak Mahindra Bank** for credit card bill payments.
- The partnership is done to introduce **credit cards on the BillPay ecosystem.**

Mahindra Finance Joins Hands with India Post Payments Bank

- The primary objective of this partnership is to strengthen reliable **credit access** to a larger customer base.
- According to the agreement, IPPB will provide **lead referral services** to Mahindra Finance for loan categories related to **commercial vehicles, passenger vehicles, tractors, and three-wheelers.**

PFRDA's New Regulation

- The **equity allocation standards** were revised by the PFRDA for **Tier-I and Tier-II** accounts under the **New Pension Scheme (NPS).**
- The new regulations were issued by the PFRDA in accordance with **Section 14** and **Section 23** of the **PFRDA Act 2013** and **Regulation 14** of the **PFRDA (Pension Fund) Regulations 2015.**

IRDAI Sets Up Consultative Committee

- The committee's primary objective will be to identify **challenges** faced by the **health insurance sector** and suitable steps to **counter** them.
- Additionally, the committee will also provide recommendations for **standardization** regarding the **capture, collation, and analysis** of data.

NAREDCO Sets Up NFC

- The **NFC** was formed by **NAREDCO** on the sidelines of the **24th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of NAREDCO**, under the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**.
- **Satish Kumar** has been chosen as the **Chairperson** of the committee.

Indian Bank Launched Initiatives under "Project WAVE"

- A total of **six initiatives** were launched by the MD and CEO of Indian Bank, **SL Jain**, along with the MD & CEO of Universal Sampo General Insurance Co., **Sharad Mathur**.
- **Indian Bank** in collaboration with **Universal Sampo General Insurance** will provide online **vehicle** and **health insurance** via its mobile banking application **IndoOASIS**.

SEBI Extends Deadline for Direct ETF Transactions

- SEBI extended the time limit for the implementation of the **Rs. 25 Crore** threshold rule for **direct ETF transactions** with **Asset Management Companies (AMCs)** to **1st May 2023**.
- It will mean that **Clause 2(IV) (A)** of the **SEBI Circular**, issued on **28th July 2022**, will be applicable from **1st May 2023** onwards.

Healthsure and ManipalCigna Join Hands for Flexi Top-Up Insurance

- The **Flexi Top-up Insurance** will allow employees to **upgrade and personalize** their respective **corporate health insurance plans**.
- The **technology platform** will be powered by **Healthsure** through which the policy will be issued **digitally** within **30 seconds** of purchase.

Tata AIA & Medix Partner for Specialized Critical Illness Cover

- The primary objective of the collaboration is to offer **Personal Medical Care Management** by providing world-class healthcare advice to beneficiaries.
- Consumers who have already purchased the **term, savings, or pension** plans of **life insurance**, will be provided with this service **free of any additional charge**.

INDEX AND RANKING

Global Hunger Index 2022 released

- India slips six places in the Global Hunger, Index to **107 out of 121 countries**.
- It is jointly published by **European NGOs Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe**.

REPORTS

UNCTAD's Trade and Development Report 2022

- According to the UN report, the **world economy** will grow by **2.6%** in **2022** and is expected to further dip in **2023** to **2.2%**.
- The report warned that the **global slowdown** has started to slowly transform itself into a **global economic downturn**.

SRS Report 2020 Released

- Sample registration system-statistical report 2020, the **female IMR (Infant Mortality Rate) in India declined to the same level** as that of males.
- The **infant mortality rate for every 1000 births is 28** for both males and females.

MoCI minister Piyush Goyal releases the 4th LEADS Survey Report

- Ministry of Commerce and Industry released the 4th Logistics Ease across Different States (**LEADS**) report.
- This report has been prepared by the Logistics Division of the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)**.

Report by Climate Transparency

- The report by **Climate Transparency** emphasized that India witnessed a record **heatwave** that greatly affected **laborers, workers migrants**, homeless, and **low-income households**, and **reduced** the production of **wheat crops**.
- The report also mentioned that though India has a share of **3% in global carbon emissions**, its **142 million people**, i.e. 10% of its population are exposed to the summer heatwave.

WHO Global TB Report 2022

- The **Global TB Report 2022** mentioned the impact of **COVID-19** on the diagnosis, treatment, and **burden of Tuberculosis (TB)** all over the world.
- According to the report, more than **10.6 million people** fell ill due to **TB in 2021**, marking a 4.5% increase in the disease burden compared to **2020**.

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
NS Rajan	New Chairperson of the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)
Ram Charan	Brand Ambassador of India's largest two-wheeler-making company, Hero MotoCorp
Sunil Barthwal	New Commerce Secretary
Lawyer Lalit Bhasin	National President of Indian American Chambers of Commerce (IACC)
Anil Kumar	New Vice-President of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF)
Ajay Bhadoo	Deputy Election Commissioner
Pankaj Tripathi	"National Icon" of ECI for creating awareness amongst voters
Sandeep Kumar Gupta	Chairperson and Managing Director of GAIL (India) Limited
Sanjeev Kishore	Director General of the Indian Ordnance Factory
Former Brigadier BD Mishra	Meghalaya Governor

Birla Balasubramanian	Chairman of AMFI
Senior Indian Police Services officer Sujoy Lal Thaosan	37th Director General of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
Dr. Akhilesh Gupta	Secretary of the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)
Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan	Whole Time Member of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
Vinayak Godse	New CEO of the Data Security Council of India
KG Mohan	Non-executive Independent Director of Karur Vysya Bank
Deepender Singh Rathore	Interim Chief Executive Officer of Paytm Payments Bank
Supreme Court- Justice D.Y. Chandrachud	50th Chief Justice of India
Arun Bansal	Chief Executing Officer of Adani Airport Holdings Limited
Ravi Kumar	President of Cognizant Americas
Navin Wadhvani	Indian Investment Banking Business of JP Morgan
Roger Binny	President of BCCI
Bharati Das	Controller General of Accounts (CGA) under the Department of Expenditure
Pradeep Singh Kharola	CMD of the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO)
Dr. Sankarasubramanian K	Principal Scientist of the Aditya-L1 Mission by ISRO
R K Singh	President of the International Solar Alliance
Sanjay Malhotra	New Revenue Secretary
Jaxay Shah	Chairperson of the Quality Council of India (QCI)
Rishi Sunak	Prime Minister of the UK
AK Goel	Chairperson of the Indian Banks' Association
Elizabeth Jones	Chargé d'Affaires at US Embassy
Sangeeta Verma	Government of India as the acting Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI)
Sandeep Bakshi	CEO and MD of the ICICI Bank
Girish Kousgi	New CEO and MD of PNB Housing Finance Limited

Shefali Juneja	Chairperson of the United Nations' Air Transport Committee (ATC)
Pradeep Singh Kharola	Chairperson of the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)
Amritanandamayi Devi (Amma)	Chairperson of the nation's Civil 20 (C20)
Akshay Kumar	Brand Ambassador by Emami for its BoroPlus cream
Dr. G Hemaprabha	1st women Director of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research-Sugarcane Breeding Institute (ICAR-SBI)
Lee Jae-yong	Executive Chairperson of Samsung Electronics Co

Nansen Award from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for her "leadership, courage, and compassion" during the Syrian crisis	Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel
Rising Star of the year 2021-22 award from the Federation Internationale de Hockey (FIH).	Mumtaz Khan
UN refugee agency prize from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Former German chancellor Angela Merkel
Grand Winner of the International Association of Horticulture Producers (AIPH) World Green City Awards 2022	Hyderabad
Booker Prize 2022	Shehan Karunatilaka
Sakharov Prize 2022	People of Ukraine and their President
National Intellectual Property Award for 2021 and 2022 for intellectual property innovations	IIT-Madras
"Best International Film" at the Saturn Awards 2022	SS Rajmouli's period drama RRR
SKOCH Award in Women and Child Development category	West Bengal government's "Lakshmir Bhandar"

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Awards	Awardee
Changemaker Award for raising awareness regarding gender-based violence	Srishti Bakshi
Nobel Prizes 2022 for Medicine/ Physiology for his discoveries concerning the "genomes of extinct hominins and human evolution"	Geneticist Svante Pääbo
Lifetime Achievement Award from US President Joe Biden	Vivek Lall
Lifetime Achievement Award for 2022 by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla at the PHDCCI's 117th annual session	Raghupati Singhania
Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2022 "for the development of click chemistry and bioorthogonal chemistry"	Carolyn R. Bertozzi, Morten Meldal, and K. Barry Sharpless
Nobel Prize in Literature for 2022 "for the courage and clinical acuity with which she uncovers the roots, estrangements and collective restraints of personal memory"	French author Annie Ernaux

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
1 st October 2022	International Coffee Day	--
1 st October 2022	World Vegetarian Day	--
1 st October 2022	International Day of Older Persons (IDOP)	Theme: Resilience of Older Persons in a Changing World."
2 nd October 2022	International Day of Non-Violence	--
2 nd October 2022	Gandhi Jayanti	--

2 nd October 2022	Birth Anniversary of the second Prime Minister of India, Lal Bahadur Shastri	--
2 nd October 2022	World Day for Farmed Animals	--
1 st Monday in October	World Habitat Day	Theme: "Mind the Gap. Leave No One and Place Behind"
4 th October to 10 th October 2022	World Space Week (WSW)	Theme: "Space and Sustainability"
5 th October 2022	World Teachers' Day	Theme: "The Transformation of Education Begins with Teachers"
7 th October 2022	World Cotton Day	Theme: "Weaving a better future for cotton"
8 th October 2022	Indian Air Force Day	--
8 th October 2022	World Migratory Day	Theme: "Light Pollution"
9 th October 2022	World Post Day	Theme: "Post for the Planet"
9 th October 2022	Indian Foreign Service Day	--
9 th October 2022	73rd Raising Day of the Territorial Army	--
10 th October 2022	World Mental Health Day	--
10 th October 2022	National Postal Day	Theme: "Post for Planet"
10 th October 2022	World Day Against the Death Penalty	--
11 th October 2022	International Day of the Girl Child	Theme: "Our time is now—our rights, our future"
12 th October 2022	World Arthritis Day	Theme: "It's in your hands, Take Action"
13 th October 2022	International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	Theme: 'Substantially increase the availability and

		access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessment for people by 2030.'
14 th October 2022	World Standards Day	Theme: Standards for Sustainable Development Goals- A shared vision for a better future
15 th October 2022	International Day of Rural Women	Theme: 'Rural Women Confront the Global Cost-of-Living-Crisis'
15 th October 2022	World Students' Day	--
15 th October 2022	Global Handwashing Day	Theme: "Unite for Universal Hand Hygiene"
16 th October 2022	World Food Day	--
17 th October 2022	International Day for the eradication of poverty	Theme: "Dignity for all in practice"
17 th October 2022	World Trauma Day	--
20 th October 2022	World Osteoporosis Day	Theme: Is step Up for Bone Health
20 th October 2022	International Chefs Day	--
21 st October 2022	National Police Commemoration	--
22 nd October 2022	International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD) or International Stammering Awareness Day	Theme: "Being seen, being heard: Representation and normalization of stuttering in the mainstream"
24 th October 2022	United Nations Day	--

24 th October 2022	World Polio Day	Theme: "World Polio Day 2022 and Beyond: A healthier future for mothers and children"
24 th October 2022	World Development Information Day	--
24 th to 30 th October 2022	Disarmament Week	--
24 th to 31 st October 2022	Global Media and Information Literacy (MIL) Week 2022	Theme: "Nurturing trust: A Media and Information Literacy Imperative"
26 th October 2022	World Sustainability Day	--
27 th October 2022	Indian Army Infantry Day	--
27 th October 2022	World Day for Audiovisual Heritage (WDAH)	Theme: "Enlisting documentary heritage to promote inclusive, just, and peaceful societies"
28 th October 2022	International Animation Day	--
29 th October 2022	International Internet Day (IID)	--
29 th October 2022	World Psoriasis Day (WPD)	Theme: "Unloading Psoriatic Disease"
30 th October 2022	113th birth anniversary of Bhabha	--
31 st October 2022	World Thrift Day (WTD)	Theme: "Saving prepares you for the future"
31 st October 2022	World Cities Day (WCD)	Theme: "Act Local to Go Global"
31 st October 2022	National Unity Day	--

MOUS SIGNED

Bayer CropScience Join Hands with SFAC

- A **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** was signed between **Bayer CropScience Limited** and the **Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC)** for the formation and promotion of **50 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)**.
- The MoU was signed to realize the aim of the **Central Sector Scheme (CSS)** launched by the **Agriculture Ministry** for the formation and promotion of **10,000 FPOs**.

NPCI & Central Bank of Oman signed MoU

- **National Payments Corporation of India** and the **Central Bank of Oman** have inked a significant Memorandum of Understanding to launch the Rupaya debit card in Oman for better financial connectivity.
- Both countries have decided to **expand the Indian digital payment** ecosystem to the Gulf region.

Coal India signs MoU with BHEL, IOCL, and GAIL

- **Union Minister of Coal, Mines, and Parliamentary Affairs Shri Prahad Joshi** stated that the country is likely to become Aatmanirbhar in Thermal Coal Production in the near future.
- The Coal Ministry has aimed to achieve **100 million tons of coal gasification by 2030**.

FSSAI, MYOS and NFSU sign MoU

- This MoU will benefit the athletes and **will educate them by spreading awareness about inadvertent doping** due to prohibited substances.
- It is an important step toward the implementation of the **National Anti-Doping Act, of 2022**.

Indian army signs MoU for salary of Agniveers

- The MoUs are signed by **DG, Lieutenant General V Sreehari**, and senior officials of the respective banks.
- Besides banking facilities, soft loans will also be **able to the existing Agniveers**.

Garuda Aerospace and Lockheed Martin signs MoU

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi had also launched hundred **Garuda drones** in hundred locations.
- Under this partnership, both companies will work for building strong data processing capabilities for **drone-based applications** in sectors such as defence, agriculture, mining, and industrial inspection.

Gift City and Fintech signs MoU

- The memorandum is signed for conducting programs related to **international financial services**.
- It will also promote **GIFT City as a fintech hub in India**.

Tata Steel Nederland Signs MoU with Ford

- **Tata Steel** has planned to produce green steels (steels produced without the use of fossil fuels) by **2030** at its plant in **Ijmuiden Steelworks** in the Netherlands.
- The signing of the agreement by **Ford** is a step towards its target of reaching carbon neutrality by 2035.

DEFENCE

INS Arihant successfully launches Ballistic Missiles

- The missile was tested to a **pre-determined range and hit the target in the Bay of Bengal**.
- The missile had very **high accuracy and also validated various technical** aspects of the weapon system.

Nuclear Capable Agni Prime Missile

- Agni Prime is a **nuclear-capable** two-stage **canisterized** missile with a maximum **range of 2000 kilometers**.
- Canisterization helps it to be **stored for a longer period of time** and gives it the ability to be **transported easily** whenever, wherever.

Indian Navy and Drone Federation of India Join Hands

- The **Technology Development and Acceleration Cell (TDAC)** of the **NIIO** and the **Drone Federation of India (DFI)** will collaborate in the research and

development (R&D) and manufacturing of indigenous drones for the Indian Navy.

- The primary objective of this collaboration is to increase the **Navy-Industry-Academia Synergy** and achieve the goal of making the nation **"Atmanirbhar"**.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

PM- YUVA 2.0

- **YUVA 2.0** was launched as part of **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav aka India @75 Project**.
- Under the scheme, a **mentorship program** is provided to young and budding **authors below 30 years** of age.

Nagaland CM launches universal health insurance scheme

- **Oriental Insurance Company** has signed an agreement for being the insurance partner.
- The main aim of the scheme is to **support the health expenses** which are faced by people.

PM to start PMJAY MA Yojana Ayushman Cards

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will kickstart **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana-Mukhyamantri Amrutam cards** in Gujarat.
- This scheme is **extended to cover all families whose income exceeds 4 lakh**.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

New Space India Limited and OneWeb Join Hands

- The **agreement** is regarding the **14th** launch under the **OneWeb Satellite Constellation** program in which multiple Gen 1 low-earth orbit (LEO) satellites will be launched.
- The launch of **36 Gen 1 LEO satellites** will be done through **ISRO's GSLV-Mk III**, which is the heaviest rocket of ISRO.

Optimus Robot's Prototype Unveiled

- **"Optimus"** is a prototype of a humanoid robot that uses the same **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

software and sensors as the **Autopilot Driving Assistance System (ADAS)** in Tesla vehicles.

- “Optimus” weighs **73 kg** and is equipped with a **2.3 kWh** battery.

Indigenously Developed LCH Inducted

- It is an indigenously developed **5.5-ton** combat helicopter that is equipped with **night attack capability, numerous stealth features, landing gear, and armored protection.**
- With a **high-altitude** performance capability and a **range of 550 km**, the LCH is capable of conducting **counter-insurgency operations and neutralizing adversaries’ air defense.**

Supercomputer facility inaugurated at IIT

- This supercomputer is named ‘**Param-Kamrupa**’.
- It is a state-of-art setup under the **National Supercomputing Mission.**

Chandrayaan-3 set to launch

- The design and engineering are **significantly different from the previous model.**
- According to the scientists, the sensors in **Chandrayaan-3 are better and are made with more suitable algorithms.**

Heaviest Rocket of ISRO

- The launch of **OneWeb’s 36 satellites** by ISRO’s **LVM3** marked its entry into international commercial launch services.
- **NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)** has been given the responsibility to carry out the **LVM3-M2** dedicated commercial satellite mission.

Sandalwood Spike Disease

- Currently, **no cure** has been found for SSD and **infected trees** need to be **cut down** to stop the spreading of the disease.
- This results in a loss of around **1-5%** of sandalwood trees **annually** in the country.

India’s First Indigenous Overhauser Magnetometer

- It is the **first** indigenously developed **OVH Magnetometer** of India that is developed by the scientists at the **IIG**, an autonomous research institution under the **Department of Science & Technology (DST)**, GOI.
- According to the **Ministry of Science & Technology**, the indigenous OVH Magnetometer will reduce the **cost of sampling.**

IPRC Successfully Tests Engine for Gaganyaan

- The test was conducted for a duration of **25 seconds** to evaluate the effectiveness of the engine for its use in **Mission Gaganyaan.**
- The engine has also been earmarked for the **LVM3-M3** mission for the launch of the next set of **36 OneWeb India-1** satellites.

SPORTS

Max Verstappen becomes 2022 F1 World Champion

- Red Bull’s Max Verstappen won the **Formula 1 Honda Japanese Grand Prix in 2022.**
- It is his **second** Formula 1 World Championship 2022.

Laver Cup 2022: Team World Won

- **Team World** was captained by **John McEnroe**, an American Tennis Player. **Team Europe** was captained by **Bjorn Borg**, the Swedish tennis player.
- This event was held at the **Indoor hard court at the O2 arena in London.**

India wins Women’s Asia Cup 2022

- **Indian Women’s team** won **Asia Cup 2022** defeating Sri Lanka.
- It was organized by **Asian Cricket Council (ACC).**

Ballon d’Or announced

- Alexia Putellas, a Spanish professional footballer has won the **Women’s Ballon d’Or award for the second time.**
- Benzema is the **fifth French footballer to win this prize.**

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

SC-ST Conclave in Gujarat

- The event was attended by more than **300 SC-ST business owners** who interacted with various dignitaries.
- The Joint Secretary, Ministry of MSME, **Mercy Epao**, gave a talk regarding various initiatives by the Government of India for the upliftment and empowerment of the SC-ST community.

S Jaishankar to Address 77th UNGA Assembly

- **S Jaishankar**, Indian union minister of the ministry of external affairs led the Indian delegation to the 77th session of the United Nations General assembly.
- The theme of the 77th UNGA was “**A watershed moment: transformative solutions to the interlocking challenges**”.

Union Minister of DoNER, Tourism & Culture addresses 70th NEC Plenary

- He addresses officials from **eight northeastern states** and officials of central ministers about the important issues which are imperative to the growth of the region.
- Emphasis was put on the **Agri Task Force** which will be constituted soon.

Union Minister of Power and NRE inaugurates Conference of power and renewable energy

- **Even though the demand for electricity has increased by about 11%** in the last 5 years, the government has been able to meet it.
- It was also emphasized that the requirement will also get **increased by 2030**.

National SC-ST Conclave

- National **SC-ST mega conclave** for the creation of awareness among SC-ST entrepreneurs.
- It will **promote entrepreneurship and spread awareness** of different schemes.

14th World Spice Congress to be held in Mumbai

- 14th World Spice Congress is to be held in Mumbai in **February 2023**.
- It will be held at the **CIDCO Exhibition and Convention Centre, Navi Mumbai**.

Global Youth Climate Summit

- The primary objective of the summit is to raise awareness regarding **climate change**.
- The **three-day** summit will bring together **policymakers, renowned climate scientists, entrepreneurs, leadership experts, and 650 youth climate activists** from **70 countries** around the globe.