

PIB SUMMARY

OCTOBER 2022



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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

1. NATIONAL CREDIT FRAMEWORK FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- A Draft has been released on the National Credit Framework for Public Consultation.
- It is an integrated framework between academic and vocational domains to increase experiential learning
- This framework will help in achieving the \$5 trillion economy to achieve the vision of a Vikasit Bharat in the next 25 years.
- The draft will integrate the formal education with vocational training for practical learning.
- This will help the drop out students to re-enter the educational system.

2. YUVA 2.0

- YUVA 2.0 is an Author's Mentorship Programme.
- It is a scheme to provide training to young and budding authors below the age of 30 years.
- This is to promote reading, writing and book culture in India.
- The theme is "Democracy (Institutions, events, people, and constitutional values – past, present, future)"

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

1. 14TH WORLD SPICE CONGRESS

- World Spice Congress will be held on February 16-18, 2023 at CIDCO Exhibition and Convention Centre in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- Theme for the 14th World Spice Congress is “Vision 2030: SPICES” (Sustainability, Productivity, Innovation, Collaboration, Excellence and Safety)
- The World Spice Board is hosting this event as a part of G20 event with India’s G20 Presidency from December 2022 to November 2023.
- This Congress will discuss various things like spice production, processing, value addition, quality and safety, trade and supply chain management.

2. RS. 7385 CRORE UNDER FUND OF FUNDS

- Ministry of Commerce and Industries has committed Rs. 7,385 Crore for the Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS), launched under the Startup India initiative.
- It is for 88 Alternative Investment Funds (AIF) as of September 24, 2022.
- In turn, these AIFs have invested Rs. 11,206 crore to 720 startups.
- This to mobilize the domestic capital in India’s startup ecosystem.

MINISTRY OF POWER

MOA WITH STPL

- Ministry of Power have signed a Memorandum of Loan Agreement (MoA) with Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) Thermal Private Limited.
- This MoA is signed for financing two 660 MW coal based Buxar Thermal Plant (BTPP).
- The financial outlay for this project is Rs. 12,172.74 Crore, with the debt requirement of Rs. 8520.92 Crore.
- According to the MoA, the debt requirement of Rs. 8520.92 Crore shall be financed by REC and Power Finance Corporation Limited.
- This BTPP is a green field project with the objective to improve the reliability of India’s Eastern Electricity region and provides power to Bihar.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FAMILY WELFARE

COMMITTEES FOR TIMELY SETTLEMENT OF CROP INSURANCE SCHEME

- Committee for nationwide implementation of technology-based crop yield estimation is to reduce the delay in crop loss/damage estimation.
- Committee for standardization and improvement of weather data infrastructure to ensure timely settlement of claims by farmers.
- Both these committees will be headed by the Dr. C.S. Murthy, Director of Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC).
- The data from the committees can be used in the Central Government’s crop insurance scheme from 2023.

PRIME MINISTER OFFICE

1. 1ST PHASE OF ROZGAR MELA

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has launched the first phase of “Rozgar Mela” across 50 centers in India.
- Rozgar Mela is a recruitment drive where about 10 lakh youths in India will get a Central Government jobs.
- This is to ensure employment opportunities to the youth and ensure the welfare of the citizens.
- 38 Ministries/Departments of India are involved in this recruitment process.

2. MISSION LIFE

- Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi and United Nations Secretary General, Antonio Guterres has jointly launched the Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) at the Statue of Unity, Ekta Nagar, Kevadia, and Gujarat.
- Mission LiFE is introduced by PM Modi during COP 26 (Conference of the Parties) at Glasgow, Scotland in November 2021.
- The time period for the completion of the mission is 2022-2027.
- The main aim of this mission to ensure sustainable and healthy lifestyle.

MINISTRY OF COAL

NLCIL SIGNS MOU WITH NIWE

- Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited, a PSU under Ministry of Coal signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE).
- This MoU is to develop onshore and offshore wind power projects across India.
- The main aim is to attain national green energy targets and energy transition goals.
- The MoU is also aiming to synergize the technical expertise of NIWE and the project development capabilities of NLCIL.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

1. ADVANCED CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION LABORATORY

- Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare inaugurated an Advanced Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at Patil Medical College, Hospital and Research Centre in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- This is the South Asia's 1st most advanced model Catheterization Laboratory.
- This lab will be helpful for coronary interventions and neurology interventions.

2. TELE-MANAS

- On the World Mental Health Day, Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking across States (Tele-MANAS) initiative was launched on October 10, 2022.
- The main aim is to provide free tele-mental health services to people who live in remoter or underserved area.
- This service will be provided 24/7 all over the India.
- It was launched at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- The toll free number of Tele MANAS is 14416.

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

5TH ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE

- On the 5th Assembly of the International Solar Alliance, Raj Kumar Singh, Union Minister of New and Renewable energy is elected as the President of International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- 5th Assembly of the International Solar Alliance was held on October 17-20, 2022 in New Delhi with the participants from 109 countries.
- Chrysoula Azcharopoulou has been elected as the Co-President of ISA.
- During this Assembly, ISA approved, "Solar Facility" a payment guarantee mechanism which will boost investments into solar through two financial components – Solar Payment Guarantee Fund and Solar Insurance Fund.

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

BIOGAS PLANT CBG IN PUNJAB

- Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has inaugurated the Asia's largest Compressed Biogas Plant CBG in Sangrur, Punjab.
- This plant has set up under the Sustainable Alternative toward Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative.
- This has been set up under Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of Rs. 220 crores by Verbio AG, Germany's leading Bio-energy Company.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

EXTENSION FOR CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT ACT

- Parliamentary Committees on Subordinate Legislation in both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha has given the 7th Extension to Frame Rules for Citizenship Amendment Act.
- Rajya Sabha granted permission until December 31, 2022 and Lok Sabha granted permission until January 9, 2023.
- CAA 2019 or Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 was passed in Parliament on December 11, 2019.
- Yet this Act is not implemented and has to be drafted according to law before implementing.
- CAA aims to provide Indian citizenship to persecuted minorities belonging to Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi and Christian Communities from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan who entered India on or before December 31, 2014.

MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

SEMICONINDIA FUTUREDESIGN

- Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Minister of State, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has launched the first SemiconIndia FutureDesign roadshow in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- This Roadshow is to encourage entrepreneurs and startups to enter Semiconductor Design and Innovation space.
- In this show, there is an incentive worth Rs. 100 crore per device at the design stage.

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

FIRST ALUMINUM FREIGHT RAKE

- Union Minister of Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw, flagged off 61 BOBRNALHSM1.
- It is the India's first indigenously built Aluminum Freight Rake at Bhubaneswar Railway Station, Odisha.
- This will carry coal for Hindalco's Aditya Smelter in Lapanga, Odisha with Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, as its destination.
- This is a modernized freight transportation with 100 percent recyclable to reduce carbon footprint.
- It was fully designed by Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO), Hindalco Industries Limited and Besco Wagon.

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

ANDHRA PRADESH TOPS IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR

- A report was released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in which Andhra Pradesh tops the agriculture and allied Gross Value Output (GVO).
- The report focuses on the value of output from agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors.
- Andhra Pradesh has witnessed 92.4% growth in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors with total GVO of Rs. 2,03,638.50 crores over nine years.
- The top 5 states include, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

MOU FOR DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS

- Ministry of Youth Affairs and sports signed Memorandum of Understanding with Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU).
- The main aim of the MoU is to set up the testing facility for dietary supplements in NFSU, Ahmedabad, and Gujarat.
- It is an important step to achieve the goal of “Atmanirbhar Bharat”.
- The main aim is to create awareness among the athletes and athlete support personnel about the inadvertent doping due to prohibited substances present in nutritional supplements.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

HIKES INTEREST RATE ON SMALL SAVING SCHEMES

- Ministry of Finance has increased the interest rates on five of 12 small savings schemes for Q3FY23.
- This is the first time small savings rates have been hiked since the January to March Q4 of 2019.
- Small savings rates for Kisan Vikas Patra (7%), 2-year time deposit (5.7%), 3 year time deposit (5.8%), senior citizen savings schemes (7.6%) and monthly income account (6.7%).

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

1. NHIDCL SIGNS MOU WITH IIT

- National Highway and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Technology, Patna.
- The main aim of this MoU is for cooperation in innovative solutions for highways construction.

2. TOYOTA'S PILOT PROJECT

- Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari has launched Toyota's first-of-its-kind pilot project.
- It's a Flex Fuel-Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicle (FFV-SHEV) that can run on 100% ethanol.
- During this launch, Toyota Corolla Altis FFV-SHEV was launched by importing it from Toyota Brazil.
- It runs on the 20 to 100 percent of ethanol blending.

3. DEADLINE FOR 6 AIRBAGS MANDATORY RULE

- The deadline for the mandatory implementation of 6 airbags rule for passenger cars (M1 Category) by one year to October 2023.
- This is done due to the global supply chain constraints faced by the auto industry and its impact on the macroeconomics.
- This is to ensure safety of occupants of the motor vehicle against lateral impact by amending the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

MINISTRY OF DEFENSE

WEAPON SYSTEMS BRANCH

- A New branch called the Weapon Systems (WS) Branch, is created for Indian Air Force on the honour of the 90th anniversary of Indian Air Force on October 8, 2022.
- This is the first new operational branch since Indian Independence.
- During the occasion, a new combat uniform pattern for IAF personnel was also released.

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

BIS SIGNS MOU WITH TIC COUNCIL

- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Testing, Inspection, and Certification (TIC) Council, India.
- The main aim of the MoU is to promote and harmonize the implementation of standards and quality, safety and sustainability practices in laboratories.
- The aim also includes the increase the global best practices in the field of laboratories.

MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZER

MOU TO IMPROVE THE AVAILABILITY OF MURIATE OF POTASH (MOP)

- Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with K plus S Middle East FZE DMCC.
- This is to improve the availability of Muriate of Potash (MOP) to increase the production of indigenous varieties of fertilizers.
- This will boost to increase indigenous varieties of fertilizers in various grades of complex forms.
- K plus S will supply 1,05,000 million tonnes (MT) MOP per annum for the period from 2022 to 2025 at a discounted India-specific price.

MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO HAS BEEN REVISED

- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) was launched by the Prime Minister on 22nd January, 2015 at Panipat, Haryana.
- BBBP addresses the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of women empowerment over a life-cycle continuum.
- This scheme will now include various things like enrolment in secondary education, raising awareness about menstrual hygiene and promoting the elimination of child marriage.
- They will also focus on removing the barriers that stop girls from pursuing diverse livelihood opportunities.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

1. ADANI GROUP RECEIVES LICENCE

- Adani Data Network has been granted a unified licence by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to give network access in 6 circles.
- The 6 circles include, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Mumbai.
- Adani Data Networks has spent Rs. 212 crore for 400 MHz of spectrum in the 26 GHz band.
- In Gujarat and Mumbai, the company holds 100 MHz of 5G spectrum each and remaining circles it will have 50 MHz each.

2. POSTAGE STAMP FOR THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF PIN CODE

- PIN Code or a Postal Index Number in India is a 6-digit numeric code in the Indian Postal System and was introduced on 15 August 1972.
- To honour the golden jubilee of PIN code, a postage stamp was released by Devunsinh Chauhan, Minister of State for Communication in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- Along with stamp, E-passbook and PLI Mobile Training App was launched.
- The PLI Mobile App will offer online training and facilitate conducting of online licentiate examinations.

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

SUSTAINABILITY AND CIRCULARITY IN VALUE CHAIN

- Textile Committee has signed a Cooperation Agreement on “Mainstreaming Sustainability and Circularity in the Textiles Sector” with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- This is to minimise the negative environmental impacts of the Indian textile industry.
- Campaigns and awareness programs will be created to promote sustainable practices and mainstreaming knowledge of circular production best practices in the textile and apparel sector.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

INTRODUCTION OF CHEETAHS

- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has formed a nine-member Task Force to monitor the introduction of cheetahs in Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh.
- The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) would assist and facilitate the operations of the Cheetah Task Force.
- This will help in reducing biodiversity degradation and loss and the recovery of native habitats of cheetahs.