



Monthly CA One Liner – April 2022

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Banking & Finance

- The **Maharashtra** government launched a **scheme to provide personal loans** for **prisoners & the Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank** will give loans under the scheme up to **Rs 50,000** at an **interest rate of 7 per cent**.
- **Google Pay** has partnered with **Pine Labs** to launch **Tap to Pay for UPI** - a functionality that aims to bring the seamless convenience of Tap to Pay to UPI.
- State-owned **Central Bank of India** has selected **Kwik.ID** to implement digital **know your customer (KYC), video KYC and eKYC** for its network across India.
- **HDFC ERGO General Insurance Co.** has launched a digital customer engagement and rewards programme - **VAULT** an industry-**first digital customer engagement and rewards program**.
- The **government plans to sell upto 1.5% equity stake** in state-run **oil and gas giant ONGC Ltd** via an offer for sale of equity shares over two days beginning on March 29, **to raise upto Rs 3,000 crore**.
- **Indian private lender IDBI Bank** has announced plans to sell its stake in the life insurance joint venture with **Ageas Insurance International and Federal Bank**.



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- **Nabet India** and **PNB Housing Finance Pvt Ltd** joined hands to carry out a **special women's health and wellness initiative**.
- Capital markets regulator **Sebi** imposed fines totaling **Rs 25 lakh on five entities** for conducting **non-genuine trades** in the illiquid stock option segment in **BSE**.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and **HSBC India** have signed an agreement to establish a **\$100 million partial-guarantee programme** to support **more than 400,000 (0.4 million) micro-borrowers** and mostly women-run microenterprises across India.
- Financial services company **FinMapp** has received a **licence** from **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** under the **National Pension Scheme (NPS)**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has extended the **timeline for implementation of cassette swap** in all **ATMs by banks** by one year till **March 31, 2023**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has decided to **reduce the Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for states and Union Territories to Rs 47,010 crore from Rs 51,560 crore**, in view of improvement in the pandemic situation.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has announced the **limit for Ways and Means Advances (WMA)** for the **first half of the financial year 2022-23 (April 2022 to September 2022)** will be **₹1,50,000 crore**.
- **Redemption Digital Technology Private Limited** has **soft-launched India's first KYC-compliant crypto token – Redemption**.
- **Chairperson of SEBI Madhabi Puri Buch** in association with the other market infrastructure institutions and **QRTAs**, has announced the launch of **'Manthan'**, an Ideathon for supporting new ideas and innovations in the securities market.

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- The **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) Economic Outlook Survey** has estimated India's **GDP** to grow at **7.4%** in the **financial year 2022-23 (FY23)** with a minimum and maximum growth estimate of **6.0 per cent and 7.8 per cent**, respectively.
- **Aegon Life**, a digital life insurance company, has partnered **Ahalia Finforex**, a Kerala-based diversified financial services firm, to provide [life insurance](#) access to the **unorganized and unserved segments** residing in **tier 2, tier 3, and tier 4 towns**.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has projected the GDP growth rate of the Indian economy, in its **flagship Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2022** projected India's economic growth for the year **2022-23 (FY23) – 7.5 percent & 2023-24 (FY24) – 8.0 percent**.
- Financial products distributor **ICICIdirect** entered a partnership with digital B2B platform for insurance services **CoverStack** under which the entire customer journey on **icicidirect.com** for insurance products will be powered by CoverStack.
- The **World Bank** and **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** will provide a **loan of Rs 7,500 crore** for the **Gujarat government's Mission School of Excellence project**.
- On the basis of an assessment of the current and evolving macroeconomic situation, the **Reserve Bank of India** conducted its **first Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting for 2022-23 between April 6- 8, 2022**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed **monetary penalties of Rs 93 lakh and Rs 90 lakh** on **Axis Bank and IDBI Bank**, respectively, for **non-compliance of certain directions** issued by RBI.
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)** has set up **two separate expert groups** to **examine the roles, eligibility criteria and functions of sponsors and trustees at asset management companies (AMCs)**



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- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and **Louis Dreyfus Company BV (LDC)** have signed a loan of up to **\$100 million** to help **smallholder farmers in countries**, including India and Pakistan recover from the economic challenges caused by Covid-19 and improve resilience to climate change impacts
- **Chairman of Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank P. Gopi Krishna** launched a new deposit scheme of the bank, **Vikas Siri Sampat-1111**.
- One of India's fastest growing life insurers, **Tata AIA Life Insurance Co Ltd**, has partnered with **Common Services Centers (CSC)**, under the **Ministry of Electronics & IT** to engage its **network of over 4 lakh Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs)** at the last mile for distribution of life insurance plans.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** signed an **agreement** with the **Government of India** to offer a **\$2 million project readiness financing (PRF) loan**.
- **India's gold imports**, which have a bearing on the country's current account deficit (CAD), **rose by 33.34 per cent to USD 46.14 billion** during 2021-22 fiscal on account of higher demand.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has sanctioned an amount of **\$76.25 million or Rs 551 crore** for three specific projects under the **Agartala Smart City Limited**.
- The **Central government** and the **Asian Development Bank** signed a **\$2 million Project Readiness Financing (PRF) Loan** for designing climate resilient urban infrastructure, strengthening institutional capacity and improving municipal resource mobilization.
- **ICICI Bank** and **GIFT SEZ at GIFT City in Gandhinagar, Gujarat**, signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** to promote the **special economic zone** to Indian as well as global businesses including **IT, IT-enabled services** and **financial services**.



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- On the occasion of **128th foundation day**, **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** launches **Cardless Cash Withdrawal and Virtual Debit Card**, along with a range of other select digital services on its mobile app named **PNB One**, for safe banking transactions.
- Mashreq NEO**, the full-service digital bank from Mashreq Bank in Dubai, UAE has tied up with **Federal Bank** to enable **Mashreq Neo's Indian customers** to open a Non-Resident account In India, instantly via the **Neo app**.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank** has launched **Kotak FYN**, its new enterprise portal exclusive for business banking and corporate clients.
- According to the **World Bank's bi-annual "South Asia Economic Focus" report**, it has cut India's **GDP** forecast for **fiscal year 2022-23 to 8% from 8.7%** predicted **earlier**, citing the impact of the war in Ukraine, high global oil prices, elevated inflation and supply disruptions.
- PhonePe**, one app for all things money, and **Extreme IX**, an Indian internet exchange point, have joined hands to form a partnership that will enable a faster digital payments experience for over **370 million PhonePe users**.
- The Center has raised the authorized capital of **₹5,000 crore** in three public sector insurance companies namely **Oriental Insurance Company Limited (OICL)**, **National Insurance Co. Ltd. (NICK)** and **United India Insurance Co. Ltd. (UICL)** – to enable subscription of capital.
- The **government** has amended rules of the **Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA)**, paving the way for up to **20 per cent foreign direct investment** in the insurance behemoth LIC.
- The **fintech firm 121 Finance** has become **India's first NBFC (Non Banking Financial Company) -factor** to receive the **certificate of registration under registration of factors (Reserve Bank) regulations, 2022**
- Nexo**, the leading regulated institution for digital assets, officially launched the **Nexo Card**, a first-of-its-kind crypto-backed **Mastercard & DiPocket**, in selected **European markets**.



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- India's largest public lender **State Bank of India (SBI)** has raised **3-year funds of \$500 million (over Rs 3,800 crore)** through its **IFSC Gift City branch** & this is the **first offshore USD Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)** linked syndicated loan raised by SBI through its Gift City branch.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a **fine** of over **Rs 17,63,965 on non-banking finance company Manappuram Finance** for violating **KYC guidelines** as well as norms related to prepaid payment instruments.
- The **World Bank** lowered its annual **global growth forecast for 2022** to **3.2%** due to the impacts from Russia's invasion of Ukraine on the world economy & earlier this was estimated at **4.1%**.
- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**, in its latest **World Economic Outlook report**, slashed the **gross domestic product (GDP)** growth forecast for India in FY23 to **8.2 percent** & earlier in the January 2022 report, this was estimated at **9 percent**.
- The **Central Bank of Russia (CBR)** has registered a new payment system called **HELLO** to the national register of credit institutions.
- On the occasion of the **75th anniversary of Indian Independence & ongoing Azadi ka Amrit Mahotasav**, **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)**, a 100% government owned entity under **Department of Posts (DoP)** has launched **Fincluvation**– a joint initiative to collaborate with Fintech Startup community to co-create and innovate solutions for financial inclusion.
- NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL)**, the international arm of the National Payment Corporation of India, has announced that **BHIM UPI** is now live at **NEOPAY terminals across the UAE**.
- Market regulator **Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)** sent a **fine of ₹2.06 crore** to former **National Stock Exchange (NSE) chief Ravi Narain** in a case related to governance lapses at the stock exchange.



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- **Small Industries Development Bank of India** has provided the approval for **Rs 600 crore** to the **Maharashtra** government under the **SIDBI Cluster Development Fund(SCDF)**.
- Capital markets regulator **SEBI** imposed penalties totalling **Rs 40 lakh** on **4 entities** for failing to comply with the **provisions of the Companies Act and public issue norms**.
- **Dhanlaxmi Bank** signed an **MOU** with **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** and **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** for **collection of Direct Taxes and Indirect Taxes**.
- **Airtel Payments Bank** has partnered with **IndusInd Bank** to offer **fixed deposit (FD)** facilities to its customers.
- **Suryoday SFB** has chosen **Kyndryl** the **world's largest IT infrastructure services provider**, to drive its technology transformation program, improve operational efficiency, and increase digital banking adoption among its customers as part of a **5 year transformation partnership**
- Fintech firm **FinMapp** has collaborated with **Bajaj Finance** to launch a **fixed deposit feature** on its application by adding a new icon for an improved customer experience.
- **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** is expanding its strategic partnership with **SBI Cards and Payments Services Ltd., India's largest pure-play credit card issuer**, to power the latter's next leg of **digital transformation**.
- **Bank of Baroda** has launched a new feature '**bob World Gold**' on its bob World mobile banking platform designed especially for **seniors** and the **elderly**.
- **Pencilton**, a teen-focused fintech startup, has launched **PencilKey**, a **Nationwide Widespread Mobility Card (NCMC)** compliant **RuPay** contactless keychain, in partnership with **Nationwide Funds Company of India (NPCI)** and **Transcorp**.



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Business News

- **HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector bank and Shoppers Stop, India's leading fashion and beauty destination** have joined hands to launch **co-branded credit cards** & The credit cards will be available in **two** categories, Shoppers Stop HDFC Bank Credit Card & Shoppers Stop BLACK HDFC Bank Credit Card.
- The **deadline to link a permanent account number (PAN) with Aadhaar** will end on **March 31**.
- **MG Motor India** has announced the **launch of e-Pay, a one-stop online car finance platform for an end-to-end digital** auto finance process that provides instant loan approvals.
- The commodity market is a buzz again with **Wheat and Maize harvesting in the field** and sales starting on the **Tech platform 'GrainBank' (developed by Ergos)**.
- **India's trade deficit rose 87.5 per cent to USD 192.41 billion** in 2021-22 as against **USD 102.63 billion** in the previous year.
- The **World Trade Organization** has slashed its forecast for global trade growth this **year to 3% from 4.7%** due to the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war and warned against the global economy dividing into rival blocs because of the conflict.
- The data released by the **National Statistical Office (NSO)** showed that the **retail inflation rate rose to 6.95 per cent in March** from a year ago, remaining above the tolerance limit of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the **third straight month**.
- **Sebi has reconstituted its advisory committee**, which provides guidance on enhancing the **regulator's technological capabilities** and on exploring appropriate technological solutions for the early detection of market anomalies.

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- **Department of Posts** has started providing the **National Pension Scheme, NPS**, services through **online mode**.

National News

- **Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry** has approved over **433 crore rupees** for **28 Urban Local bodies in Maharashtra** to effectively managing the Solid Waste Management. Garbage Dumpsites have become a massive problem for most urban cities, **Maharashtra's Greater Mumbai** holds the maximum amount of legacy waste in the state.
- The Union Cabinet has approved **808 million dollars or over Six thousand 62 crore rupees**, **World Bank assisted programme on Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance RAMP**.
- The **Cabinet Committee on Security, CCS** has approved procurement of **15 Light Combat Helicopter Limited Series** Production at the cost of **three thousand 887 crore rupees**.
- **Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has approved the release of an additional instalment of **three Percent of dearness allowance, DA to Central Government employees** and dearness relief to pensioners from the first of January 2022.
- **Coal and Mines Minister Pralhad Joshi** has launched an **auction of 122 Coal and Lignite Mines** including **18 New Mines**.
- **The High-Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Home Minister Amit Shah** has approved additional **Central assistance of over one thousand 887 crore rupees** to **five States under the National Disaster Response Fund**.
- A National Conclave on **“Production of Bees Wax”** was organized by **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), Gujarat** in collaboration with the **National Bee Board (NBB)**, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on 30th March, 2022.
- **Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry** has approved the **construction of two lakh 42 thousand houses** in six states under **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)**.



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- **Doordarshan FreeDish** has become the largest DTH platform with reach of more than 43 million households.
- The National Commission for Women launched an **Anti-Human Trafficking Cell**.
- The Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers **Bhagwanth Khuba** has informed the **Lok Sabha** that **IFFCO** has developed nanotechnology-based **Nano Urea (Liquid)** fertilizer.
- **National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)** under the Ministry of Ayush has prepared a draft scheme namely **“Pradhan Manti VRIKSH-AYUSH Yojana”** for promotion of Medicinal Plant Cultivation, Post-harvest management and Marketing support by involving farmers and the Ayush industry.
- The government has further extended the existing **Foreign Trade Policy (FTP)** till **September 30, 2022**.
- The General Assembly approved the decision on December 8, 2005, and **declared April 4** of each year to be observed as the **International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action**.
- Minister of State for Culture & External Affairs, Smt. **Meenakshi Lekhi** launched the **website ‘Temple 360’** in an event organized by Ministry of Culture at **IGNCA Ampitheatre, Indira Gandhi National Centre of Arts, New Delhi** under the aegis of **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**.
- The **4th India Boat & Marine Show (IBMS)** was held at **Bolgatty Palace in Kochi in Kerala** between 25th March and 27th March 2022.
- **Unemployment rate in the country is decreasing** with the economy slowly returning to normal, according to **CMIE data**.
- On April 02, 2022, commemorating **60 Glorious years of service by Chetak Helicopter in IAF**, Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated a Conclave hosted by **Indian Air Force at Air Force Station, Hakimpet**.



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- Chief Justice of India **NV Ramana** launched '**Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records**' (**FASTER**), a digital platform to communicate **interim orders, stay orders, bail orders** etc of the apex court to the concerned authorities through a secured electronic communication channel.
- **The Railway Protection Force (RPF)** has arrested 1,459 touts and blocked 366 **IRCTC agent IDs** and 6,751 personal IDs as part of a month-long pan-India drive against illegal ticketing.
- **Walmart-backed E-commerce giant Flipkart** announced that it has constituted Flipkart Foundation.
 - **Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** has launched the **Digital Dashboard for District Ganga Committees Performance Monitoring System**.
 - **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has lauded India's food subsidy program which prevented the increased prevalence of **extreme poverty in the country during Covid-19**.
 - **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** has inaugurated the **Air Force Commanders' Conference AFCC** at Air Headquarters in New Delhi.
 - **Stand Up India scheme** was launched by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** on 5th April 2016.
 - **India's trade deficit rose 87.5 per cent to USD 192.41 billion** in 2021-22 as against **USD 102.63 billion** in the previous year, the government data showed.
 - The **ministry of electronics and information technology (MeitY)** has formed an advisory committee for the country's semiconductor mission.
 - The **Ministry of Ayush** is all set to celebrate the World Health Day with a grand program, including a demonstration of **the Common Yoga Protocol**, scheduled to be organised in the backdrop of the **Red Fort in New Delhi**

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- The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD), in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) has launched a pilot project in Uttarakhand to implement the **One Health Framework** by the **One Health Support Unit**.
- **Arya.ag**, India's largest and fastest-growing built-in grain **commerce platform**, has joined the **United Nations International Compact India** thereby voluntarily conforming to common sustainability ideas and taking steps **to assist UN SDGs**.
- Under **"AVSAR"** (**Airport as Venue for Skilled Artisans of The Region**), which is an initiative of **AAI**, an opportunity to help the indigent to mobilize their households into **functionally effective self-earned groups for self-reliance and self-dependence**, has been provided.
- The **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B)** has constituted an **Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics (AVGC) Promotion Task Force**.
- The **Government of India's Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** has given **USD 72,124** to the **UNESCO Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport 2022**.
- The **Union Cabinet** chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has approved the **continuation of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)**, till **March 2023**.
- April 9th is the **7th anniversary of Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, PMMY**.
- The **National Commission for Women** launched an **Anti-Human Trafficking Cell** to improve effectiveness in tackling cases of human trafficking, **raising awareness among women and girls, capacity building and training of Anti Trafficking Units and increasing responsiveness of law enforcement agencies**.
- **India's first case of the XE variant** of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) was **reported from Mumbai**

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- The **South-Central Railway (SCR)** has launched the “One station One Product” initiative at **6 major stations** in all its six divisions.
- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** has released the **third positive indigenisation list** in **New Delhi** to develop India as a **defence manufacturing hub**.
- **Union Minister of AYUSH Sarbananda Sonowal** has inaugurated a two-day scientific convention on ‘**Homoeopathy: People’s Choice for Wellness**’ in **New Delhi**.
- The union minister for **Environment, Forest & Climate Change Bhupender Yadav** chaired the **20th Meeting of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** which was held in **Pakke tiger reserve** in **Arunachal Pradesh** on **9th April 2022**.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** has inaugurated a **five-day fair** at **Madhavpur Ghed village** in **Gujarat’s Porbandar district**.
- Prime Minister Modi was virtually addressing the **14th foundation day celebrations** of **Umiya Mata Temple** in **Junagadh** on **Ramnavami**.
- The **Broadcast Seva Portal** was developed by the **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** to improve the convenience of **doing business in the broadcast industry**.
- The **number of patent filings** increased from **42,763** in **2014-15** to **66,440** in **2021-22** due to steps taken by the government to strengthen the **intellectual property rights (IPR) regime of the country**.
- **Microplastics in the Cauvery River** have been identified as one of the major reasons for deformities in fish and other impacts on marine life, **according to a study conducted by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc)**
- The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** and partners of the **Adaptation Innovation Marketplace (AIM)** have announced **\$2.2 million** in [climate](#) action grants for **22 local innovators** across **19 countries, including India**. The Ministry of Housing and Urban



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Affairs has launched 'SVANidhi se Samriddhi' program in additional 126 cities across 14 States/ UTs.

- The **Indian Council for Cultural Relations, ICCR** has launched an **India Alumni Portal in New Delhi**.
- The **UNDP** and partners of the **Adaptation Innovation Marketplace (AIM)** have announced **\$2.2 million in climate action grants for 22 local innovators** across 19 countries, including India.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya in New Delhi on April 14**.
- The Centre has completed asset **monetisation worth Rs 96,000 crore** during **FY22**, **surpassing the target of Rs 88,000 crore**.
- The **Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati** has partnered with **NTPC Limited** to design and develop a highly energy-efficient plant for **CO2 capture from power plants**.
- The **40th edition of Hunar Haat** was inaugurated by **Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting and Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur in Mumbai** & the event is being held at **MMRDA Ground, Bandra-Kurla Complex in Mumbai**, from **April 16 to April 27**.
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched 'SVANidhi se Samriddhi' program in additional **126 cities across 14 States/ UTs**.
- The **NITI Aayog is planning to launch a National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP)** in May to provide government data in a user-friendly format, to promote data-driven decision making and research.
- Country's first-ever radio channel for the visually impaired, **named 'Radio Aksh'** has been **launched in Nagpur**, with the **Blind Relief Association Nagpur** and **Samdrushti Kshamata Vikas Avam Anusandhan Mandal (Saksham)**

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- The **Union Government** has extended the **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP) Insurance Scheme for Health Care Workers Fighting COVID-19** for a further period of 180 days.
- Ladakh Additional Director General of Police **SS Khandare** has inaugurated the first **IT Training and Services centre of Ethosh Digital**, in Leh.
- The **Ministry of Roads, Transport and Highways (MoRTH)** have developed the portal named ‘**e-DAR**’ (e-Detailed Accident Report).
- **Border Roads Organisation** will construct **the world’s highest tunnel at Shinku La Pass at 16,580 feet to connect Himachal Pradesh to Ladakh**, informed BRO Director General Lieutenant General **Rajeev Chaudhary**.
- **Prime Minister** laid the foundation stone of **WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) in Jamnagar, Gujarat** in the presence of the Prime Minister of Mauritius **Pravind Kumar Jugnauth** and **Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus**, Director-General, **World Health Organization (WHO)**.
- **Health and Wellness Centres** which was launched by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** on 14th April 2018 with the objective of providing health for all will complete its **4th year Anniversary** on 14th April 2022.
- The **Supreme Court** has reconstituted the **expert committee** that would be looking into measures to ensure that the construction of **the Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor Expressway project**.
- The **country's first portable solar rooftop system** was inaugurated at **Swaminarayan Akshardham temple complex in Gandhinagar, Gujarat**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has laid the foundation stone and **inaugurated the various development projects worth 22,000 crore rupees** at a special function organised at **Dahod** in

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Gujarat & this includes the manufacturing project of **9,000 HP Electric Locomotives** at the Railway Production **Unit in Dahod**.

- **Oil India Limited (OIL)** has taken the first significant step towards **the Green Hydrogen Economy in India** by commissioning India's **First 99.999% pure Green Hydrogen** pilot plant, with an installed capacity of **10 kg per day** at its **Jorhat Pump Station in Assam**.
- **The second edition** of the **Khelo India University Games** to be held in the tech capital of **Bengaluru** will have its own mobile app.
- The **Khelo India University Games** set to be inaugurated by **Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu in Bengaluru on April 24** will see the participation of Olympians.
- **NITI Aayog and UNICEF India** signed a **Statement of Intent on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** with a focus on children.
- **Union Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar** has launched the National Conference on Agriculture for the **Kharif Campaign 2022-23 at the NASC Complex in New Delhi**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the **seventh edition of Raisina Dialogue on the 25th of April &** the three-day event is based on the theme - **Terranova, impassioned, impatient, imperilled**.
- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** to inaugurate **DefConnect 2.0** organised by **Innovations for Defence Excellence, Defence Innovation Organisation (iDEX-DIO)** in **New Delhi**.
- The **National Cyber Security Incident Response Exercise (NCX India)** is being organized by the **National Security Council Secretariat** for government officials and critical sector organizations to strengthen the country's cyber posture.
- The **3-day “Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization” conference** had a grand opening in **Surat &** the event is being organised by the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**, Government



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of India with **Surat Smart City Corporation Development Ltd.**, under the clarion call of **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM)**, given by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to commemorate the **75th anniversary of Independence**.

- As part of the **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**, **NITI Aayog** is organizing a day-long national workshop on '**Innovative Agriculture**'.
- The Union Government has set a target to **increase** the number of **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras** to **10,000** by **March 2024**.
- The **7th edition of the India Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Conference 2022** will be held in **New Delhi &** the theme of the three-day conference is - **Vision 2047: Transformative roadmap for the future**.
- **Apple** has announced a new partnership with the **Applied Environmental Research Foundation and Conservation** International to protect the mangrove ecosystem and the livelihoods that depend on it in the **Raigad district of Maharashtra**.
- Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is organizing the '**Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari**' campaign & it will continue till **30th April** is being organized under '**Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**' in association with various other Ministries and Departments.
- **Indian Railways** has augmented the transportation of coal by a record **111 million tonnes** and loaded a record **653 Million Tonnes of coal** in the last financial year with a growth of 20 percent, as compared to 542 million tonnes in 2021.
- **Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari** has inaugurated **seven National Highway Projects** worth **5569 crore** rupees in **Aurangabad, Maharashtra**.
- Government **think tank Niti Aayog** has released a **draft battery swapping policy** under which all metropolitan cities with a population above **40 lakh** will be prioritised for the development of a **battery swapping network** under the first phase.



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- The **Paris Book Festival** was inaugurated on 21st April 2022 & **India Pavilion** at the Paris Book Festival was inaugurated & **India's participation as a guest of honour at the Paris Book Festival 2022.**
- **Fasal Bima Pathshala** has been organized across the country under the 'Kisan Bhagidari Prathmikta Hamari' campaign.
- The **information and Broadcasting Ministry** has blocked **16 YouTube news channels** for spreading disinformation related to the **country's national security, foreign relations, and public order.**
- **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)** in association with **the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO)** is organising Asia's biggest international food and hospitality fair **AAHAR 2022 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.**
- **Azadi Se Antyodaya Tak** was launched by **Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Giriraj Singh in New Delhi.**
- Minister of State for **Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar** has launched **Digital India RISC-V Microprocessor (DIR-V) Program.**
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the construction of the **540-Megawatt Kwar Hydro Electric** project located on river **Chenab in the Kishtwar district of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.**
- According to the Ministry of Culture, **India entered the Guinness Book of World Records** by simultaneously **waving 78,220 flags at the 'Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav' program in Bhojpur, Bihar.**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi referred to a **local pond in Shahabad's Patwai area of Rampur in Uttar Pradesh being transformed into an 'Amrit Sarovar'** – the name the PM has given to an initiative that seeks to focus on the need for water conservation, among other things.

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- **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** is set to host the **21st World Congress of Accountants (WCOA)**, the kumbh of accountants, for the **first time in 118 years** of its existence.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will inaugurate **Semicon India Conference-2022** & the three-day conference, is being organised to take forward the vision of Prime Minister to make **India a leader in the electronics manufacturing, semiconductor design, manufacturing and innovation.**
- In the **Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir**, the **Samba district** of Jammu division has become the **first district in India to cover 100% households** under **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY)- SEHAT** scheme.

State News

- Newly-elected Goa Chief Minister **Pramod Sawant** presented the state Budget of **Rs 24, 467crore** for 2022-23 in the legislative assembly.
- According to the annual flagship report titled **State of World Population 2022 Seeing the Unseen : The case for action in the neglected crisis of unintended pregnancy** released by **UNFPA**, nearly **half of all pregnancies**, totalling **121 million each year** throughout the world, are **unintended.**
- On April 04, 2022, **Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** virtually inaugurated **13 new districts** and the inauguration took place via video conferencing organized at his office camp in **Tadepalli in the Guntur district, AP.**
- The **Arunachal Pradesh State Biodiversity Board (APSBB)**, in collaboration with **WWF India**, will be developing the **state biodiversity strategy and action plan (SBSAP)** in **New Delhi** during a meeting presided by state Environment and Forest Minister **Mama Natung.**

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- **Leh Administration** has set to sign a **tripartite agreement** to develop **Hanley as Dark Sky Sanctuary** and **Leh Hill Council, WildLife and Tourism departments** will jointly develop the area for **Astro Tourism**.
 - The **Assam** Cabinet approved a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** between the **environment and forest department of the State** and **Agence Francaise de Development**, a French funding agency, to foster bilateral dialogue in the **field of environment**.
 - Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** launched the '**School Chalo Abhiyan**' in a bid to ensure 100 per cent enrolment in primary and upper primary schools in **Uttar Pradesh**.
 - Karnataka Chief Minister **Basavaraj Bommai** Establishing the '**Nandini Ksheera Samridhi Cooperative Bank**' is a revolutionary initiative, which will provide greater financial strength for the milk producers.
- **Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** launched the '**Udyam Kranti Yojana**' to facilitate self-employment for the youth, in MP.
- **Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann** led- **Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)** government decided to provide **digital J-Forms** to the farmers across the state from **April 1, 2022**.
- The most popular **tribal celebration** across the **Jharkhand** region, **Sarhul Festival**, denotes the **beginning of the new year**.
- **Tata Steel Foundation (TSF)** signed an **MoU (Memorandum of Understanding)** with the **Government of Jharkhand** to set-up **Industrial Training Institute (ITI)** at **Chandil** in the **Seraikela-Kharsawan district of Jharkhand**.
- **Maharashtra State Power Generation Company (MAHAGENCO)** will form an equal joint venture with state-run **NTPC Ltd** to set up an **ultra mega solar park in Maharashtra** with **2500 MW generation capacity**.

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- The **Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson** inaugurated the **Community Museum at Sasoma village in Gya** in the direction of **preserving and forwarding** its rich cultural heritage to future generations.
- The **Uttarakhand** government has implemented the **Him Prahari scheme**, it is meant for **ex-servicemen and youngsters**.
- The **Telangana** government launched its **SpaceTech Framework**, with a vision to establish the state as a globally recognised one-stop destination for space technology.
- **Telangana** will get its **three-wheeler factory** soon as **California-based Biliti Electric Inc (Biliti)** intends to set up the world's largest factory in the state with a production capacity of **240,000 electric vehicles** each year.
- One of the biggest festivals of **Assam, Bohag Bihu or Rongali Bihu**, falls in the **second week of April every year**, marking the **beginning of the harvest period**.
- The **Tripura** government launched the "**Tripura Industrial Investment Promotion Incentive Scheme (TIIPIS), 2022**" for the **next 5 years** with effect from **1 April, 2022 to 31 March, 2027**.
- **Minister for Minorities Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils Welfare Gingee K S Masthan** announced every year on **December 18** the **Tamil Nadu** government will observe as **Minorities Rights Day** at the state level and about **Rs 2.50 lakh** will be earmarked for the purpose.
- **Rajasthan** has become the **first state** in the country to **install L-Route server** for **uninterrupted internet services**.
- **Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai** announced that the under-construction **Shivamogga airport** will be named **after former Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa**.

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- Maharashtra State Environment Minister Aaditya Thackeray, inaugurated the city's first completely digital bus on the Gateway of India to Churchgate route, with a unique 'Tap-in Tap-out' feature.
- The nondescript hamlet of Palli in Jammu and Kashmir's border district of Samba has become the country's first 'carbon neutral panchayat' with Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicating to the nation a 500 KV solar plant, installed in a record time of nearly three weeks.
- India's first-ever radio channel for the visually impaired, named 'Radio Aksh' has been launched in Nagpur with the Blind Relief Association Nagpur and Samdrushti Kshamata Vikas Avam Anusandhan Mandal (Saksham).
- Jamtara in Jharkhand has become the only district in the country where all gram panchayats have community libraries.
- Agra has become the first city in the country to have vacuum-based sewer systems used in public places.

International News

- The India-[Australia](#) Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (IndAus ECTA) was inked by Commerce and Industry Minister [Piyush Goyal](#) and Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Dan Tehan in a virtual ceremony.
- The Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) signed an agreement with the Indian company Adani Ports and SEZ Limited to set up an Indian Economic Zone at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Shilpa Nagar (BSMSN) in Mirsarai of Chattogram.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepalese counterpart Sher Bahadur Deuba met in New Delhi with the two countries launching multiple initiatives as well as signing four crucial agreements in multiple domains.

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- **Nepal** has received permission to export an **additional 325 MW** of **electricity** to the **energy market in India**, taking the **total electricity export to 364 MW**.
- **Ecuador**, in **South America**, has made history by becoming the **first country to recognise the legal rights of individual wild animals**.
- According to the **Global Wind Report for 2022** published by the **Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)** **Wind energy installations every year** across the world must quadruple from the **94 GW** installed in 2021 within this decade to meet the **global climate targets**.
- **India has been elected to four key bodies of the UN Economic and Social Council** ie Commission for Social Development, Committee on NGOs, Commission on Science & Technology for Development, Ambassador Preeti Saran gets re-elected to Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh**, and **S Jaishankar**, External Affairs Minister, arrived in **Washington DC** to attend the **fourth India-US 2+2 ministerial dialogue**.
- The **20th edition of India-France Joint Staff talks** was held in **Paris, France**.
- **India** will provide an **additional \$500 million** in **financial assistance** to **Sri Lanka** for it to buy fuel & this will be the **second \$500 million India** has provided in fuel credit to a Sri Lanka government battling the country's worst financial crisis in living memory.
- **North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE)** organises the **Exercise Locked Shields 2022**.

Summits & Conferences

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has attended the **5th BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation)** summit.

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- **Amit Shah, Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation** has launched the **Amrit Samagam**, a summit of the country's tourism and cultural ministers, **in New Delhi**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the **Global Patidar Business Summit (GPBS)** in **Surat Gujarat** via video conferencing & the main **theme of GPBS-2022 is Aatmanirbhar Community to Aatmanirbhar Gujarat and India**

Ranks & Indices

| Index Name | Released by | India's Rank | Top Three/ Key Points |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Producer of Vegetables | Statistics presented in the Lok Sabha | 1 st Uttar Pradesh | Andhra Pradesh remains as the top fruit producer. |
| Hurun Richest self-made women billionaires in the world 2022 | Hurun Research Institute | Nykaa founder Falguni Nayar is ranked into the top 10 | 1.Wa Yajun \$17 China Longfor 2.Fan Hongwei \$13 China Hengli 3.Wang Laichun \$11China Luxshare Precision |
| Bloomberg Billionaire Index | Bloomberg | Gautam Adani tops in India | 1. Elon Musk, the CEO of Tesla - \$273 billion. 2. Amazon's founder Jeff Bezos - \$188 billion |

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| | | | 3. Chairman and chief executive of LVMH Moët Hennessy, Bernard Arnault - \$148 billion. |
| Forbes' 36 th world's richest people list | Forbes | Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani is the 10th richest person in the world | <p>1. Elon Musk & Tesla, United States \$219 B</p> <p>2. Jeff Bezos & Amazon, United States \$171 B</p> <p>3. Bernard Arnault & family & LVMH, France \$158 B</p> |
| QS World University Rankings by Subject 2022 | QS Quacquarelli Symonds | | Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has been awarded as the best university with a score of 96.5. |
| 12th QS World University Rankings | QS Quacquarelli Symonds | IIT Kharagpur has been ranked among India's top three domestically. | <p>First position :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agriculture and forestry ● Statistics and operational research |

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| Niti Aayog's State Energy and Climate Index (SECI) -Round 1 | Niti Aayog | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gujarat - 50.1 ● Kerala - 49.1 ● Punjab - 48.6 | Lowest : 20. Chhattisgarh - 31.7 |
| World Bank report | World Bank | Extreme poverty rate in India has declined from 22.5 percent in 2011 to 10.2 percent in 2019 & ie 12.3 percentage points lower in 2019 as compared to 2011. | Rural poverty dropped by 14.7 percent while urban poverty declined by 7.9 percentage points during 2011 to 2019. |
| Forbes real time Billionaires list | | Gautam Adani ranks 5 th with a net worth of \$123.7 billion | 1. Elon Musk & Tesla, United States \$219 B 2. Jeff Bezos & Amazon, United States \$171 B 3. Bernard Arnault & family & LVMH, France \$158 |

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Appointments

| Name of the person | Appointed as | Key points |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Vishwas Patel | Chairman of Payments Council of India (PCI) | Praveena Rai, COO, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and MN Srinivasu, Co-founder and Director at BillDesk have been appointed as co-chairs of its seven committees. |
| Dr. Renu Singh | Director of the premier Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, Uttarakhand. | She will be the FRI's second woman director & first being Dr. Savita. She joined as FRI director after AS Rawat, director-general, ICFRE. |
| Jens Stoltenberg | Secretary-General of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) | His term was to expire in September 2021 & It is the second time that his term of office has been extended by a year until September 30, 2023. |

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| Robert Abela | Malta's Prime Minister | He has been sworn in for a second term after his ruling Labor Party won the 2022 general election in a landslide victory. |
| Aprajita Sharrma | Vice-chairperson of Council Standing Committee on Administration and Management of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) | She will remain as vice chairperson of Council Standing Committee for the years 2023 and 2024 and its chairperson for the years 2025 and 2026. |
| Dr.S. Raju | Director General (DG) of Geological Survey of India (GSI) | He succeeds Shri R. S. Garkhal who superannuated on March 31, 2022. |
| Dr Arunabha Ghosh | 'High-Level Expert Group on Net-Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities'. | The Group will be chaired by Ms. Catherine McKenna, former Canadian Minister of Environment and Climate Change. |
| Anthony Heredia | MD & CEO of Mahindra Manulife Investment | Heredia will succeed Ashutosh Bishnoi, who retired on 31 March. |

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| | Management Private Limited | |
| Dr Ian Fry | Expert on climate change and human rights in United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) | The new Special Rapporteur position for human rights and climate change was formally created by the Geneva-based Human Rights Council in October 2021. |
| Viktor Orban | Prime Minister of Hungary | Preliminary results showed Orban's Fidesz party leading with 53.1% of votes versus 35% for Marki-Zay's opposition alliance of 98% of the count. |
| Vinay Mohan Kwatra | India's new Foreign Secretary | He replaced incumbent Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla , a 1984-batch IFS officer who will superannuate on April 30, 2022. |
| Vikas Kumar | Managing Director of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) | Kumar is taking over the post from Dr. Mangu Singh, whose tenure ended on March 31, 2022. |

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| Aamir Khan | Brand Ambassador for Consumer healthcare app PharmEasy | He has launched its latest campaign #GharBaitheBaitheTakeItEasy |
| Aleksandar Vucic | President of Serbia, Serbian Progressive Party (SNS) Party | He has secured 59.5% of votes in a presidential election, the State Election Commission stated after counting 87.67% of ballots. |
| Gulzar Ahmed | Caretaker Prime Minister of Pakistan | This comes a day after the National Assembly deputy speaker disallowed a no-trust confidence motion against Imran Khan. |
| Murli M Natarajan | MD & CEO of DCB Bank | In 2024, he will complete 15 years at the helm of the bank. |
| Harshvardhan Shringla | Chief Coordinator G20 Summit | His appointment is effective from May 01, 2022 & will hold the post till Dec 2023. |
| Dr Manoj Soni | Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). | He has been appointed to replace the previous UPSC chairman Pradip Kumar Joshi. |
| Shehbaz Sharif | Prime Minister of Pakistan | He will succeed Imran Khan, who has been removed by a no-trust vote. |

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| Iqbal Singh Lalpura | Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities | He replaced Syed Ghayurul Hasan Rizvi |
| Mahesh Verma | Chairman of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare providers (NABH) | Mahesh Verma is an Indian prosthodontist and the Director and Principal of Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences . |
| Jay Shah | Member Board Representative of ICC Cricket Committee | Meanwhile Mahela Jayawardene (former Sri Lankan cricketer) was reappointed as the former player representative |
| Sourav Ganguly | Brand Ambassador of electrical goods major Havells India, Lloyd | Sourav Ganguly is popularly honoured as Maharaja of Indian Cricket. |
| Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas | Atomic Energy Commission Chairman | The government has granted an extension of one year beyond May 3, 2022 or “until further orders”. |
| Lieutenant General Manoj Pande | Chief of Army Staff | He will succeed General M M Naravane who will retire on April 30, 2022. |

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| Jasleen Kohli | MD & CEO of Digit Insurance | She will take over from Vijay Kumar who held the position since the company was founded in 2017 & he will superannuate on April 19, 2022. |
| Patrick Achi | Prime Minister of Cote d'Ivoire | Patrick Achi is an Ivorian politician who served as Prime Minister of Ivory Coast from 8 March 2021 to 13 April 2022 following the death of his predecessor Hamed Bakayoko. |
| Naresh Kumar | Chief Secretary of Delhi | Naresh Kumar will replace incumbent Vijay Dev, who will retire voluntarily on April 20, 2022. |
| Shanti Sethi | Executive secretary and defence advisor to Vice President Kamala Harris | Sethi is the only Indian-American woman and the 15th female officer to command a major US Navy combat warship. |

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| Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar | Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) | He was commissioned in the 23rd battalion of the Rajput Regiment in 1986. |
| LV Vaidyanathan | CEO of Packaged consumer goods company Procter & Gamble | He will take over from Madhusudan Gopalan. |
| Babita Singh | Global Peace Ambassador 2022 | Babita is an Indian, born and raised in Nigeria . |
| Ajay Kumar Sood | Principal scientific advisor (PSA) to the government of India | He will succeed renowned biologist Prof K Vijay Raghavan. |
| C Muhammed Faizi | Member of the Haj Committee of India | He is appointed "under sub- section (11), of Section 4 of Haj Committee Act, 2002". |
| Suman K Bery | Vice chairman of Niti Aayog | He will succeed Dr. Rajiv Kumar will be relieved from his post on 30th April 2022. |
| Ashwin Yardi | Co-chair of YuWaah, UNICEF | Ashwin is CEO of Capgemini Technology Services India and also a member of Capgemini Group Executive Committee. |
| Emmanuel Macron | French President | Macron became the first President in France in 20 years to win the re-election. |

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| AP Abdullakutty | Chairman of Central Haj Committee. | Abdullakutty was elected as a representative of the Central Government under sub-section 4 (c) of section 4 of the Hajj Committee Act. |
| Robert Golob | Prime Minister of Slovenia | He has defeated three-time prime minister, populist conservative Janez Jana association with Slovenian Democratic party. |
| Bruce de Broize | MD & CEO of Future Generali India Life Insurance (FGILI) | He will take over from Miranjit Mukherjee who has been serving as interim CEO since September 2021. |
| Krishnan Ramanujam | Chairman of National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) | Ramanujam succeeds Rekha M. Menon, Chairperson and Senior Managing Director of Accenture in India. |
| Vijay Sampla | Chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) | The official order for his appointment was issued by President Ram Nath Kovind. |

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Agreements and MoU Signed

- Multinational conglomerate LuLu Group International signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tamil Nadu government to invest Rs 3,500 crore in Tamil Nadu to build two shopping malls and set up an export-oriented food processing unit.
- The chief ministers of Assam and Meghalaya Himanta Biswa Sarma & Conrad Sangma signed an [agreement in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah](#) to resolve part of their five-decade-old inter-state border dispute in six of the 12 locations along the 884.9 km border.
- The Ministry of Defence (MoD), Government of India, signed two contracts worth a total of Rs. 3,102 Crores with the Bengaluru and Hyderabad Units of Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), at New Delhi.
- India's Khanij Bidesh India (KABIL) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to invest \$6 million with Australia's Critical Minerals Facilitation Office (CMFO) on lithium and cobalt identification projects in Australia in the next six months.
- Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) and Tawazun Economic Council (TEC), United Arab Emirates, have exchanged Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore new business opportunities in various areas of mutual interest in the field of defence.
- As a part of Manipur Olympian Park and at Khuman Lampak Sports Complex, the Manipur state government has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with tech-giant Samsung Data System India and Abhitech IT Solutions for setting up a world class 'Sports Digital Experience Centre'
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has signed an MoU with the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir (DSEK), for promoting Commerce Education among students of the Union Territory of J&K.

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- The **Indian embassy in Kathmandu** has signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** with the **Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration, Government of Nepal** and **Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality, Solukhumbu** for the construction of **Khumjung Khunde wastewater management project**.
- **Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL)** has signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** with **Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI)** to convert civil passenger aircraft to “**multi mission tanker transport**” (MMTT) aircraft in India.
- The **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** and **GVFL Limited** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** at IFSCA’s office at Gift City for cooperation and collaboration to support and facilitate the FinTech ecosystem in GIFT IFSC.
- The **Oil India Limited (OIL)** inked an Incubation Agreement with the Start-up firm **Ohm Clean Tech Private Limited** for **Hydrogen Mobility Solutions** in northeast India.
- The **Unique Identification Authority Of India (UIDAI)** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**, New Delhi, and the **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)**, ISRO, Hyderabad, for technical collaboration.
- **Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN)** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with two other state owned companies engineering firm **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)** and **Railway Energy Management Company (REMC) Limited** for the development of **renewable energy projects**.
- The **Odisha Government** and **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to take vital steps towards the **proliferation of green energy** in the state.

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- **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** signed a contract with the **Nigerian Army** for imparting **Phase-II flying training on Chetak Helicopter** for **six officers of Nigerian Army Aviation**.
- **Telangana's department of Industries and Commerce** and **Thailand's Ministry of Commerce** have agreed to collaborate for promoting bilateral trade and investment through greater cooperation in the areas of **SMEs (small and medium enterprises)** and startups.
- The top trade association representing the **US Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA)**, has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA)** to foster collaboration and identify potential opportunities between the two countries in the semiconductor sector.
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** and **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras** signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** for **technology development** and **finding indigenous solutions** towards the sustenance of various weapon systems.
- **Six Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs)** and **agreements** were signed at the **Waterways Conclave-2022**, which concluded, in **Dibrugarh** in presence of Union minister of ports, shipping and waterways **Sarbananda Sonowal** and Assam chief minister **Himanta Biswa Sarma**.
- State-owned **NHPC** signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** with the district administration of **Chamba, Himachal Pradesh** for development of **green hydrogen technologies to produce hydrogen**.
- **India** and **Maldives** signed **7 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs)** for projects to be built under the Indian grant assistance scheme for the **High Impact Community Development Project** through local bodies (HICDP).



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- The **Tripura** government has inked a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre** to establish an **international standard Data Centre**.
- The **Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA)** and **Geological Survey of India (GSI)** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** for developing a **Regional Level Early Warning System** based on Rainfall Threshold; at the chamber of Secretary-cum-Relief Commissioner of Land Revenue & Disaster Management Department.
- **IIT Delhi** inked MoU with **Power System Operation Corporation Limited (Posoco)-NRLDC** & the agreement was made to encourage research on **issues relating to India's power sector** and **strengthen collaboration between academia and industry**.
- Government think tank **NITI Aayog** and **UNICEF India** signed a statement of intent (Sol) on **sustainable development goals (SDGs)** with a focus on children.
- Bharti group-backed **OneWeb** and **New Space India Limited**, the commercial arm of the **Indian Space Research Organisation**, have entered into an agreement that will help ensure OneWeb completes its satellite launch programme.
- The **Indian Air Force** and the **Indian Navy** have tied up with the **Defence Research Development Organisation** to get the **CHAFF technology**, which protects the warship from an anti-ship missile during hostilities.
- The **Indian Navy's Naval Institute of Educational and Training Technology (NIETT)** based at **Naval Base Kochi** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K)**.
- **Kerala** and the **Netherlands** have signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** for a project named '**Cosmos Malabaricus**'.
- **Prasar Bharati** has signed an **MoU** with the **Public Broadcaster of Argentina Radio Television Argentina (RTA)** for collaboration in the **field of broadcasting**.

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- **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)**, the premier research and development body of the Government of India and **iCreate (International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Technology)**, India's largest institution for transforming start-ups based on tech innovation into businesses, have signed an agreement to **harness the country's technological strength**.
- The **Ministry of Civil Aviation** and **Govt. of Himachal Pradesh** signed an **MoU (Memorandum of Understanding)** for the development of a **Green Field Airport in Nagchala, Mandi District of Himachal Pradesh**.
- The **National Highways Logistic Management Limited (NHLML)** and the **Ropeways and Rapid Transport System Development Corporation of Himachal Pradesh (RTDC)** have signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** on **seven ropeway projects** in the state under the **Parvatmala Yojna**.
- **Reliance Industries** has signed a shareholder agreement with **Abu Dhabi Chemicals Derivatives Company RSC Ltd (TA'ZIZ)** for an investment of **\$2 billion** for the **TA'ZIZ EDC & PVC project**.
- **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** has signed an agreement with the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay**, to jointly pursue research and development work in the **green hydrogen value chain**.
- **Tech giant Google** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** with the **Telangana** government to bring benefits of digital economy to the youth and women entrepreneurs in the state, and kicked off the ground-up development of its three million square foot building in Telangana.
- The largest power generating utility in India, **National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC)** signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** with **Energy Vault** to formalise a



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long-term strategic partnership for deploying the NYSE-listed firm's **gravity-based energy storage technology** and software solutions to support the state-run power genco's clean energy transition.

- The **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** has signed an **MoU** with the **National Insurance Academy** to provide a skilled talent pool in the insurance sector.

Apps & Services

- Information and Broadcasting Minister **Anurag Thakur** has launched the **Broadcast Seva Portal in New Delhi**.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister **M K Stalin** launched '**Kaaval Uthavi**' app containing 60 features that will help seek police assistance during any emergency.
- **Union Bank of India** launched its super-app named **UnionNXT – Do it Yourself** and also unveiled '**Union SAMBHAV – World of Opportunities**,' a future digital ready transformation project.
- **Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami** launched an **anti-corruption mobile app**, '**Corruption-Free Uttarakhand App-1064**'.
- Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare **Shri Narendra Singh Tomar** launched **two portals**, one for the **Computerized Registration of pesticide (CROP)** and the other for **Plant Quarantine Management System (PQMS)**.
- The **rural development and panchayati raj department of Jammu and Kashmir administration** launched a **mobile application jan nigrani** to help people lodge complaints related to various schemes online

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Acquisitions & Mergers

- **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** has acquired **7.84 percent stake** in the **open public digital infrastructure framework entity**, **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)**, through an **investment of Rs 10 crore**.
- **HDFC Limited** will merge with **HDFC Bank**, creating a banking behemoth.
- **State Bank of India (SBI)** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Border Security Force** to offer special benefits to the serving and retired **BSF personnel and family pensioners** through the **Central Armed Police Salary Package (CAPSP) Scheme**.
- **HP** has completed its **acquisition of Poly** for **\$1.7 billion** in an **all-cash deal** worth **\$3.3 billion** when debt is factored in.
- **Citibank** has announced that it has reached an agreement with **Axis Bank** for the sale of Citi's consumer businesses in India.
- Four public sector lenders -- **State Bank of India, Canara Bank, Punjab National Bank and Union Bank of India** -- their stakes in **India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL)** have **come down to 5 per cent each**.
 - **Elon Musk** clinched a deal to buy **Twitter Inc.** for **\$44 billion** cash in a transaction that will shift control of the social media platform populated by millions of users and global leaders to **the world's richest person**.

Sports News

- **Virat Kohli** has emerged as the **most valued celebrity in India for the fifth year** in a row, **topping the Duff & Phelps Celebrity Brand Valuation Report 2021** despite seeing a dip in his brand value to **\$185.7 million** last year from a high of **\$237.7 million** in 2020.

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- Olympic silver medallist weightlifter **Mirabai Chanu** has won the **BBC Indian Sportswoman of The Year** award.
- Sportswear giant **Adidas** has unveiled **Al Rihla** – the official match ball for the **2022 FIFA World Cup** in Qatar.
- **Ann Mariya M.T.** from Kerala won the women's 87-kilogram gold medal with a national record aggregate of 231 kg on the concluding day of the National weightlifting championships at the **KIIT University campus** in **Bhubaneswar**.
- **Meghalaya** is all set to host the **83rd National Table Tennis Championship 2022** scheduled to begin from **April 18th till 25th, 2022** at **SAI Indoor Training Centre, NEHU** in **Shillong**.
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports **Anurag Singh Thakur** and Governor of **Karnataka**, **TC Gehlot** launched the logo, jersey, mascot and anthem of the **Khelo India University Games 2021 (KIUG 2021)** on April 01, 2022, at the **Sree Kanteerava Stadium** in **Bengaluru**.
- **Australia** defeated **England** by 71 runs to win the **ICC Women's World Cup** in **Hagley Oval** in **Christchurch, New Zealand**.
- **Iga Swiatek** of **Poland** won the **2022 Miami Open tennis tournament** by defeating **Naomi Osaka** of **Japan** in the final match, 6-4, 6-0.
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports **Anurag Singh Thakur** launched **six new and rare Reference Materials (RMs)**, the highest form of chemical required for anti-doping analysis in all **World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)**-accredited laboratories throughout the world.
- The **Centre** has sanctioned **three crore 65,00,000 rupees** for international exposure trips of **Indian Athletics and Yachting teams**.

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- The **2022 Miami Open** (also known as the Miami Masters, and currently branded as the Miami Open presented by Itaú for sponsorship reasons) **tennis tournament was the 37th edition of the men's and women's event**, held from March 22 to April 3, 2022 in **Miami Gardens, Florida**.
- The **75th National Football Championship for Santosh Trophy** will kick off on April 16 with a match between **traditional powerhouses West Bengal and Punjab** at the **Kottappadi Stadium in Malappuram, Kerala**.
- In the **FIH Women's Junior World Cup**, India defeated Malaysia four-nil, to register their **third consecutive victory in their pool D campaign at Potchefstroom, South Africa**.
- **Thirteen-year-old Riya Jadon** won the **DGC Ladies Open Amateur Golf Championship**, following a close fight with older sister Lavanya Jadon.
- **Ferrari's Charles Leclerc** won the **Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne**, as world champion **Max Verstappen** was forced to retire his Red Bull after giving valiant chase.
- **India won two gold medals at the WSF World Doubles Squash Championships** on the back of brilliant performances by **Dipika Pallikal Karthik, Saurav Ghosal and Joshna Chinappa** at the **Scotstoun Leisure Centre in Glasgow**.
- **Tokyo Olympians Amit Panghal and Ashish Kumar** settled for **silver medals in the men's 52kg and 81kg events, respectively**, at the **Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament 2022 in Phuket**.
- **Pakistan skipper Babar Azam** was voted as **the ICC 'Men's Player of the Month' for March**, while **Australian opener Rachael Haynes** bagged the honour among women.
- **First Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery** to be held in **Jamshedpur** on April 12 and 13.



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- **Ravichandran Ashwin** became the **first cricketer** in **Indian Premier League (IPL)** history to be retired during the match between **Rajasthan Royals** and **Lucknow Super Giants**.
- The **Netherlands** lifted their **fourth FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup** title after **beating Germany 3-1** in the final at **Potchefstroom, South Africa**.
- **Victoria** will host the **2026 Commonwealth Games** with the **Australian state's regional centres** organising the majority of events in a break from the traditional single host city model.
- In **badminton**, **Indian shuttler Mithun Manjunath** had to settle for a **silver medal** after losing to home favourite **Toma Junior Popov** in the **men's singles** final of the **Orleans Masters 2022** badminton tournament in **Orleans, France**.
- **India** will host the **Street Child Cricket World Cup in 2023** & it is Organized by **Street Child United** and **Save the Children India**, the **Street Child Cricket World Cup 2023** will welcome 22 teams from 16 countries to India next year.
- Young Indian Grandmaster **R Pragganandhaa** has won the prestigious **Reykjavik Open chess tournament** here with 7.5 points from nine rounds.
- **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** has unveiled **logo of 2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup** at the **Kalinga stadium** in the capital **Bhubaneswar**.
- **Tamil Nadu men** registered a comprehensive 87-69 win over **Punjab** to **regain the 71st Senior National Basketball Championship** crown at the **Nehru Indoor Stadium**.
- **New Zealand pacer Tim Southee** was awarded the prestigious **Sir Richard Hadlee medal** at the **2022 NZC Awards**.
- **Ace Indian swimmer Sajjan Prakash** won the **gold medal** in the **men's 200m butterfly** event at the **Danish Open 2022** in **Copenhagen**.

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- **New Zealand pacer Hamish Bennett** has announced that the 2021/22 season will be the last of his **17-year-old career**.
- **Haryana** has become the winner of the **12th Senior Men's National Hockey Championship** in the final, **Haryana defeated Tamil Nadu 3-1** in the shootout after the final ended 1-1 in the regulation time.
- The country's **youngest Grandmaster D. Gukesh**, 15, improved upon his two runner-up finishes in March with a resounding title-triumph in the **48th La Roda International Open chess tournament in Castile-La Mancha, in Spain**.
- In Wrestling, **Harpreet Singh and Sachin Sahrawat bagged a bronze each as Indian Greco-Roman wrestlers** concluded their campaign at the **Asian Wrestling Championships 2022 with five medals, in Ulaanbaatar Mongolia**.
- **West Indies all-rounder Kieron Pollard** has announced his **retirement from international cricket**.
- India captain **Rohit Sharma and pacer Jasprit Bumrah** have been named among the **"Five Cricketers of the Year"** in the 2022 edition of the **Wisden Almanack**.
- In Khelo India University Games, **Weightlifter Govind Sunil Mahajan won gold and Uday Anil Mahajan won silver** to help **Kaviyatri Bahinabai Chaudhuri North Maharashtra University** top the medal table at the end of action in **Bengaluru**.
- India's **Deepak Punia won the 86kg men's freestyle silver medal** while **Viky clinched bronze in 92kg** on the final day of the **Asian Wrestling Championships in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**.
- **Andrey Rublev defeated Novak Djokovic 6-2, 6-7 (4), 6-0** to win the **Serbia Open** for his third title of the season.

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- **Max Verstappen** now has something in common with the likes of **Lionel Messi, Roger Federer and Michael Schumacher**: a **Laureus World Sportsman of the Year** award.
- **Ann Mariya** from Mangalore University broke the National Record in the clean and Jerk category in the **87 kg class weightlifting championship** during the **Khelo India University Games** in Bengaluru.
- **India finished** with a total tally of **17 medals, one gold, five silvers and 11 bronze**, **35th edition of Asian Wrestling Championships 2022** in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Defence News

- The **20th edition of the Bilateral Naval Exercise** between Indian and French Navies – ‘**VARUNA**’ is being conducted in the **Arabian Sea** from **March 30 to April 03, 2022**.
- The **maiden edition of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Maritime Exercise 2022 (IMEX-22)** was conducted at **Goa** and in **Arabian Sea** from **26 – 30 March 2022**.
- **Indian Naval Air Squadron (INAS) 316**, the Navy’s **second P-8I aircraft squadron**, will be commissioned at **Indian Navy Ship (INS) Hansa Naval air base** in **Goa** in the presence of Chief of Naval Staff Admiral **R Hari Kumar**.
- **China's** modified version of the **Long March-6 carrier rocket** lifted off from the **Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center** in **Shanxi Province** & sent **two satellites** into preset orbits.
- The **9th Edition of the India – Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise** which commenced on **25 Mar 2022** at **Special Forces Training School, Bakloh (HP)** culminated on **06 April 2022** at **Bakloh** in **Himachal Pradesh**.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully flight tested the **Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) booster** at the **Integrated Test Range** at **Chandipur** off the coast of **Odisha**.

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- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** and **Indian Army** successfully test-fired the **Pinaka Mk-I (Enhanced) Rocket System (EPRS)** and **Pinaka Area Denial Munition (ADM)** rocket systems.
- To promote private industry, **MSMEs** and **start-ups in defence production ecosystem**, **25% of the Domestic Capital Procurement/Acquisition Budget**, amounting to **₹21,149.47 Cr**, will be earmarked for domestic private industry in **FY2022-23**.
- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) & Indian Army** and **Indian Air Force (IAF)** jointly conducted the successful flight-test of the indigenously developed helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile '**HELINA**' at high-altitude ranges.
- **Pakistan's Army** conducted a successful flight test of the **surface-to-surface medium-range ballistic missile Shaheen-III**.
- The **Trishakti Corps** conducted **Ex Kripan Shakti**, an **Integrated Fire Power exercise** at **Teesta Field Firing Ranges (TFFR)** near **Siliguri (WB)**.
- **Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General MM Naravane** has inducted the **first set of domestically developed specialist vehicles** into service, at a ceremony organised in the city of **Pune**.
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** successfully test-fired a **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile** from a **Sukhoi fighter jet Su30 Mkl**, on the **Eastern seaboard** & the test was carried out by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** in close coordination with the **Indian Air Force** and the **Indian Army**.
- Union Defence Secretary **Ajay Kumar** inaugurated the **8th edition of two-day National Level Pollution Response Exercise NATPOLREX-VIII** being conducted by the **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** off **Mormugao harbour** in **Goa**.

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- Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) has launched INS 'Vagsheer'- the sixth and the last Scorpene Submarine of Project-75 launched in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The Indian Coast Guard Ship (Auxiliary Barge) named Urja Pravaha has been inducted into the Indian Coast Guard at Gujarat's Bharuch.
- Indian Navy successfully test fired a BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from the guided missile destroyer INS Delhi.

Awards & Honours

- General MM Naravane, Chief of the Army Staff presented the prestigious 'President's Colours' to two battalions of the Dogra Regiment, namely 20 DOGRA and 21 DOGRA during an impressive Colour Presentation Parade held at the Dogra Regimental Centre, Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh.
 - The Stockholm Water Prize 2022 has been awarded by The Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) in cooperation with the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences to Professor Wilfried Brutsaert for his innovative advertisement evaluating environmental evaporation.
- The [64th Annual Grammy Awards](#) were held at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, Nevada & it recognized the best recordings, compositions, and artists of the eligibility year, running from September 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021.
- Mumbai-based Scroll.in reporter Aarefa Johari has won the Chameli Devi Jain Award for Outstanding Woman Mediaperson 2021.
 - Noted poet and litterateur Prof Ramdarash Mishra has been selected for the prestigious Saraswati Samman, 2021 & he has been selected for this prestigious literary award for his Hindi poetry collection 'Mein to Yahan Hun', which was published in 2015.

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- A photograph **Kamloops Residential School** has won the **2022 World Press Photo of the Year award** was captured by **Canadian photojournalist Amber Jacken**.
- Famous **Bengali author Amar Mitra** was awarded with the **prestigious 2022 O. Henry Prize for short stories** & he has won for his work titled **“The Old Man of Kusumpur”**, originally written in Bengali with the title **Gaonburo**, 45 years back in 1977.
- **Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu** conferred the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship and Sangeet Natak Awards** for the year **2018** and **National Awards of Lalit Kala Akademi to eminent artists** at a special function held in New Delhi.
- The **Airports Council International (ACI) World** published the list of the **top 10 busiest airports** in the **world for the year 2021**.
- The **National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)**, under the **Ministry of Steel**, was awarded **one gold and one silver award** in the **80th SKOCH Summit and SKOCH Awards** in New Delhi.
 - At the **23rd edition of the EY Entrepreneur of The Year India awards**, **Founder and CEO of Nykaa, Falguni Nayar** has been named the **EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2021**.
 - **Mumbai and Hyderabad** have been jointly recognised as **‘2021 Tree City of the World** 'by **The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)** and **Arbor Day Foundation** & for a **second consecutive year**, **Hyderabad** has been recognised as a 'Tree City of the World'
 - **Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu** conferred the **International Gandhi Award for Leprosy, 2021** to **Dr. Bhushan Kumar of Chandigarh** under the Indian

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nomination (individual) category and **Sahyog Kushtha Yagna Trust, Gujarat** under the institutional category in New Delhi.

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** is set to be honoured with the **first Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award**, at the 80th annual Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Awards ceremony.
- **Renowned Indian economist** and **political commentator Prabhat Patnaik** has been selected for the **2022 Malcom Adiseshiah Award** & the award is annually given by the **Malcolm and Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust** to an outstanding social scientist selected from nominations received by a specially constituted national jury.
- **IndusInd Bank** has been awarded the **global ‘Celent Model Bank’ award** under the category – ‘Payments System Transformation’ for building a best-in-class Enterprise Payments Hub (EPH).
- The **Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA)** flagship **Regional Connectivity Scheme UDAN (UdeDeshkaAamNagrik)** has been selected for **Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2020** under the category “Innovation (General) – Central”.
- **Indian-American chief executive of General Atomics Global Corporation Vivek Lall** has been selected for the **prestigious Entrepreneur Leadership Awards - Global Leader in Defence & Aviation Sector** by the **Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC)** for recognition of his contribution in the defence sector.
- **Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy** is among **five people** being named as recipients of the **John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award** for acting to protect democracy.

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- The **UN Environment Programme (UNEP)** announced that **Sir David Attenborough** is the recipient of the **Champions of the Earth Lifetime Achievement Award** for his dedication to research, documentation, and advocacy for the protection of nature and its restoration.
- **Aam Aadmi Party leader Raghav Chadha**, **Edelweiss Mutual Fund CEO Radhika Gupta** and **Ukrainian Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Digital Transformation Mykhailo Fedorov** were named by the **World Economic Forum** in its **2022 list of Young Global Leaders**.
- The **National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC)**, has achieved the **Public Relations Awards 2022** conferred by **Public Relations Society of India (PRSI)**, winning the first position in four categories.
- The **Meghalaya** government's Planning Department's key initiative of "**e-Proposal System**", wins the coveted **UN Award – World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum Prizes 2022**.
- **Kishor Kumar Das**, the founder of the humanitarian organization **Bidyanondo**, has been awarded the **223rd Commonwealth Point of Light**.
- The former Honorary Consul of Peru in Mumbai, **Mr. Ardeshir B.K. Dubash**, received the **Order of "Merit in the Diplomatic Service of Peru José Gregorio Paz Soldán"**, the highest distinction conferred by the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru**.

Science & Technology

- **Pixxel**, a space-technology startup, has successfully launched its first fully-fledged commercial satellite **Shakuntala (Technology Demonstrator-2)** with the **SpaceX**



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Falcon-9 rocket which was launched from **Cape Canaveral Space Force Station**, Florida, US.

- **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** handed over the **first set of Gaganyaan hardware** to the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** during the **inauguration** of HAL's **PS2/GS2 stage integration facility** in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**.
- A team of scientists has discovered a **near-identical twin of Jupiter** circling a star **17,000 light-years** away from the **Earth** using data obtained in **2016** by **NASA's Kepler space telescope**.
- **Amazon** has signed **agreements** with **three companies** – **Arianespace, Blue Origin, and United Launch Alliance (ULA)**, to **deploy** the majority of its **Project Kuiper satellites**.
- On April 07, 2022, **China** launched a new **Earth observation satellite Gaofen-3 03** from the **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center** in **northwest China** by a **Long March-4C rocket**.
- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras** researchers have launched **India's first indigenously developed Polycentric Prosthetic Knee** called '**Kadam**'.
- **SpaceX** has successfully launched the **first all-private crew of space tourists** to the **International Space Station**, as part of **Axiom Space's Ax-1 mission**.
- The **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** has launched **3 applications** under the **Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)** as part of the **InTranSE- II program** to improve India's traffic scenario.
- **Neptune** is a **Ukrainian anti-ship cruise missile** capable of **destroying targets** within a range of **300 km.** & was developed by the **Luch design bureau**.

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- **China** sent a new **satellite Zhongxing-6D** into space from the **Xichang Satellite Launch Center** in southwest China's **Sichuan Province** & the satellite was launched by a **Long March-3B carrier rocket** and entered the planned orbit successfully.
- A **Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX) Falcon 9 rocket** has successfully launched a surveillance satellite for the **US National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)** from the **Space Launch Complex-4 East at Vandenberg Space Force Base** in **California, US**.
- **Russia** successfully test-fired the **Sarmat missile**, a new nuclear-capable **intercontinental ballistic weapon** for the first time from **Plesetsk** in northwest Russia.

Books & Authors

| Name of the Book | Author | Published by / Released by/ Key Points |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Birsa Munda – Janjatiya Nayak | | Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Education and Skill Development, has released |
| Queen of Fire | Devika Rangachari | |
| Decoding Indian Babudom | Ashwini Shrivastava | Vitasta Publishing Private Limited |

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| Tiger of Drass, Capt. Anuj Nayyar, 23, Kargil Hero | Meena Nayyar and Himmat Singh Shekhawat | HarperCollins India |
| Hear Yourself | Prem Rawat | This New York Times bestseller book is already available in 58 countries and five languages. |
| The Boy Who Wrote a constitution: A Play for Children on Human Rights | Rajesh Talwar | |
| The Magic of Mangalajodi | Avinash Khemka | Naveen Patnaik, the Chief Minister of Odisha, has released |
| Sikh History of Eastern India | Abinash Mohapatra | |
| Chinese Spies: From Chairman Mao to Xi Jinping | Roger Faligot | Translated by writer, editor and translator, Natasha Lehrer. |
| Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Inning with BCCI | Vinod Rai | Vinod Rai, the former Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) and chief of the Supreme Court |
| Tomb of Sand | Hindi novelist and short story writer Geetanjali Shree | Shree's book, translated into English by Daisy Rockwell and described |

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| | | by the judges as a "loud and irresistible novel" |
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Important Days & Themes

| Date | Observed as | Theme/ Aim |
|----------|---|---|
| 31 March | World Backup Day 2022 | This is a yearly reminder for us to back up our files safely to avoid any data loss. |
| 31 March | Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) | Its goal is to raise awareness about the work that has to be done to establish equity and justice for third-gender people. |
| 31 March | International Day of Drug Checking | The main objective of this day is to ensure people are educated on drugs and aware of their effects. |
| 1 April | The foundation day of Odisha, known as Odisha Day, or Utkal Diwas | The state of Odisha got its own identity as a separate state in the year 1936, after disassociating itself from Bihar and Bengal. |
| 2 April | International Children's Book Day (ICBD) | Theme: Stories are wings that help you soar every day." |
| 2 April | World Autism Awareness Day | Theme: Inclusive Quality Education for All |

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| 4 April | International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action | Theme: afe Ground, Safe Steps, Safe Home |
| 5 April | National Maritime Day | Theme: Sustainable Shipping beyond Covid-19 |
| 5 April | International Day of Conscience | This Day is observed every year on the 5th of April and the first International Conscience Day was observed in 2020. |
| 6 April | The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP) | Theme: Securing a Sustainable and Peaceful Future for All: The Contribution of Sport |
| 7 April | World Health Day | Theme: Our Planet, Our Health |
| 7 April | International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Rwandan Genocide | International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda is commemorated by UNESCO |
| 9 April | Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) celebrates Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas) | On this day in 1965, a small force of the CRPF made history by beating a Pakistani army that was several times larger at the Sardar Post in Gujarat's Rann of Kutch. |

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| 10 April | World Homeopathy Day | Theme: Peoples Choice For Wellness |
| 11 April | National Safe Motherhood Day | In 2003, the Indian government designated the day of Kasturba Gandhi's birthday, April 11, as National Safe Motherhood Day in response to the proposal of WRAI. |
| 11 April | World Parkinson's Day | Theme: integrated healthcare. |
| 12 April | International Day of Human Space Flight | The day remembers the first human space flight on April 12, 1961. |
| 13 April | International Turban Day | The 2022 Turban Day marks the 553rd birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev and the festival of Baisakhi. |
| 13 April | Siachen Day | The Siachen Warriors celebrated the 38th Siachen Day this year 2022 |
| 14 April | World Chagas Day | The disease is also called American trypanosomiasis, silent disease or silenced disease. It is caused by the parasite Trypanosoma crizu. |

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| 15 April | World Art Day | World Art Day was first declared in 2019 during the 40th session of UNESCO's General Conference. |
| 15 April | Himachal Pradesh statehood Day | It was on this day in 1948 that Himachal Pradesh was created as a province of India. |
| 16 April | World Voice Day | On April 16, 1999, the Brazilian Society of Laryngology and Voice, chaired by Dr. Nedio Steffen, declared the day as Brazilian Voice Day. |
| 16 April | Save the Elephant Day | According to WWF data, at present, the population of Pachyderms in India is around 20,000 to 25,000. |
| 17 April | World Hemophilia Day | Theme: Access for All: Partnership. Policy. Progress. Engaging your government, integrating inherited bleeding disorders into national policy. |
| 18 April | World Heritage Day | Theme: Heritage and Climate |
| 19 April | World Liver Day | The day is observed to raise awareness about liver diseases across the world. |

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| 20 April | UN Chinese Language Day | The 1st Chinese Language Day was celebrated in 2010 on the 12th of November, but since 2011 the date has been on the 20th of April. |
| 21 April | Civil Services Day | The first such event took place on April 21, 2006, at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. |
| 21 April | World Creativity and Innovation Day | To raise awareness about the crucial role of creativity and innovation in different aspects of human development. |
| 22 April | International Mother Earth Day | Theme: Invest In our Planet |
| 23 April | World Book and Copyright Day | The first World Book Day was celebrated on 23 April in 1995, and continues to be recognized on that day. |
| 23 April | English Language and Spanish Language Day | English Language Day at the UN is celebrated on 23 April, the date traditionally observed as both the birthday and date of death of William Shakespeare. |

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| 24 April | National Panchayati Raj Day (NPRD) | The objective of celebrating the National Panchayati Raj Day is to increase awareness about Panchayats and Gram Sabhas |
| 24 April | The International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace | It was established on 12 December 2018 and was first observed on 24 April 2019. |
| 25 April | World Malaria Day | Theme: Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives |
| 25 April | International Delegates Day | This day is celebrated to raise awareness of the role of representatives and delegates from the Member States at the United Nations. |
| 26 April | International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day | On April 26th, 1986, the worst nuclear accident in history took place. The horrific event occurred in Chernobyl, Ukraine. |
| 26 April | World Intellectual Property Day | Theme: IP and Youth innovating for a Better Future |

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| 24 to 30 April (Last week of April) | World Immunization Week | Theme: Long Life for All |
| 27 April (last Wednesday of April) | World Stationery Day | The day is celebrated to mark the importance of stationery and writing on paper than using computers. |
| 28 April (fourth Thursday in April) | International Girls in ICT Day | Theme: Access and safety |
| 28 April | The World Day for Safety and Health at Work | Theme: Act together to build a positive safety and health culture |

Obituaries

| Name of the person | Field | Country/ Place |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Miguel Van Damme | Footballer | Belgium |
| BB Gurung | Former chief minister of Sikkim | Chakhung village in West Sikkim |
| Shiv Kumar Subramaniam | Actor-screenwriter | |

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| Manju Singh | Veteran television producer and actor | |
| Prafulla Kar | Popular Odia singer and music director | Odisha |
| John Paul | Versatile Malayalam Screenwriter and producer | Kochi, Kerala |
| Mwai Kibaki | Former Kenyan President | |
| Binapani Mohanty | Legendary Odia writer | |
| M. Vijayan | DAE Homi Bhabha Professor of structural biology at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), died in Bengaluru | |
| Elvera Britto | Former Indian women's hockey team captain | |
| J.D. Rymbai | Meghalaya's former chief minister | |

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