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News in Short





## KARNATAKA ISSUES

- The satellite design and launch project by government school students has been named after the late Kannada actor **Puneeth Rajkumar**. The Puneeth Rajkumar Student Satellite Project will be launched by September 2022.
- **DYES 'B'** defeated Postal 4-1 in the Hockey Karnataka league championship
- Researchers at IISc, QBI develop model to predict how antibody responses determine efficacy of Covid vaccines
- A recent study conducted by **CSTEP** has revealed highest **PM2.5** in South zone, Rajarajeshwarinagar in Bengaluru
- 13th **Bengaluru International Film Festival 2022 (BIFFES 2022)** held
- Karnataka High Court highlighted only authorities notified by the State Government can initiate criminal prosecution for violation of provisions of the **Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act**. The act prevents the misuse of prenatal diagnostic technique for sex selective abortion
- Maintenance amount awarded in favour of wife under the provisions of the **Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005**, cannot be enhanced by a magistrate court by invoking the provision of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.PC), which allows altering allowances awarded for maintenance of wife or children or parents of a person, said the High Court of Karnataka.
- The **'Stree Manoraksha Project'** has been launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) in collaboration with NIMHANS Bengaluru. This was launched with the aim to improve women's mental health across India.
- **Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System** to ensure flow of equal quantity of water into the canals to ensure proper irrigation in dependent fields to be extended to other parts of the country. It is at present in place at canal gates of projects under Krishna Bhagya Jal Nigam Limited (KBJNL)
- Foundation stone for the Cosmology Education and Research Training Centre called **"COSMOS"**, featuring a high-tech planetarium, on the University of Mysore's Sri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar campus was recently unveiled. Hosts India's first planetarium with Digistar 7 system
- Speaking at the 12th edition of the 'Bengaluru India Nano' which is themed around the subject **'NanoTech for sustainable future'**, CM said Nano Urea will be a game changer in agri sector
- The Food and Civil Supplies Department will start the distribution of fortified rice from April 1 in 14 districts of the state under **'Poushtika Karnataka'** (Nutrition Karnataka) programme to eradicate malnutrition
- The **13th edition of the Bengaluru International Film** concluded recently. Doddahatti Boregowda and Pinki Elli? won the top honours in the Kannada cinema section for 2021 and 2020 respectively. Yuvarathna won the best Kannada popular entertainment award for 2021.



- **Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike** has finally been brought within the ambit of the **Karnataka Local Fund Authorities Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2003**
- Karnataka government has launched **Women@Work (W@W) programme**. It aims to provide 5,000 jobs for women with the necessary employable skills by 2026.
- The Higher Education Department of Karnataka has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the British Council to provide global skills for students pursuing higher education in the state.
- Karnataka's **maternal mortality ratio (MMR)** has declined by nine points from 92 per lakh live births in 2016-2018 to 83 in 2017-2019, during the pre-COVID-19 period.
- **'Grameena Habba,'** a platform for rural artisans to sell handicraft, agricultural, and handloom products, is being held by **NABARD's** Karnataka regional office in Bengaluru
- University of Mysore will be conferring a honorary doctorate on late actor **Puneeth Rajkumar** at its 102nd annual convocation
- The four-day **All-India Vice-Chancellors' Conference** will be held in Mysuru . University of Mysore is hosting the conference where the V-Cs of universities from across the country will participate with some on the virtual platform.
- Karnataka Chief Minister announced in his budget that the **tur dal grown in Kalaburagi** and Yadgir districts will be sold in the brand name of **'Bhima Pulse'**. However it is questioned because the **geographical indication (GI)** recognition has been accorded to tur dal grown in Kalaburagi district only and not for all the pulses
- The State Government has decided to have year-long celebration of **Shantaveri Gopala Gowda's** birth centenary and also present "The Best Farmer" and "Best Legislator" awards annually in his name. He is considered one of India's most important socialist leaders, and a pioneer of socialism in Karnataka
- An **Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Technology Park (ARTPARK)** was launched at the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** in Bengaluru. ARTPARK has been set up to effectively use technology, specifically AI and robotics, for the country's betterment
- In a landmark judgment, the Karnataka High Court ruled that wearing of **hijab** by Muslim women is does not form essential religious practice in the Islamic faith and prescribing uniform is not a violation of fundamental rights guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) and 25 of the Constitution
- As per recently released economic survey , Karnataka State's **Total Fertility Rate** falling faster than national trend. TFR is total number of children born or likely to be born to a woman in her lifetime if she were subject to the prevailing rate of age-specific fertility in the population.
- A report of the **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)** of India revealed that the BBMP roads in Bengaluru are more hazardous for users, with an average of 19-20 hazards per km, than the State and national highways.
- Country's first Digital Water Bank **'AQVERIUM'** launched in Bengaluru aims to provide clean drinking water & sanitation
- For the benefit of students who are lagging behind in learning skills due to the pandemic, the State government launched **Kalika Chetarike** (improve learning levels) programme.



The closure of physical classes due to the pandemic has negatively impacted students' learning skills.

- Bengaluru's Aster CMI Hospital, in association with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), launched an **artificial intelligence (AI) lab** on Friday. It is set up with the aim to build cutting-edge AI products in the healthcare domain and bridge the gap between clinical medicine and technology by training healthcare professionals in AI
- The **Karnataka State Pollution Control Board** has said the manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of single-use less than 100 microns would be prohibited from July 1
- **Dishaank** is an application developed by Karnataka to ensure easy access to land records.
- The KSR Bengaluru Railway Station will market '**Channapatna toys**' under the '**One Station, One Product**' (OSOP) scheme.
- BWSSB's **rainwater harvesting theme park**, named after Sir M Vishweshwariah completes 10 years. It was established in 2012
- The Karnataka government has announced **Vinaya Samarasya Yojana**, an awareness programme meant to eradicate untouchability in Gram Panchayats across the state
- The high court of Karnataka directed the government to submit a status report on the constitution of the **Civil Services Board (CSB)** in compliance with the directions of the Supreme Court in 2013
- Karnataka Cabinet clears **Karnataka Renewable Energy Policy**. It aims at developing the State as a hub of renewable energy generation as well as manufacturing of equipment related to renewable energy



## NATIONAL ISSUES

- The **Delhi police** launched their revamped official website and new digital initiatives such as **QR code-based public feedback system**.
- **“Ungalil Oruvan”** (One Among You) is the autobiography of Tamil Nadu Chief **Minister M K Stalin**
- Ministry of external affairs set up 24x7 control centres in order to assist the evacuation of Indian nationals from **Ukraine**. India also launched a multi-prong evacuation plan titled **‘Operation Ganga’**.
- The **West Bengal** government’s ambitious **Deocha Pachami coal block** mining project despite the announcement of a relief and rehabilitation package, saw widespread protests which resulted in the arrests of nine people including economist-activist Prasenjit Bose.
- **International Monsoons Project Office** launched to scientifically study monsoons. It is hosted at the **Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune** under Ministry of Earth Sciences
- **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights** Celebrates its **17th Foundation Day**. NCPCR was set up in March 2007, Under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 for Protection of Child Rights
- **Uthralikkavu Pooram** festival celebrated. It is annual festival of Ruthira Mahakalikavu Temple in Vadakkancherry, Thrissur , Kerala
- Air Marshal Sreekumar Prabhakaran assumed command of Delhi based Western Air Command
- President of India Inaugurates **Arogya Vanam** at President’s Estate. Spread in 6.6 acres, the Arogya Vanam has been developed in the shape of a human sitting in the Yoga Mudra. The concept of Arogya Vanam has been conceived with the aim of publicising the importance of Ayurvedic plants and their effects on human body.
- **Madhabi Puri Buch** is the first woman chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- **NCPCR & Border Security Force** jointly launched special initiative called **‘SAHARA’**, which is an initiative to provide psycho-social counselling & support to children of BSF jawans who made the supreme sacrifice.
- The **Indian FMCG industry** witnessed a consumption slowdown in urban markets and degrowth in rural areas in 2021 due to higher which caused price rises, according to data analytics firm NielsenIQ. FMCG stands for Fast-moving consumer goods. Few examples include meat, vegetables, dairy products etc
- Central government to launch the **electronic bill (e-Bill) processing system** under the Digital India eco-system and ease of doing business
- **World Wildlife Day** is celebrated every year on the 3rd of March since 2013. UNGA resolution also designated the CITES Secretariat as the facilitator for the global observance of World Wildlife Day.



- The **State of India's Environment Report, 2022** of the Centre for Science and Environment was released recently. Kerala topped the list
- **Invest4iDEX** is an event that will be organized during the Defence Expo 2022. In this event, start-ups will be able to pitch their ideas in front of a live audience of reputable investors and venture capitalists.
- India's indigenous **INS Visakhapatnam** was dedicated to the Visakhapatnam city formally
- Under "**Relief and Rehabilitation of Migrants and Repatriates scheme**", Central Government has approved the proposal for continuation of seven existing sub schemes for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26. Beneficiaries get assistance from Home Ministry
- **Trade Deficit** of India is expected to increase. When a country's imports surpass its exports in a fiscal year, it is considered to be a trade deficit
- Historic resolution on Plastic Pollution adopted by 175 countries at the fifth **United Nations Environment Assembly**. It was initiated by India
- **Swiss Air Lines**, the subsidiary of Lufthansa, plans to become the world's first airline to use **solar fuel**. It is based on SYNGAS
- Ministry of Defence (MoD) has offered four projects to the Indian Industry for design & development under **Make-I category of Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020**.
- **Meghalaya** has withdrawn **consent to the CBI**, becoming the ninth state to do so. The withdrawal of consent means that the agency will not be able to investigate any case in the state without the state government's permission.
- A nodal organization named "**MeitY Startup Hub' (MSH)** has been set up under the ambit of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) with the aim of promoting start-ups, technology innovation, and the creation of Intellectual Properties.
- To build awareness amongst citizens about good governance, MyGov has launched the "**Sabka Vikas MahaQuiz**" series.
- Andhra Pradesh government announced that ₹5 lakh per acre financial package would be given to the farmers who parted with their lands for the Polavaram irrigation project prior to the enactment of the **Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013**.
- A Member of the **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)** of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has been opposing the RBI's accommodative policy stance
- A team of scientists from the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) have discovered a new gin berry species from the Kanyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu. The species is **Glycosmis albicarpa**
- **Kavach**, an indigenously developed Automatic Train Protection System showcased on South Central Railway Friday, is earmarked for aggressive rollout on 2,000 km in 2022-23, according the Budget proposals. It is railway protection service, which prevents collision
- Government has approved the scheme - Modernisation Plan-IV for Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) in continuation of the scheme "**Modernisation Plan-III for CAPFs**. It is under Ministry of Home Affairs
- The **Kaliyattam festival** is an annual Theyyam festival held in the temples in Kerala's Malabar region. It is a dance festival
- Former Army Chief **Gen Sunith Francis Rodrigues** passes away



- The Delhi government inaugurated the **Delhi Teachers University**, which will offer programmes such as BA-BEd and BSc-BEd. The programmes at the university have been designed to ensure that teacher-trainees in the university spend 30-50% of their time in schools and get hands-on learning experience from the very first month of their course.
- India celebrated 7 March as '**Janaushadhi Diwas**'. Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana was launched on this day
- Hatchlings of the critically endangered **Olive Ridley Sea Turtles** rescued at Ankola
- Preliminary findings of a study by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) suggest that the density of tigers in the **Sunderbans** may have reached the carrying capacity of the mangrove forests, leading to frequent dispersals and a surge in human-wildlife conflict
- **HANSA-NG** has completed sea-level trials in Puducherry. It is First-of-its-kind indigenous aircraft trainer developed by CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL)
- The Indian Navy successfully demonstrated the accuracy of an extended-range land attack **Brahmos supersonic cruise missile** from the stealth destroyer INS Chennai.
- **4th March** is observed as **National Safety Day**. This day aims to raise awareness regarding all safety protocols which includes workplaces, on-roads, the environment, and health. On March 4, 1966, the National Safety Council was established. Theme 2022 - "Nurture young minds – develop a safety culture"
- India celebrates **National Security Day** on March 4th. It is also known as **Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas**, and it honors the security forces of India. The aim of the day is to express gratitude to the nation's security forces, which include paramilitary, military, police officers, commandos, guards, and India's security forces, as well as those who help in maintaining the security and peace of the country.
- '**Sambhav**' and '**Svavlamban**' initiatives were launched by Indian government at the International Summit on Plastics Recycling and Waste Management. These initiatives aim to encourage young entrepreneurs, especially from the aspirational districts of India.
- The Union Labour and Employment Ministry launched the "**donate a pension**" scheme allowing any citizen to pay the premium amount on behalf of an unorganised worker under the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Scheme.
- Government of India launched a Special Entrepreneurship Promotion Drive for Women – "**SAMARTH**" on the occasion of International Women's Day 2022
- 53rd Raising Day celebrations of **Central Industrial Security Force** was recently celebrated
- **India Global Forum's (IGF)** annual summit will bring together prominent faces of tech-driven disruption and those who have entered the unicorn club, as well as Union ministers, politicians, and global business executives. It was recently held in Bengaluru
- The Ninth Edition of India - Sri Lanka Bilateral Maritime **Exercise SLINEX (Sri Lanka-India Naval Exercise)** was held at Visakhapatnam recently
- **TRAPPIST-1** is a red dwarf star in the Aquarius constellation
- The virtual **International Election Visitors Programme (IEVP) 2022** was hosted by the Election Commission of India (ECI) for Election Management Bodies (EMBs) from nearly 32 countries and four international organisations to visit polling stations and observe electoral processes. It is hosted since 2012



- **Acetabularia jalakanyakae** is the new marine algae species discovered in Andaman island, which is similar to another green algal species called *Acetabularia crenulata* found in Florida
- NOTE - **Climatepreneurship** is a form of social entrepreneurship to fight climate change
- An e-Book regarding the journey of the **National Career Service (NCS)** was recently launched. NCS is a Mission Mode Project launched by Prime Minister Modi in 2015. It is being implemented by the Directorate General of Employment, Ministry of Labor & Employment
- The National Museum, New Delhi celebrated International Women's Day 2022 by organising a special Exhibition titled "Power, Patronage, and Piety – Celebrating Womanhood"
- Culture Ministry celebrates International Women's Day 2022 with the theme #BreakTheBias and #SharingIsCaring
- Union ministry of women and children launched **Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav** campaign. It aims to increase the enrolment and retention of the number of adolescent girls (girls aged 11 to 14) in school
- **Camel Protection and Development Policy** was announced by state government of **Rajasthan** in its budget 2022-23. Camel was declared as the state animal of Rajasthan in 2014
- The National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) has now deployed "**PARAM Ganga**", a supercomputer at IIT Roorkee, with a supercomputing capacity of 1.66 Petaflops
- New data from **Chandra's Atmospheric Composition Explorer-2 (CHACE-2)** mass spectrometer on Chandrayaan-2 show the distribution of Argon-40 gas in the lunar 'exosphere', beyond the areas this was known to exist
- On March 7, the Gujarat government marked 100 years of the **Pal-Dadhvav killings**
- 3rd edition of **National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF)** to be completed. It aims to hear the voice of youth between 18 and less than 25 years of age, who are electors but cannot stand in elections through deliberations in youth Parliament at district level and above.
- Cabinet approves Amendment of the Second Schedule to the **Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957** for specifying rate of royalty in respect of certain minerals.
- Reserve Bank of India launched a new Unified Payments Interface (UPI) payments solution for feature phone users dubbed '**UPI123Pay**'. It is UPI-based service designed to bring the digital payments platform closer to a significant number of feature phone mobile subscribers in the country
- As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5, **Odisha** has the **highest coverage of full immunization** in the country, with 90.5 percent coverage. Preventive doses against 12 different kinds of diseases are included in full immunization
- Cabinet approves establishment of **WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine** in India at Jamnagar, Gujarat. This will position AYUSH systems across the globe





- Union Minister of Labor and Employment presented **Vishwakarma Rashtriya Puraskar (VRP)** and **National Safety Awards (NSA)**. They are presented by the Ministry of Labor & Employment since 1965
- The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of a new government-owned firm for pooling and monetising sovereign and public sector land assets. The **National Land Monetisation Corporation (NLMC)** is being formed with an initial authorised share capital of ₹5,000 crore and paid-up capital of ₹150 crore.
- **Jharokha-Compendium of Indian handicraft/ handloom**, art, and culture programme is being organized by the Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Textiles to celebrate the traditional Indian handlooms, handicrafts, and art & culture.
- Chhattisgarh government launched '**Kaushalya Matritva Yojana**'. Under this scheme, on the birth of a second girl child Rs 5000 financial assistance will be given to women.
- The **largest reclining statue of Lord Buddha** in India is being built in **Bodh Gaya, Bihar**. India's Buddhist pilgrimage circuit is being proactively revived and Bodh Gaya is an integral part of it. Hence, the site of Gautam Buddha's enlightenment will soon be home to his largest reclining statue.
- **Smart Event Tracking System (SETS)** is a Google Maps-based planning and analysis tool. It is in-house software of the Indian Railways, which is being used to tackle the problem of cattle getting run over by the trains. Kilometer stamps on electrical masts along the railway tracks are mapped and the exact location of 'cattle run over' is fed into the system
- India's **first 100 percent women-owned industrial park** was opened in Hyderabad, **Telangana**. The FLO Industrial Park is named after the FICCI Ladies Organization (FLO), which is promoting it in association with the Telangana government.
- **Ex DHARMA GUARDIAN-2022**, an annual exercise between Indian Army and Japanese Ground Self Defence Force culminated at Foreign Training Node, Belgaum
- A webinar on Captive Employment Policy under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) was recently held. **CAPTIVE EMPLOYER** is any employer or industry who provide employment to candidates in their own organization or one of its subsidiaries and has suitable in-house training facilities
- Union Ministry of Power has launched the **Virtual Smart Grid Knowledge Center (Virtual SGKC) and Innovation Park**. Smart grid is electrical Grid with Automation, Communication and IT systems established by POWERGRID
- **Care at work report** was released recently by **International Labor Organization**
- The **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup 2022** was held in **Cairo, Egypt**
- **Haryana** state budget has announced a '**Sushma Swaraj Award**' for women for their significant achievements or contribution in different walks of life in the international and national spheres.
- Sahitya Akademi's Festival of Letters known as **Sahityotsav** is India's most inclusive literature festival. It is being held in New Delhi
- A **floating solar project at Thoothukudi in Tamil Nadu** has been set up by leading fertilizer manufacturer Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Ltd (SPIC)



- 37th Foundation Day celebrations of **National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)** was recently held. It is Nodal agency For authentic source of data on crime on various parameters Under Union Home Ministry
- Government of India launched the **MSME Innovative Scheme**. It aims to Guide the MSMEs in developing business ideas into viable business propositions
- **Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela**, organised by IARI, New Delhi, on the theme “**Self-reliant farmer with technical knowledge**” was recently held. 41 Innovative Farmers awarded
- The Supreme Court named AK Sikri, as chairperson of the High-Powered Committee (HPC), which will assess the **Chardham project**'s cumulative and independent impact on the entire Himalayan valley.
- The **production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme** for the drone industry was notified by the Ministry of civil aviation. Under the scheme, manufacturers of drones and drone components will be given an incentive of 20% of the value addition made by them during the next three years.
- The first '**Gati Shakti**' cargo terminal of Indian Railways' was inaugurated in the Eastern Railway's Asansol division.
- The government of India is proposing **National Policy for Medical Devices, 2022** to reduce India's dependence on import of high-end medical devices.
- **National Vaccination/Immunisation Day** is observed every year on March 16 to convey the significance of vaccination as well as its role in public health. On this day first polio vaccine was given in India
- As per RBI recent report, **gross NPA** have increased in MSME. Debt is classified as non-performing, when the loan payments have not been made for a minimum period of 90 days
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) allowed **Microfinance Institutions(MFI)** the freedom to set interest rates they charge borrowers. Microfinance Institution is an Organization that offers financial services to low income populations.
- The government has notified certain amendments to **Census rules** to allow online self-enumeration in the upcoming Census and National Population Register (NPR)
- Government of India launched '**India Water Pitch-Pilot-Scale Start-up Challenge**' under **AMRUT 2.0** which will select 100 start-ups through this challenge and provide Rs.20 lakh each as funding support
- The Odisha government has proposed to ban movement of mechanised fishing boats in the Mangalajodi area of the Chilika lake, an important haunt of migratory birds, to provide the winged guests an undisturbed ecosystem for six months every year.
- PM paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and all the eminent persons who marched to Dandi in order to protest injustice and protect our nation's self-esteem. The day also marks beginning of Civil Disobedience Movement
- Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has proposed the rejuvenation of 13 major rivers across the country. **River rejuvenation** is the renewal of the erosive activity of the river
- United States President approved a arms package for Ukraine, which would include U.S. made **Man-Portable Air-Defence Systems (MANPADS)**.



- ISRO successfully completed the ground test of the solid-fuel based booster stage (SS1) of its new **Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)**, completing the ground testing of all three stages of the launch vehicle
- While hearing a criminal appeal against the Bihar Government recently, Chief Justice of India admonished a counsel for submitting a **'sealed cover report'** to the court. It is Practice used by the Supreme Court and sometimes lower courts, of asking for or accepting information from government agencies in sealed envelopes that can only be accessed by judges
- The Supreme Court upheld the Centre's one rank, one pension (OROP) scheme for the armed forces. It implies uniform pension to personal based on rank and length of service, irrespective of the date of retirement.
- **Maharashtra** has decided to withdraw from the **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bhima Yojana (PMFBY)** if changes to it are not carried out. It is crop insurance scheme
- World's most advanced technology-developed Green Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle Toyota Mirai was recently launched.
- The Kerala High Court asked organisations associated with the film industry to take steps to constitute a joint committee to deal with cases of sexual harassment of women, in line with the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act of 2013
- Parliament's Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj has asked the government to roll back the system of **caste-based wages**, under which NREGS workers are paid based on whether they belong to a Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, or Others
- **Arabian Tropicbird**, one of the rarest seabirds in Kerala, has been sighted off the Kollam coast during a pelagic survey
- Government of India released **India's Arctic Policy**, with the aim of enhancing the country's cooperation with the resource-rich and rapidly transforming region
- **Telangana** has started documenting crop diversification trends in the form of an index- **CROP DIVERSIFICATION INDEX** for the first time in the country, following the paddy procurement row with the Centre and the state government asking farmers to opt for alternate crops.
- Information & Broadcasting Ministry asked the **Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC India)** to resume "news channel ratings" with immediate effect.
- This year's first cyclone is set to develop in the Bay of Bengal around March 21, said the India Meteorological Department. Once it intensifies into a storm, the cyclone will be called **Asani**, a name given by Sri Lanka.
- The government of Sikkim is set to announce the **Bahini scheme** in its annual Budget later this month. The Bahini scheme aims to provide secondary and senior secondary school-going girls with 100% access to free and safe sanitary pads.
- The **European Union (EU) countries** decided to impose the world's **first carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions tariff** on imports of polluting goods.



- India has plans to introduce eight deep ocean to strengthen the capacity of observations in the Indian Ocean as part of its '**Deep Ocean Mission**'. **Ocean gliders** are Autonomous, unmanned underwater vehicle used for ocean science
- Australia's **Great Barrier Reef** is suffering widespread and severe coral bleaching due to high ocean temperatures two years after a mass bleaching event.
- Tribals of Gujarat are protesting against **Par-Tapi-Narmada River linking project**
- Border roads organizations is pushing to adopt **MULE PACKS** for transfer of goods in Arunachal Pradesh where there is poor road connectivity. A mule is a offspring of a male donkey (jack) and a female horse (mare)
- Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand, have declared the Kashmir Files movie tax-free. It is decided by state government on various parameters and there is no specific set up
- **Bihar** to become the first state to implement **dynamic map** to track land ownerships
- Assam government informed the Assembly that nearly 1.44 lakh illegal foreigners had been identified in the state until January 31 this year based on the **1985 Assam Accord**
- India's projected economic growth for 2022 has been downgraded by over two per cent to 4.6% as per **UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) report**. The decrease is attributed to the ongoing war in Ukraine
- ISRO said **GSLV-F10/EOS-03 mission** has failed. State-of-the-art agile Earth observation satellite
- The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)** has given the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for capital acquisition proposals for **GSAT 7B satellite**, along with equipment like Night Sight (image intensifier), 4X4 light vehicles, and Air Defence Fire Control Radar (light).
- President of India presented the **President's Colour** to **INS Valsura**, the Navy's premier technological training establishment
- Niti Aayog released **export preparedness index**. Gujarat topped the list
- Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life recommends to celebrate **October 5** as **National Dolphin Day**
- Cabinet approves extension of **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY)** for 6 months. It is Part of Atmanirbhar Bharat to supply free food grains to migrants and poor.
- 'Alopecia Areata' disease has been recently in discussion. It is a Medical condition that causes sudden hair loss in patches
- The Indian Army has issued a Request For Information (RFI) for the supply of **Articulated All-Terrain Vehicles** to be deployed in Ladakh and Kutch.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted two successful flight tests of the Army version of **Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM)** at off the coast of Odisha
- The milestone of having 50,000 **open defecation-free (ODF) Plus villages** has been crossed by the country. It is a village which sustains its Open Defecation Free (ODF) status, ensures solid and liquid waste management and is visually clean
- **Zojila tunnel** deadline advanced to 2024.
- COP-4 **Minamata Convention** on Mercury, took place in Bali, Indonesia recently,



- In a recent study, **Micro-plastics** was discovered from Human Blood. They are Tiny bits of various types of plastic found in the environment
- **Punjab** Chief Minister announced home delivery of foodgrains to beneficiaries. Under the **Ghar Ghar Ration Yojna**, the state government would deliver wheat, packed in bags, at the doorstep of the beneficiaries
- The government introduced the **Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, 2022** in Lok Sabha amid strong protests from the Opposition. The Bill proposes to allow the police and prison authorities to collect, store and analyse physical and biological samples including retina and iris scans.
- **P V Sindhu** won the **Swiss Open 2022** defeating Busanan Ongbamrungphan of Thailand in the finals of the Swiss Open Super 300 badminton tournament held in Basel, Switzerland.
- **'Prasthan'** is an offshore security exercise that was conducted in Mumbai's Offshore Development Area (ODA) recently. This exercise was conducted under the aegis of the Western Naval Command's Headquarters.
- According to the newly released **National Tuberculosis Prevalence Survey 2019-2021**, the highest incidents of pulmonary tuberculosis cases across the country were recorded in Delhi with the lowest being in Kerala.
- The impact of the pandemic on livelihood has persisted far beyond the lockdowns, found a survey by the Azim Premji University, in collaboration with nine civil society organisations
- The population of the greater one-horned or **Indian rhinoceros** in the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve has increased by 200 in four years, the latest census has revealed
- Polar Science and Cryosphere (PACER) scheme has been approved for continuation by the Union Cabinet from 2021 to 2026
- In the context of ongoing 'Matua Dharma Maha Mela 2022', **Harichand Thakur** is being remembered
- **3rd National Water Awards** presented. The National Water Award was launched by the Jal Shakti Ministry in 2018 to recognise and motivate individuals and organizations doing exemplary work in the field of water resources management
- Wildfire is troubling the forests of **Sasrika tiger reserve**. It is in Aravali, part of the Alwar District of Rajasthan
- To step up tracking of space debris, ISRO is deploying New radars and optical telescopes under **PROJECT NETRA**
- The Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting issued orders to merge production of documentaries and short films, organization of film festivals and preservation of films to the **National Film Development Corporation (NFDC)**, a PSU working under the ministry.
- Lok Sabha passes Bill to merge Delhi corporations
- The Central government has decided to remove **Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA)** from certain districts in Nagaland, Assam and Manipur
- The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) approved the procurement of 15 indigenously developed **Light Combat Helicopters (LCH)**



## INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

- Every year on February 27, people all over the world celebrate **World NGO Day** to honour the work and contributions of various NGOs. NGO stands for Non-Governmental Organization, and it is a type of organization that works to improve society.
- On the fourth day of Russian invasion to Ukraine, Russia destroyed the largest plane in the world called "**Ukraine's Antonov-225 cargo plane**". The plane was destroyed outside Kyiv.
- **FIFA** decided to indefinitely suspend all Russian teams, whether national representative teams or club teams, from participation in all competitions run by the two football bodies
- Turkey is set to implement **MONTREUX CONVENTION** on naval passage through two of its strategic straits, which would allow them to limit the movement of Russian warships between the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea.
- Ukraine launched a case against Russia at **INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE** accusing **Moscow** of planning genocide and asking for the court to intervene to halt the invasion and order Russia to pay reparations. It is one of organ of UNO
- The **Zero Discrimination Day** was first launched in December 2013, by Michel Sidibe who was the director of UNAIDS. It was first observed on March 1, 2014. UNAIDS led the way to ease the life of people living with HIV/AIDS who face discrimination because of their ailment. The theme for Zero Discrimination Day 2022 is 'Remove Laws That Harm, Create Laws That Empower.'
- India abstained on a vote at the **UN Human Rights Council in Geneva** as the Council decided to set up an international commission of enquiry into Russia's actions in Ukraine.
- **Shane Warne**, one of cricket's greatest spinners, passed away
- The **Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)** is an international treaty that prohibits all use, transfer, production and stockpiling of cluster bombs.
- **Government of India & International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** signed the **Host Country Agreement (HCA)**. It Provides the legal and financial framework for the establishment and operations of the Area Office and innovation center of ITU in New Delhi, India
- **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** has included United Arab Emirates (UAE) in its grey list.
- **March 8** is celebrated as **International Women's Day** across the world to promote women's rights and honour their achievements across the political, economic, social and cultural spheres
- NATO reluctant to declare Ukrainian airspace as a '**No Fly Zone**'. It is particular airspace wherein aircrafts, excluding those permitted by an enforcement agency, are barred from flying
- **Sri Lanka** is mourning the death a much-loved Indian elephant that made the island nation its home for nearly half a century, and was named a "national treasure"



- The **Philippines** raised its age of sexual consent from 12 years to 16 years, with amendment to the Special Protection of Children against Abuse, Exploitation, and Discrimination Act
- **Argentina federal police** will now effectively use technique of **Yoga for stress** management of its personnel.
- **EU Member States** on March 3 made the unprecedented decision to activate the European Union's Council Directive known as the **Temporary Protection Directive**
- Scientists have found the sunken wreck of polar explorer **Ernest Shackleton's ship Endurance**, more than a century after it was lost to the Antarctic ice. The vessel lies 3,000 meters below the surface of the Weddell Sea, about 6.4 kilometers south of the location recorded in 1915 by its captain, Frank Worsley. An expedition set off from South Africa last month to search for the ship, which was crushed by ice and sank in November 1915.
- On March 10th **International Day of Women Judges** is observed. On this day the UN reaffirms its commitment to implement and develop effective and appropriate strategies for women's advancement in the judicial system and institution at the leadership and managerial level.
- **Gabriel Boric** elected as the youngest president in the **Chile's** history
- **Yoon Suk-yeol** elected as **South Korean president**
- India and Japan held the sixth joint meeting of the **India-Japan Act East Forum (AEF)** recently. It is a joint forum between India and Japan to discuss and work on issues of North east
- Every year, 15 March is celebrated as **World Consumer Rights Day (WCRD)**
- **Katalin Novák** has been elected as Hungary's first female president by the **Hungarian** parliament.
- The United States, the European Union, Britain, Canada and Japan to move jointly to revoke Russia's "**most favoured nation**" (**MFN**) status over its invasion of Ukraine
- Russia-Ukraine war has disrupted **World Food Programme**. It is Food assistance branch of the United Nations and world's largest humanitarian organization that addresses hunger and promoting food security
- India told the UN Security Council meeting said it attaches importance to the **Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC)**. It is First multilateral treaty categorically banning a class of weapon
- **World Sparrow Day** is celebrated every year on **20 March**. The aim is to spread awareness about the decline of the domestic sparrow
- A "**Green Triangle**" named after Mahatma Gandhi was inaugurated in Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar
- **Gilbert F. Hougbo** has recently been elected as the **International Labour Organization's** 11th Director-General
- **TEJAS** (Training for Emirates Jobs And Skills), a Skill India International Project to train overseas Indians was launched at the Dubai Expo, 2020