

MONTHLY ONE-
LINER GK
DIGEST:
SEPTEMBER 2021



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

'AUKUS'

- The **United States, United Kingdom, and Australia** have announced the new partnership and the name of the new partnership is 'AUKUS'.
- The 'AUKUS' is the **trilateral security partnership that is made for the Indo-Pacific region.**

'India Covid Response Program for Agriculture Transition'

- The name of the credit guarantee program is '**India Covid Response Program for Agriculture Transition**'.
- The 'India Covid Response Program for Agriculture Transition' aims to **solve issues faced due to COVID-19 in the agriculture sector.**

NATIONAL NEWS

'Ubreathe Life'—Plant based Smart Air Purifier

- The name of the **living plant-based air purifier** is 'Ubreathe Life'.
- The 'Ubreathe Life' boost or **amplifies the purification process of air in indoor areas like hospitals, schools, offices, or homes.**

'Karbi Anglong Agreement'

- The agreement will help **to maintain peace and prosperity in Assam and under the agreement all the conditions of the Karbi community will be fulfilled.**
- Under the agreement, **Rs 1000 crore for development of the Karbi Anglong area in the next five years is sanctioned by the Assam government.**

India- 1st Country in Asia to Launch a Plastics Pact

- The plastic pact is a platform that aims **to promote a circular system for plastics.**
- It was launched by the **British High Commissioner to India, Alexander Ellis at the Confederation of Indian Industry's (CII) Sustainability Summit.**

AMTRON partnered with iBus

- The AMTRON has appointed **iBus as its business partner to deploy and manage digital infrastructure.**
- Both the entities will **offer better connectivity solutions like IT Park, hospitals, SEZs, and other commercial zones with digital touch to them.**

'Sansad TV'

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with Vice President of India and Rajya Sabha Chairperson, M Venkaiah Naidu, and Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla launched 'Sansad TV'.**
- The launching of the 'Sansad TV' has added a **major and vital chapter to India's parliamentary system.**

VIL partnered with APSDMA and Celltick

- The **Vodafone Idea Limited (VIL) has collaborated with Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA) and Celltick to launch India's first cell broadcast-based public warning system (PWS).**
- Due to this collaboration, **Andhra Pradesh has become the first Indian state to implement Celltick's cell broadcast-based public warning system.**

Byju's partnered with NITI Aayog

- They have partnered **to grant free access to tech-driven learning programs for students in 112 aspirational districts of India.**
- Under the partnership, **two major modules will be covered namely Byju's Career-Plus program and a volunteer initiative for the school-going children.**

UP Gov. to Setup 'Electronic Park'

- The Uttar Pradesh government announced to set up of 'Electronic Park' along the Yamuna Expressway near Noida.
- The 'Electronic Park' will be dedicated to electronic devices and their accessories.

NCL partnered with NTPC Limited

- They have partnered to set up a solar power project of 50 megawatts in Madhya Pradesh.
- The solar project will be set up at Nigahi coal mines of NCL in the Singrauli district of the state.

Foundation Stone for 3 Projects Laid at New Mangalore Port

- The truck parking terminal will be built in the area of 17,000 sq meters at the cost of Rs. 1.9 crores.
- It will be provided gatehouse, concrete pavement, restaurant, and dormitory at the project of Rs. 5 crores. It will be completed by 2022-23.

India supports Maldives to Construct Social Housing Units

- The agreement was for the purpose to grant buyers credit worth \$228 million to construct Social Housing Units in Hulhumale phase II.
- Around 4000 Social Housing Units will be constructs in the sanctioned funds support.

India to be External Auditor to the IAEA

- India will be its external auditor for the tenure of six years i.e. from 2022 to 2027.
- India has beaten Germany and the United Kingdom to become the external auditor to the IAEA.

Tenure of Company Law Committee Extended by a Year

- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs has announced that it has extended the tenure of the Company Law Committee by one year.
- The Company Law Committee was framed in 2019 and is comprised of 11 members.

BANKING

BharatPe partnered with Axis Bank

- The partnership was made to advance the merchant acquiring business in India.
- Under this partnership, Axis bank will be playing the role of acquiring a bank for BharatPe's point of sale (PoS) business named as BharatSwipe.

Committee will be Setup for NUE Licenses by RBI

- The members of the committee will look into various aspects of NUE right from the macroeconomic impact to the security risks levels.

- **All the suggestions recommended by the committee will be taken into consideration** by the central bank before doling out the licenses.

'PayNearby NeoDukaan'

- The 'PayNearby NeoDukaan' was launched in association with the **Retailers Association's Skill Council of India (RASCI)**.
- The 'PayNearby NeoDukaan' will **help in the digital upgradation of retail partners**.

Exim Bank Extends Loan Support to Africa Finance Corp

- The Exim Bank has provided an **LoC of USD 100 million (Rs 730 crore) to the Africa Finance Corporation (AFC)**.
- The loan support was provided **for the development of infrastructure in the Africa continent**.

EarlySalary joined Hands with HDB Financial Services Ltd

- They have partnered **to enhance the Digital Lending mechanism in order to give the best experience to their customers**.
- Under the partnership, **both the entities will develop momentum in impact categories** of skill upgradation, education loans, and healthcare finance.

'Pulse'-- PhonePe

- **All the insights and trends about digital payments** in India will be showcased by the website.
- The 'Pulse' website will **provide details about the evolution of Digital Payments in India**.

Exim Bank extended LoC to Maldives for Sports Infrastructure

- The Exim Bank has extended line of credit (LOC) to the Maldives with an aim **to support financially to develop sports infrastructure in the island nation**.
- In this regard, Exim Bank has offered **USD 40 million worth of line of credit (LOC)**.

ADB approved USD 150 million Loan to Tamil Nadu

- The loan was approved **for developing sustainable housing projects in urban poor areas of the state**.
- The funds will be used **to grant access to resilient and sustainable housing structures for the urban poor in the state**.

'WisePOSGo' POS Device

- The 'WisePOSGo' is launched in **partnership with Mswipe Technologies Pvt Ltd**.
- The 'WisePOSGo' is a **one-step forward by Karnataka Bank in the direction of the digital payment infrastructure of India**.

IPPB joined hands with LIC Housing Finance

- The **LIC Housing Finance** will look after home loan's credit underwriting, processing, and disbursement of the loans.
- The IPPB will look after the sourcing of the home loans.

NPCI partners with Fiserv to Launch 'nFiNi'

- The 'nFiNi' is a set of services to issue RuPay credit cards by fintech and banks.
- It is a Rupay-based API that will enhance credit card-based products in the country.

Lendingkart partnered with SBM Bank India

- The SBM Bank India partnered with **Lendingkart** which is a fintech start-up.
- They have partnered to grant **overdraft (OD)** facilities to 1 lakh MSME customers via the platform of **Lendingkart**.

10 Merchant Banks to Manage IPO of LIC

- The **GOI** has selected 10 merchant bankers to manage the Initial Public Offering of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).
- LIC's IPO will be launched in the **January-March** quarter of 2022.

ADB approved Loan for Jharkhand

- The loan will be used to enhance the capacities of urban local bodies (ULBs) to have improved service delivery in four towns of the state.
- In this regard, the **ADB** has sanctioned a loan of **USD 112 million** to the Jharkhand.

'bob World'—Bank of Baroda

- The 'bob World' covers 95% of all retail banking services, therefore customers can access them at the domestic and global level.
- The platform will be rolled out in phases, under four key pillars of Save, Invest, Borrow and Shop.

DBS Bank partnered with SWIFT

- **DBS Bank** has thus launched real-time online tracking for cross-border collections for businesses in **India** and by doing so it has become the first bank in India and Asia-Pacific to offer this service to its clients.
- The partnership will prove **beneficial to 4000 corporates and small businesses in India**.

PPBL partnered with DMRC

- The PPBL has also enabled a **UPI-based payment solution** for 2-wheelers who enter the parking site.
- Due to this partnership, **the car owners are no longer required to tender cash**.

India to Grow at 7.2% in 2021-- UNCTAD

- The **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)** has projected that India's economy to grow at 7.2% in 2021.
- The growth will be **against a contraction of 7% in 2020.**

Cabinet Approved 100% FDI in the Telecom Sector

- The **Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi** approved various structural and process reforms in the Telecom sector.
- By approving reforms it aims to **provide relief to telecom service providers, who are dealing with the issues like high levels of debt.**

KMBL partnered with IISc

- The partnership was made to **set up a state-of-the-art Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning (AI-ML) Centre at the IISc Bangalore.**
- The partnership was made **under KMBL's CSR project on Education & Livelihood.**

HDFC Bank partnered with Paytm

- They have partnered to **launch co-branded credit cards on the Visa platform for business holders, millennials, and merchants.**
- The HDFC Bank-Paytm **co-branded credit cards will be launched** in October 2021.

PayPoint India partnered with Bank of Baroda

- They have partnered to **provide banking services in India via Business Correspondent (BC) Model.**
- This partnership will prove **beneficial to give a major push for financial inclusion.**

Growth Forecast for India to be at 9.7% for FY22--OECD

- The **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** has forecasted India's growth to be at 9.7% for the current fiscal year of FY22.
- The OECD has pared its **growth forecast for India by 20 basis points to 9.7% for FY22.**

India's GDP to be at 10% for FY22 —ADB

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has projected that **India's GDP to be at 10% for FY 2021-22 (FY22).**
- The reduction in the **growth forecast was made due to the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy.**

India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL)

- The IDRCL was set up with a **paid-up capital of Rs. 80.5 lakh on an authorized capital of Rs 50 crore.**
- The IDRCL will work in coordination with **National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL).**

Federal Bank partnered with OneCard

- The card is expected to become popular during the upcoming festive season in which consumer credit demand is highest.
- The OneCard app will issue the credit card in just 3 minutes and will activate it instantly in virtual format until the physical card gets delivered.

RBI allowed Lenders to Sell Fraud Loans to ARCs

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed the transfer of loans which are classified as fraud by lenders to asset reconstruction companies (ARCs).
- The decision by RBI will grant the way for focussed recovery efforts on loans that are trillions of rupees worth.

HPCL partnered with ICICI Bank

- The partnership will allow the customers to use their ICICI Bank FASTag to purchase fuel and lubricants at HPCL retail outlets.
- Under this partnership, the ICICI Bank FASTag commercial vehicle users will be able to avail digital experience for one tag for fuel, toll, and parking payments.

'Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission'

- It will maintain and ensure security for confidential health-related personal data.
- It will allow access and exchange of health records of citizens with their health experts and doctors.

HDFC Bank—'Overall Most Outstanding Company in India'

- The poll was titled 'Asia's Outstanding Companies Poll' and it aims to acknowledge those companies who have shown their excellence in various domains like financial performance, management team, excellence, investor relations, and CSR initiatives.
- The poll also acknowledges publicly listed companies in 2 categories of country and sector in which it operates.

New Rules for Securitisation of Standard Assets-- RBI

- The new set of rules will be applicable to all scheduled commercial banks, excluding RRBs, all-India term financial institutions, SFBs, and NBFCs.
- The RBI has specified Minimum Retention Requirement (MRR) for different asset classes under Master Direction RBI (Securitisation of Standard Assets) Directions, 2021.

WMA Limit Set at Rs 50,000 crore-- RBI

- The Reserve bank of India (RBI) has set the limit for Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for central government at Rs. 50,000 crore for the second half of the financial year 2021-22 i.e. October 2021 to March 2022.
- The RBI can trigger fresh floatation of market loans when the GOI utilises 75% of the WMA limit.

'Club Vistara IndusInd Bank Explorer' Credit Card

- The credit card offers the **user a complimentary 'Gold' class membership to Club Vistara (CV)**, which is the frequent flyer program of the airline in which, the user can earn points on every flight.
- The earned points can be **redeemed by the user to avail of awards on the flights.**

RBI Imposed Rs 2 crore Penalty on RBL Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed **Rs 2 crore penalty on RBL Bank.**
- The penalty was **imposed in exercise of powers vested in it under the provisions of section 47 A (1) (c)** read with section 46 (4) (i) of the Act.

Paytm partnered with Ria Money Transfer

- The Paytm Payments Bank has partnered with **Ria Money Transfer, which is a cross-border money transfer entity.**
- Under this partnership, **both entities will provide the facility to the users to receive funds from their relatives living abroad.**

INDEX AND RANKING

Rabobank's 2021 Global Top 20 Dairy Companies List

- The list is topped by, **Lactalis, which is based in France.** It has an annual turnover of US \$23.0 billion.
- The 2nd position was marked by **Nestle based in Switzerland** and the 3rd position was marked by **Dairy Farmers of America based in the US.**

Hurun India Future Unicorn List 2021

- As per the details from the list, **India has 51 unicorns, the USA has 396 unicorns and China has 277 unicorns.**
- **India has added 3 unicorns every month and hence took the count to 51.** India's unicorn is currently worth \$168 billion.

Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2022

- The 2nd and 3rd positions were marked by the **California Institute of Technology and Harvard University respectively.**
- The list is comprised of ranking **for 1,600 universities across 99 countries and territories.**

NIRF India Rankings 2021

- This is the **6th edition of the NIRF India Rankings** and ranks the higher educational institutions of India as per the criteria to promote excellence.
- The list is topped by the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras in the overall domain and engineering domain.**

Global Innovation Index 2021

- The Global Innovation Index 2021 was released by **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**.
- The 1st rank was marked by **Switzerland with a score of 65.5** in the high-income group category.

FSSAI's 3rd State Food Safety Index

- The index is the effort taken by GOI to **provide safe and quality food to the Indians**.
- The index **measures the performance** of all the Indian states in 5 parameters.

REPORTS

'Reforms in Urban Planning Capacity in India'

- The report mentions that there is a need to **plan and manage Indian cities as the current planning data is complex**.
- So the report states that **every Indian city should set the target to become a 'Healthy City for All' by 2030**.

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
Dorje Angchuk	Indian Astronomical Observatory of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) at Hanle in the Ladakh region
Sanjeeb Chaudhuri	Part-time chairman of the IDFC FIRST Bank Limited by RBI
Pankaj Kumar Singh	Director-General (DG) of Border Security Force (BSF)
Mirabai Chanu	Ambassador for Adidas 'Stay in Play' campaign
Alar Karis	5th President of Estonia
Atul Bhatt	CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL)
Dr PPK Ramacharyulu	Rajya Sabha Secretary General by Rajya Sabha Chairman, M Venkaiah Naidu
Ashish Singhal	MD of SVC Bank
Suman Sharma	MD of Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)
Vartika Shukla	First woman Chairperson and MD of Engineers India Ltd
Rani Rampal (India's Women Hockey Player) and Smriti Mandhana (India's Women Cricketer)	Brand Ambassadors for Equitas Small Finance Bank (ESFB)
Cyrus Poncha	Vice-President of the Asian Squash Federation (ASF)
S.L.Tripathy	Chairman-cum-Managing Director of United India Insurance Company Limited
Prashant Kumar	Board of directors of the International Legal Assistance Consortium (ILAC)

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Harsha Bhupendra Bangari	New Managing Director (MD) of the Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank)
Nirlep Singh Rai	CMD of National Fertilizer Limited (NFL)
Neeraj Chopra	Multi-year brand partnership with Tata AIA Life Insurance
Ramesh Narayan	Asian Federation of Advertising Associations (AFAA) Hall of Fame at AdAsia 2021
Satish Parekh	President of the India chapter of the International Road Federation (IRF)
Rajnish Kumar	Economic Advisor to Andhra Pradesh government
G.S. Pannu	President of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT)
V. Vaidyanathan	MD & CEO of IDFC First Bank by RBI
G C Murmu	Chairman of the Assembly of the Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI)
Satyajit Tripathy	CMD of United India Insurance Company Limited (UIIC)
Lt Gen Gurmit Singh	Governor of Uttarakhand
Banwarilal Purohit	Governor of Punjab
R.N.Ravi	Governor of Tamil Nadu
Prof. Jagdish Mukhi	Governor of Nagaland
Bhupendra Patel	New Chief Minister of Gujarat
Iqbal Singh Lalpura	Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities
Aziz Akhannouch	New Prime Minister of Morocco
Rahul Dravid	Brand Ambassador of Piramal Realty
Justice M. Venugopal	New Acting Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)
Prativa Mohapatra	Vice president and managing director for Adobe India
Pawan Kumar Goenka	Chairperson of the Indian National Space Promotion Authorization Centre (In-SPACE)
Vijay Goel	Vice-Chairman of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti (GSDS)
Jim Lanzone	CEO of Yahoo
Renate Nyborg	CEO of the Dating app Tinder
Sameer Sharma	New Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh
Justice (Retired) Indu Malhotra	New Ombudsman cum Ethics Officer of Delhi and Districts Cricket Association (DDCA)
Amit Saxena	RBI Innovation Hub as the Chief Technology Officer (CTO)
Rohit Sharma	Brand Ambassador of TAGG
Kriti Sanon	Indian Brand Ambassador of FOSSIL
Alka Nangia Arora	CMD of National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC)
Baijayant Panda	Chairperson of the committee set up by Defence Ministry to review the National Cadet Corps
Rajnath Singh	Chair the Group of Ministers (GoM) set up by GOI to

	improve the implementation of various schemes for SC, ST, OBC, Minorities, and Women
Pankaj Tripathi	Brand Ambassador for Fino Payments Bank Limited
Manika Shyokand	'Goodwill Ambassador' of the water conservation campaign in Haryana
Raninder Singh	President of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)
Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi	New Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Advocate by United Nations Chief Antonio Guterres
Charanjit Singh Channi	Chief Minister of Punjab
Vice Chief of IAF Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari	Next Chief of Air Staff
Gordon Brown	Ambassador for Global Health Financing of the World Health Organisation (WHO)
Rajiv Aggarwal	Director of Public Policy by Facebook India
Justin Trudeau	Prime Minister election of Canada
Rajiv Bansal	Secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation
Suresh Raina	Brand Ambassador of Howzat Fantasy Sports Platform
K Kasturirangan	To head a 12-member committee set up by the Education ministry to frame new curriculums for school, early childhood, teacher, and adult education
Debabrata Mukherjee	Chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) for the period of 2021-2022
Pratap G. Pawar	Deputy chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) for a period of 2021-2022
Magnus Carlsen	Mastercard Global Brand Ambassador
CK Ranganathan	President of All India Management Association (AIMA)
Fumio Kishida	Prime Minister of Japan
Aveek Sarkar	Chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI)
Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh	34th Director-General of the National Cadet Corps (NCC)

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Awards	Awardee
Bird Photographer of the Year (BPOTY) 2021 Award	Alejandro Prieto
Association for Talent Development (ATD) 2021 Best Award	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID)
International Lifetime Achievement Award in Neurosurgery by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS)	Dr. Basant Kumar Misra
Dun & Bradstreet Corporate Award 2021 under the category of Best Growth Performance Power	Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd (SJVN)
Behler Turtle Conservation Award	Shailendra Singh (Indian Biologist)

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7th Yamin Hazarika Woman of Substance Award	Namita Gokhale (Writer)
22nd National Award for Excellence in Energy Management from CII	Golden Rock Railway Workshop (GOC), Tiruchchirappalli
2021 Africa Food Prize for improving food security in sub-Saharan Africa	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
Swami Brahmanand Award 2021	Anand Kumar (Mathematician)
UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2021	National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)
Florence Nightingale Award	Bhanumati Gheewala (Nurse from Sir Sayajirao General Hospital, Gujarat)
National Florence Nightingale Award 2020	Brigadier SV Sarasvati
'Global Goals Awards' 2021 of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
2021 Changemaker Award	Fairooz Faizah Beether (Bangladesh)
CIPS Excellence in Procurement Awards for 2021 under the category of 'Best Use of Digital Technology'	Government e-Marketplace (GeM)
2021 IHA Blue Planet Prize for excellence in sustainable hydropower development	510MW Teesta V Power Station of Sikkim (owned by NHPC Limited)

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
2 nd September 2021	World Coconut Day	Theme: 'Building a Safe Inclusive Resilient and Sustainable Coconut Community Amid COVID-19 Pandemic & Beyond'
5 th September 2021	International Day of Charity	--
5 th September 2021	National Teacher's Day	--
6 th September to 12 th September 2021	Food Processing Week	--
7 th September 2021	International Day of Clean Air for blue skies	Theme: Healthy Air, Healthy Planet
8 th September 2021	International Literacy Day	Theme: Literacy for a human-centered recovery: Narrowing the digital divide
9 th September 2021	International Day to Protect Education from Attack	--
9 th September 2021	World EV Day	--
10 th September 2021	World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD)	Theme: 'Creating hope through action'
11 th September 2021	World First Aid Day	Theme: 'First aid and road safety'
12 th September 2021	International Day for South-South Cooperation	--
14 th September 2021	National Hindi Diwas or Hindi Day	--
15 th September 2021	International Day of Democracy	Theme: 'Strengthening democratic

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		resilience in the face of future crises'
15 th September 2021	Engineer's Day	--
15 th September 2021	World Lymphoma Awareness Day	--
16 th September 2021	International Day for the preservation for the Ozone layer (World Ozone Day)	Theme: 'Montreal Protocol – keeping us, our food and vaccines cool'
17 th September 2021	World Patient Safety Day	Theme: 'Safe maternal and newborn care'
18 th September 2021	World Bamboo Day	Theme: '#PlantBamboo: It Is Time To Plant Bamboo'
18 th September 2021	International Coastal Cleanup Day	Theme: 'Keep trash in the bin and not in the ocean'
18 th September 2021	World Water Monitoring Day	--
18 th September 2021	International Equal Pay Day	--
18 th September 2021	International Red Panda Day (IRPD) (Third Saturday of Sep)	--
20 th September to 26 th September 2021	International Week of the Deaf	Theme: 'Celebrating Thriving Deaf Communities'
21 st September 2021	International Day of Peace	Theme: 'Recovering Better for an Equitable and Sustainable World'
21 st September 2021	World Alzheimer's Day	Theme: 'Know Dementia, Know Alzheimer's'
22 nd September 2021	World Rhino Day	--
23 rd September 2021	International Day of Sign Languages	Theme: 'We Sign For Human Rights'
20 th September to 26 th September 2021	'Vanijya Saptah'	--
25 th September 2021	Antyodaya Diwas	--
25 th September 2021	World Pharmacist Day	Theme: 'Pharmacy: Always trusted for your health'
26 th September 2021	International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons	--
26 th September 2021	World Environmental Health Day	Theme: Prioritizing Environmental Health for healthier communities in the global recovery
26 th September 2021	Military Engineering Services Raising Day	--
26 th September 2021	World Rivers Day	Theme: Waterways in our communities
27 th September 2021	World Tourism Day	Theme: Tourism for Inclusive Growth
28 th September 2021	International Day for the Universal Access to Information	--
28 th September 2021	World Rabies Day	Theme: Rabies: Facts, not Fear

28 th September 2021	International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste	Theme: 'Stop food loss and waste. For the people. For the planet'
29 th September 2021	World Heart Day	Theme: 'Use Heart to Connect'
30 th September 2021	International Translation Day	Theme: 'United in translation'
30 th September 2021	World Maritime Day	Theme: Seafarers at the core of shipping's future

MOUS SIGNED

AREAS signed MoU with Three Institutions

- The MoU was signed to **promote cooperation in renewable energy technologies in India.**
- The MoU was signed **during the 7th Foundation Day of AREAS.**

MoU signed Between DAHD and MoRD

- The MoU was signed **for the purpose of rural economic development and growth.**
- Under this MoU, **rural economic growth will be attained by leveraging the SHG platform.**

India signed MoU with Nepal

- The MoU was signed to **reconstruct 14 cultural heritage projects and 103 health projects in Nepal.**
- The construction project was signed between **the Indian Embassy in Nepal and Nepal's Central Level Project Implementation Unit (Building) of the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA).**

NeGD signed MoU with NLU Delhi and NLIU Bhopal

- The NeGD comes under the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.**
- The MoU was signed to **set up Cyber Lab for the 'Online Capacity Building Programme on Cyber Law, Crime Investigation and Digital Forensics'.**

Project Agreement signed between India and US

- The PA was signed for the purpose of an **Air-Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (ALUAV).**
- The agreement was signed under the **Joint Working Group Air Systems in the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI).**

APEDA signed MoU with ICAR-IIMR

- The MoU was signed with an aim to **enhance exports through quality production & processing, enhance value addition and farmers' income.**
- The MoU will be led to **having market linkage with farmers and Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs).**

Punjab Gov. signed MoU with AMCHAM India

- The MoU aims to **promote investment and boost ease of doing business ability** for the US member companies in the state.
- To execute the MoU, a **joint working group will be formed which will include members from AMCHAM India and Invest Punjab.**

HDFC Bank signed MoU with NSIC

- The **HDFC Bank will offer MSMEs specially designed schemes** that will enhance their competitiveness in the market.
- The support will be granted **to the MSME projects in the areas they are located and to other major industrial sectors of India.**

AIIA signed MoU with NICM Western Sydney University, Australia

- The **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) signed MoU with NICM Western Sydney University, Australia.** The AIIA comes under the Ministry of Ayush.
- The MoU was signed **to support and appoint an Academic Chair in Ayurveda.**

OneWeb signed MoU with Hughes Network System

- **OneWeb which is backed by Bharti Group has signed MoU** with Hughes Network System which is a United States company.
- The MoU was signed at the session held at **Satellite 2021 in the US for Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite service in both countries.**

India and ADB signed Loan Agreement for Maharashtra

- The funds will be used **to provide finance to the ongoing Maharashtra Rural Connectivity Improvement Project.**
- The **loan amount will also be used to improve an additional 1,100 rural roads and 230 bridges** for a total length of 2,900km in 34 districts of the state.

IIT Kanpur signed MoU with IAF

- The MoU was signed **for collaboration in the academic and research sector, particularly** in the aerospace technology domain.
- The MoU was also signed **to set up Air Vice Marshal Harjinder Singh Chair of Excellence.**

AMNS signed MoU with NSIC

- The MoU was signed **to offer critical steel products to MSMEs in the steel sector.**
- They will **jointly frame a network that will deliver critical products** to the MSME units.

Agricultural Ministry signed MoUs with Private Companies

- The **Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare** signed five MoUs with the private companies.

- The MoUs were signed with: CISCO, ITC Limited, Ninjacart, Jio Platforms Limited, and NCDEX e-markets Limited (NeML).

Assam Government signed Agreement with SIDBI

- The agreement was signed to set up an innovation fund to promote the startups in the state.
- In this regard, the SIDBI and Assam Government signed a commitment letter of Rs 350 crore.

Ministry of Ayush signed MoU with American Herbal Pharmacopoeia

- The MoU was signed to enhance the export potential of the ASU&H (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, and Homoeopathy) drugs.
- Both the entities will work to frame safety and standards for ASU&H drugs.

IIFL HFL signed Co-Lending Agreement with PNB

- The co-lending agreement aims to enhance the distribution of affordable housing loans and MSME loans.
- As per the agreement, the 80% amount of the loan will be granted by PNB.

TRIFED signed MoU with Big Basket and Purty Agrotech

- The MoU is part of GOI's transformational programs for tribal livelihoods.
- Both the MoUs will help to transform and boost the livelihoods of the tribal community.

Merger Deal signed Between ZEEL and SPNI

- The board of Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited (ZEEL) approved the merger of the company with Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI).
- The aim behind this merger is to attain higher growth and profitability and become leading media and entertainment company across South Asia.

DAHD signed MoU with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

- The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) has signed an MoU with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Both the entities will work to enhance animal health and various production programs will be executed to attain the objectives of the MoU.

ICRISAT signed MoU with WFP

- The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) signed MoU with United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).
- They have signed MoU to enhance partnership for various initiatives and programs which will strengthen food, nutrition security, and livelihoods in India.

Defence Ministry signed Deal with Airbus Defence and Space of Spain

- The **Minsitry of Defence, GOI signed a contract with Airbus Defence and Space of Spain** to procure 56 C-295 military transport aircraft.
- The C-295 military **transport aircraft will replace Avro-748 planes of IAF.**

India signed Agreement with Bhutan for Development in Small Satellites

- The agreement was signed by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Scientific Secretary, R Umamaheswaran**, and the Department of Information Technology and Telecom (DITT) of Bhutan, Director, Jigme Tenzing.
- The current agreement is the **part of MoU signed between both nations for the purpose of peaceful uses of outer spaces.**

India and Oman signed Agreement for Maritime Security Cooperation

- The agreement was signed between **Chief of Navy Staff Admiral Karambir Singh and his Omani counterpart Admiral Saif bin Nasser bin Mohsen Al-Rahbi** in Muscat.
- Under the agreement, the **exchange of related data for the purpose of identity and movement of commercial non-military merchant vessels will take place.**

India and the US signed Two MoUs

- One of the MoU was signed **to enhance cooperation Health and Biomedical sciences sector.**
- The second MoU was signed **to enhance cooperation with International Centre for Excellence in Research (ICER).**

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

'Mission Vatsalya'-- Maharashtra

- The mission aims **to help women who lost their husbands due to COVID-19.**
- Under this mission, **several services and 18 benefits will be granted to the women** who lost their husbands due to COVID-19.

'Y-Break App'

- The app aims **to create awareness about Yoga and its impact in day to day life.**
- The Yoga protocol in the **app showcases simple Yogic practices so that people can replicate them easily.**

'Saath'-- Rural Enterprises Acceleration Programme

- The programme will **transform the lives of the women, make them independent to deal with social and financial sectors.**
- The programme will provide **mentorship and market connectivity to the products developed by SHGs.**

'Centre of Excellence on Offshore Wind'

- It is part of the **green strategic partnership between both nations.**
- It was launched by **Union Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy, RK Singh, and Denmark's Minister for Climate, Energy, and Utilities, Dan Jorgensen.**

'Millet Mission'-- Chhattisgarh

- The 'Millet Mission' aims **to offer proper price rates to farmers for minor cereal crops.**
- The mission also aims **to make the state India's millet hub.**

Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojna

- The **Union Tribal Affairs Minister, Arjun Munda** announced that **Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)** will be started in 36000 villages of India.
- The villages having **50% of the tribal population will be given priority under the scheme.**

Climate Action and Finance Mobilization Dialogue (CAFMD)

- The CAFMD will help **to enhance India-US bilateral cooperation in the domains of climate and environment.**
- It was launched by **Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Bhupender Yadav** with **U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate (SPEC) in New Delhi, John Kerry.**

'iRASTE' Project

- The project aims **to enhance road safety and reduce road accidents in Nagpur.**
- The project uses the **features of AI (Artificial Intelligence), as AI will help to develop smarter and safer vehicles, roads, and drivers.**

'Project Udaan'—IIT Bombay

- The 'Project Udaan' is a language translator which will **make it easy for the students to understand educational content in their own language.**
- The project is a **donation-based project and is an end-to-end ecosystem.**

'Shoonya Campaign'

- The **NITI Aayog in partnership with US-based Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) and RMI India** launched the 'Shoonya Campaign'.
- The 'Shoonya Campaign' aims **to promote zero-pollution delivery vehicles by working with consumers and the industry.**

Uttar Pradesh Matra Bhumi Yojana

- The scheme allows the **direct participation of the common man in the development work** of the state.
- The scheme will strengthen the **participatory rural economy and infrastructure.**

PLI scheme for Auto, Auto-Components and Drone Industries

- The approval was made with an aim to **enhance the manufacturing capabilities of Indian industries.**
- The PLI scheme will lead to **emerge advanced automotive technologies'** for the global supply chain in India.

Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana

- The Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana comes **under the aegis of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana.**
- Under the Yojana, the **entry-level training will be given to the youths by Railway Training Institutes.**

'Ek Pahal Drive'

- It is the Pan-India Special Campaign that aims to **grant Justice Delivery at the doorstep.**
- It was launched to **encourage mass registration under Tele-Law and create aspiration of access to justice for people.**

LS Speaker inaugurated NIDHI 2.0 Scheme

- The scheme was launched by the **Ministry of Tourism with an aim to digitize the tourism sector and promote ease of doing business for the hospitality & tourism sector.**
- The scheme encourages associated units to **register themselves on the platform and become part of the hospitality and tourism industry.**

28th Edition of 'SIMBEX-2021'

- The name of the annual bilateral maritime exercise is **Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX).**
- The SIMBEX-2021 was hosted by the **Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) in the southern fringes of the South China Sea.**

4th 'AUSINDEX'

- The **4th edition of AUSINDEX which is the bilateral naval exercise** commenced on 6th Sep and will be held till 10th Sep 2021.
- The AUSINDEX is held between **the Indian Navy and the Royal Australian Navy.**

15th India Nepal Joint Military Training Exercise Named 'Surya Kiran' Begins

- The major focus of the **exercise is countering terror drills and perform disaster relief operations.**
- The exercise will also **enhance interoperability between the militaries of India and Nepal.**

'Samudra Shakti'

- India was represented by **INS Shivalik and Kadmat** which reached **Jakarta, Indonesia**. India's Aircraft P8I also participated in the exercise.
- The 3rd 'Samudra Shakti' exercise was held at **Sunda Strait, Indonesia**.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

'e-source'--- IIT Madras

- The platform will be headed **Indo-German Centre for Sustainability (IGCS)**.
- The 'e-source' will be a **novel open-source solution with the data of stakeholders** and will have the potential to tackle the electronic wastes (e-waste).

'Medicine from the Sky'-- Telangana

- The 'Medicine from the Sky' is the first of its kind project which **aims to transport vaccines and other essential products to remote areas with the help of drones**.
- The project is taken on a **pilot basis in 16 green zones of state and will be enhanced at the national level later on**.

'ATL Space Challenge'

- This is in line with the **center's decision to open the space sector for private participation**.
- The 'ATL Space Challenge' was launched **for all the school students of India**.

'AC001' Electric Vehicles (EV) Charger-- ARAI

- In order to promote EV in India, **its infrastructure for charging is vital, and the mobility chargers are imported ones**, so the ARAI decided to develop an indigenous EV charger.
- The 'AC001' EV charger is cost-effective and was **designed by considering safety norms and power standards**.

IIT Delhi setup 'CoE on Quantum Technologies'

- The CoE will allow me **to conduct research work in the Quantum Technologies sector**.
- It will **promote synergy and coherence among the institute's operations** and assist principal investigators to secure additional funding from the DST and other funding bodies.

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

- India hosted **8th Meeting of Agriculture Experts of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)** Countries in a virtual manner.
- The meeting observed the **participation of Agricultural Ministries from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, India, Myanmar, and Thailand**.

40th Meeting of the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB)

- He launched the **Combined Reciprocal Common Transport Agreement (CRCTA)**. It will offer carriage facilities among state governments of Rajasthan, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, and Haryana.
- The dignitaries discussed Draft Regional Plan 2041. **This will enable interstate connectivity, trade activities, and transportation facilities.**

6th Eastern Economic Forum (EEF)

- India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the **6th Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) in a virtual manner.**
- India was also represented by **Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri.**

4th Round of 'Indo-Danish Joint Commission Meeting (JCM)'

- The 4th round of **'Indo-Danish Joint Commission Meeting (JCM)'** was held and the Indian delegation was led by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.
- At the meeting, **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar mentioned that Denmark is the only country with which India has a green strategic partnership.**

16th Sustainability Summit 2021

- The 16th Sustainability Summit 2021 was addressed by **Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar.**
- While addressing the summit, **Narendra Singh Tomar mentioned that the 16th sustainability is building a resilient future that is leveraging science, technology, and finance.**

1st Meeting of Governing Body of 'Vatan Prem Yojana'

- The members approved to **undertake public welfare projects worth Rs. 1,000 crores** jointly with non-resident Gujaratis by December 2022.
- These projects will be undertaken by **Gujarat's 'Vatan Prem Yojana'.**

Inaugural Conclave of Shikshak Parv was Addressed by PM Modi

- **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** addressed the inaugural conclave of Shikshak Parv via video conference.
- PM Modi launched Indian Sign Language Dictionary which is an audio and text embedded sign language video **for the hearing impaired and it is in conformity with the Universal Design of Learning.**

13th BRICS Summit

- PM Modi expressed his gratitude towards **BRICS members for cooperating with India during its ongoing BRICS Chairmanship.**
- He mentioned to **boost the cooperation among BRICS nations with the motto of 'Build-back Resiliently, Innovatively, Credibly and Sustainably'.**

US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP) Meeting

- India was represented by **Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri** and the **US** was represented by U.S. Secretary of Energy, Jennifer Granholm.
- Both the dignitaries **discussed progress and achievements made by both nations in various sectors.**

5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament 2021

- The 5WCSP was organised by the **Austrian Parliament, Inter Parliamentary Union, and the United Nations.**
- The 5WCSP is the **world's largest function of the highest level of parliamentary representation.**

India and Australia held Inaugural 2+2 Dialogue

- India was represented by **Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.**
- They held the discussion with their **counterparts, Peter Dutton and Marise Payne.**

18th ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Consultations

- The consultation meeting was co-chaired by **Anupriya Patel and H.E. Dato Dr. Amin Liew Abdullah,** Minister of Finance and Economy, Brunei Darussalam.
- The meeting observed the **participation of economic ministers of ASEAN countries.**

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi represented the Indian delegation** at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit via video conference.
- This was the 21st edition of the **SCO summit and had special importance as the SCO organization is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2021.**

India & El Salvador held Third Foreign Office Consultations

- **India was represented by Riva Ganguly Das, Secretary (East), and El Salvador** was represented by Ambassador Adriana Maria Mira, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Integration and Economic Promotion.
- Both sides reviewed **cooperation activities under health, trade, investment, tourism, energy, aquaculture, transport, aviation, infrastructure, consular, and culture.**

G-33 Virtual Informal Ministerial Meeting

- The **G-33 Virtual Informal Ministerial Meeting was organised by Indonesia** and was chaired by Indonesian Minister of Trade, Muhammad Lutfi.
- India was represented by **Piyush Goyal, Minister of Textiles, Minister of Commerce and Industry, and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.**

1st India-United Kingdom Consular Dialogue

- India was represented by **Devesh Uttam, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.**

- The UK was represented by **Jennifer Anderson, Director Consular Services, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office.**

QUAD Leaders Summit

- This was the **first in-person meeting in which PM Narendra Modi** participated with leaders of the US, Japan, and Australia.
- The meeting was hosted by **US President Joe Biden at the White House.**

PM Modi addressed 76th Session of UNGA

- **Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi addressed the 76th session** of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) held in New York.
- While addressing the session, **PM Modi discussed the pandemic situation and its impact on economy.**

National Cooperative Conference

- The **Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah** addressed the first-ever National Cooperative Conference (Sehkarita Sammelan).
- It was the **country's first such cooperative conference and was held with an aim to strengthen the Indian Cooperatives.**

