



## Current Affairs Supplement

October 2021

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## National

### PM Launched 2nd Phases of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban, AMRUT

On

October 01, 2021, Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi launched the **second phase** of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (**SBM-U 2.0**) and the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation 2.0 (**AMRUT 2.0**).

#### Key Points:

**i.SBM-U 2.0:** The SBM-U 2.0 aims to make cities completely **'free of garbage'** and ensure grey and black water management in all cities other than those covered under AMRUT. The outlay of SBM-U 2.0 is around **Rs 1.41 lakh crore**.

**ii.AMRUT 2.0:** It intends to improve sewage and septic management, making the cities into water safe cities and ensuring that no sewage drains anywhere in rivers. It will benefit more than 10.5 crore people in urban areas and the outlay of AMRUT 2.0 is around **Rs 2.87 lakh crore**.

#### iii.Enhanced Allocation for Urban Development Ministry:

In the preceding 7 years before 2014, around Rs 1.25 lakh crore was allocated for the Ministry, while in 7 years after 2014 around Rs 4 lakh crore were allocated for the Ministry.

#### About Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA):

**Union Minister** – Hardeep Singh Puri (Constituency – Uttar Pradesh)

**Ministry of State** – Kaushal Kishore (Constituency – Mohanlalganj, Uttar Pradesh)

### India's 1st, World's 3rd Ropeway Public Transport Proposed to be Constructed in Varanasi

India's **1<sup>st</sup>** and world's **3<sup>rd</sup>** ropeway for public transport was proposed to be constructed in the city of **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh** to ease the traffic congestion.

- The ropeway service will cover an aerial distance of **~5 km** from Cantt Railway Station (Varanasi Junction, Uttar Pradesh) to Church Square (Godauliya) in about 15 minutes.
- On completion, Varanasi will become the **1st Indian city** and India will become the third country in the world (after **Bolivia and Mexico City**) to use ropeway services in public transportation.
- WAPCOS Limited, an accredited public sector enterprise under the Union ministry of Jal Shakti has proposed the cost of the ropeway service at **~Rs 400 crore**.



**Key Points:**

- ii. The service will commence with 220 cable cars/trolleys and **4 stations** including Cantt railway station, Sajan Tiraha, Rathyatra, and Girjagar (Godowlia) crossings.
- iii. The cars will run at a height of 45 meter and through the ropeway around 8000 people could travel at a time (in two directions).
- iv. Through this initiative, the Kashi Vishwanath Temple and Dashashwamedh Ghat will be easily accessible.

**About Uttar Pradesh:**

**Governor** – Anandiben Patel

**Wildlife Sanctuary** – Sohagibarwa Wildlife Sanctuary

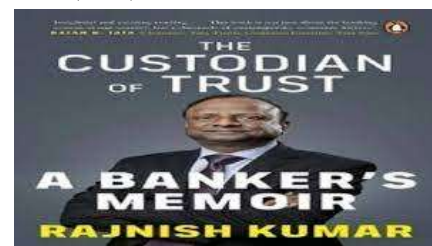
**Airport** – Allahabad Airport, Hindon Airport, Muirpur (Sonhadra) Airport

**Rajnish Kumar authors' debut book "The Custodian of Trust"**

The

debut book of **Rajnish Kumar**, former Chairman of State Bank of India (SBI), named "**The Custodian of Trust**" is set to be released on 18th October 2021.

The book published by Penguin Random House India, discusses various memories of Rajnish Kumar with India's banking & financial sector.



- i. Rajnish Kumar shares noteworthy experience, in his 40 years of service with SBI including 3-years as its Chairman, on the critical role played by banks in India's fight to eliminate poverty.
- ii. Some critical points discussed in the book include, the challenges faced during demonetization, Non-Performing Assets (NPA), crisis in Jet Airways & Yes Bank among others.

**About Rajnish Kumar:**

- i. Rajnish Kumar joined SBI as a Probationary Officer in 1980, later in 2015 he became the Managing Director (National Banking Group) and the Managing Director (Compliance & Risk) of SBI.
- ii. He served as SBI Chairman for a 3 years' term between October 2017 to October 2020.
- iii. Currently, he is the Director on the board of HSBC Asia Pacific, L&T Infotech Ltd & Lighthouse Communities Foundation.

**PM launched Rs 100 Lakh cr Gati Shakti- National Master Plan for Infrastructure Development from New Delhi**

- i. The Central government is undertaking efforts for the



Next Generation Infrastructure to improve ease of living as well as ease of doing business. On these lines, the Prime Minister (PM) of India, Narendra Damodardas Modi had announced ‘**PM GatiShakti – National Master Plan for Multi-Modal Connectivity**’ in his Independence Day speech on August 15, 2021.

ii. Following this, on October 13 2021, GatiShakti, a **Rs. 100 lakh-crore project** was officially launched by the Indian PM during an event at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

iii. Gati Shakti is a **digital platform** collaborating **16 Central Ministries and Departments** for integrated planning and coordination to implement infrastructure connectivity projects of more than 1,200 industrial clusters.

iv. In line with PM Gati Shakti, Mumbai Port Trust is undertaking a number of projects promoting multimodal connectivity which is premised upon two pillars, namely **cargo-related projects and Sea Tourism**.

### **Gulzar authors a new Book titled “Actually... I Met Them: A Memoir”**

A book titled ‘**Actually...I Met Them: A Memoir**’ authored by Indian poet-lyricist and director **Gulzar**(original name **Sampooran Singh Kalra**). The book is published by Penguin Random House India (**PRHI**).

- In this memoir, Gulzar has shared interesting facts about legends like Kishore Kumar, Bimal Roy, Ritwik Ghatak, Hrishikesh Mukherjee and Mahasweta Devi and many others.



### **About Gulzar:**

i. Sampooran Singh Kalra is professionally known as ‘Gulzar’ or ‘Gulzar Saab’.

ii. He was born on 18 August 1934 in Dina, Pakistan.

### **Awards:**

i. He has won **Padma Bhushan** in 2004 for his contribution to the arts, Sahitya Akademi Award in 2002, Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2013, and National Film Award for Best Lyrics.

ii. Gulzar and AR Rahman won an Oscar(2009) for Best Original Song for ‘Jai Ho’ at the 81st Academy Awards.

### **UP Govt Approved Renaming of Faizabad Railway Junction to Ayodhya Cantt**

The Uttar Pradesh (UP) government has approved the proposal of Ayodhya’s MP (Member of Parliament), Lallu Singh’s proposal to change the name of **Faizabad railway junction to Ayodhya Cantt** (Cantonment).

**Key points:**

i. The decision was proposed by the Faizabad district administration.

- Ayodhya: It was the capital of the “**Ikshvaku dynasty**” (to which Hindu God Ram belonged) and it was popularly known as his birthplace. It is a city situated on the banks of the river Saryu in UP.

ii. In 2018, the UP government renamed the

districts **Faizabad** and **Allahabad** into **Ayodhya** and **Prayagraj**. In 2017, the central government approved its proposal to rename the **Mughalsarai railway station** as the **Deen Dayal Upadhyaya station**.

*Note* – The name of the Faizabad railway junction will be changed to Ayodhya Cantt after the approval of the Ministry of Railways.

**Government, Tata Sons signed Rs 18000cr Share Purchase Agreement for Air India**

The Central Government signed a **Share Purchase Agreement** (SPA) with Tata Sons for sale (strategic disinvestment) of national carrier Air India for Rs 18,000 crore. The information for the same was provided by Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) Secretary **Tuhin Kanta Pandey**.



- The SPA was signed by Air India Director – Finance **Vinod Hejmadi**; and Civil Aviation Ministry Joint Secretary **Satyendra Mishra** and **Suprakash Mukhopadhyay**.

**Key Points:**

i. The government is divesting its 100% ownership of Air India and Air India Express along with its 50% stake in ground-handling company AISATS (Air India Sats Airport Services Private Limited).

ii. As on August 31, 2021, Air India had a total debt of Rs 61,562 crore. As part of the deal, 75% of this debt or Rs 46,262 crore will be transferred to a special purpose vehicle Air India Assets Holding Ltd (AIAHL) before handing over the airline to the Tata Group.

- However, the government transfer about **Rs 16,000 crore** of unpaid current liabilities to AIAHL.
- Of the 141 Air India aircraft that Tata will get 42 leased planes while the remaining 99 are owned.

iii. Air India will be the third airline brand in the Tatas' portfolio as it holds a majority interest in **AirAsia India** and **Vistara**, a joint venture with Singapore Airlines Ltd.

## Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana Emerge as Topper in Governance Performance – PAI 2021

According to the report of 6th edition, **Public Affairs Index (PAI 2021)** by the **Public Affairs Centre (PAC)**, a Bengaluru-based non-profit think tank, the top three slots have been taken by Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana among 18 large states.



- PAI 2021 highlights the state government's quality governance and specially the state's government involvement over the curb of Covid-19.
- Public Affairs Index (PAI 2021) ranks the states and Union Territories based on three pillars of **equity, growth and sustainability** along with 5 themes, 14 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 43 indicators.

### Overall PAC Index 2021

**Toppers among large states** – Kerala (1.618), Tamil Nadu (0.857), and Telangana (0.891)

**Toppers among small states** – Sikkim (1.617), Meghalaya (1.144) and Mizoram (1.123)

**Toppers among Union Territories** – Puducherry (1.182), Jammu and Kashmir (0.705) and Chandigarh (0.628)

## SC appoints 3-member Expert Panel to Investigate on Pegasus Spyware Usage

A Supreme Court (SC) bench headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) N V Ramana instituted a **3-member expert panel** to investigate the issue on usage of 'Pegasus Spyware' on Indian Citizens during 2019.

### 3-member expert panel:

- **Naveen Kumar Chaudhary** – He is a Cyber Security expert & the Dean of National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- **Prabakaran P** – With Expertise in Malware detection & Critical infrastructure security, Prabakaran serves as Professor (School of Engineering), Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham
- **Ashwin Anil Gumaste** – He was awarded Vikram Sarabhai Research Award (2012) and Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology (2018), & currently serves as an Associate Professor in IIT Bombay
- The 3-member technical panel will submit the reports to former SC Judge **RV Raveendran**, who will be assisted by former IPS officer Alok Joshi and Sundeep Oberoi.



**About Supreme Court of India:**

**CJI** – N. V. Ramana (48th CJI)

**Total Strength of Judges** – 34 (including CJI)(But Presently there are 33 (Including CJI))

Retirement Age of Supreme Court Judges is **65 years**

**PM Narendra Modi Launched 7 DPSUs Carved out of OFB; E. R. Sheikh Became 1st Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the **7 new Defence Public Sector Undertakings** (DPSUs) that were carved out of the Ordnance Factory Board (**OFB**) and dedicated them to the nation.

- **Background:** In September 2021, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) had **dissolved the OFB** and transferred the OFB's employees, management, and assets to the 7 DPSUs.
- The 7 DPSUs include – Munitions India Ltd (MIL), Armoured Vehicles Nigam Ltd (AVANI), Gliders India Limited (GIL), Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Ltd (AWE India), Troop Comforts Ltd (TCL), Yantra India Ltd (YIL), and India Optel Ltd (IOL).

*Note* – The MoD has set a target of achieving a turnover of Rs 1.75 lakh crore in aerospace, defence goods and services by 2024, including exports of Rs 35,000 crore.

**-E. R. Sheikh Assumed Charge as 1st Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate**

The 1984 batch Indian Ordnance Factory Service (IOFS) officer, **E.R. Sheikh** assumed charge as **1st Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate** (Co-ordination and Services), which is the successor organization of OFB.

**About Ministry of Defence (MoD):**

**Union Minister** – Raj Nath Singh (Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh)

**Minister of State** – Ajay Bhatt (Nainital-Udhamsingh Nagar, Uttarakhand)



## International

### India Ranks 59th in 'Digital Quality of Life Index 2021; Denmark Tops

**India** was positioned at an overall rank of **59th** among 110 countries in the 3rd edition of 'Digital Quality of Life Index (DQL) 2021' prepared by cybersecurity company 'Surfshark'. This is 2 positions lower than the 57th rank secured by India in the 2020 Index.



**i.** For the 2nd consecutive time, **Denmark** topped the ranking, followed by South Korea & Finland in 2nd & 3rd positions.

**ii.** Ethiopia is the lowest (110) ranked Country. Cambodia ranked at 108th Position & Cameroon ranked at 109th Position .

**iii.** The Index ranks India at 17th place among the Asian countries and **1st** in the South Asian region.

**iv.** The report evaluates countries' digital quality based on 5 fundamental principles.

**Note** – India shares **49th** rank along with Thailand, in the '2021 Inclusive Internet Index' by The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), where the ranking was topped by **Sweden**.

#### About Surfshark:

**Founded** – 2018

**CEO** – Vytautas Kaziukonis

### India slips 6 ranks on Henley's Passport Index Q4-2021 to 90th; Japan & Singapore Tops

**i.** According to the 'Henley Passport Index (HPI) 2021' released by Henley and Partners, India's ranked has slipped by 6 places to 90th from 84th in Q2 2021 allowing its passport holders to travel 58 countries without visa.

**ii.** The index has been topped by Japan and Singapore as they allowed travel visa-free to **192 countries** to their passport holders.

**ii.** Notably, this for the 3 consecutive years that Japan has grabbed the top spot.

**iv.** The toppers are followed by **South Korea** and **Germany** at 2nd position with travel visa to 190 countries.



#### About Henley & Partners:

**Chief Executive Officer (CEO)– Dr. Juerg Steffen**  
**Headquarters– London, United Kingdom**

### 10<sup>th</sup> Global Food Security Index 2021: India ranked 71st out of 113 nations; Ireland tops

- i. The 10th edition of the Global Food Security Index (GFSI) 2021 of 113 countries was released in which India ranked at 71st position scoring 57.2 overall points. The index is designed and constructed by **Economist Impact** and is sponsored by **Corteva Agriscience**.
- ii. It is topped by Ireland with an overall score of 84 which is followed by **Austria** (81.3) and the **United Kingdom-UK** (81).
- iii. It is premised upon 58 indicators with four overarching categories viz. Affordability; Availability; Quality and Safety; and Natural Resources and Resilience.
- iv. In the region of **Asia Pacific**, Japan scored 1<sup>st</sup> rank with an overall score of 79.3 which is followed by Singapore (77.4), and New Zealand (76.8).



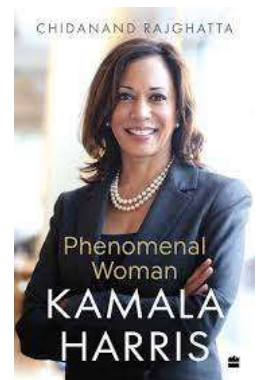
- India ranked 14<sup>th</sup> under Asia Pacific Region.

### New Book Titled “Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman” Authored by Chidanand Rajghatta

Renowned journalist and writer **Chidanand Rajghatta** have authored a new book “**Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman**”, a biography of Kamala Harris, the first woman Vice President of the United States of America (USA). The book is published by HarperCollins Publishers India.

#### About the book:

- i. The book features the life incidents of Kamala Harris, a woman of mixed race (India and Jamaica) who has become the first Indian descent, the first woman to become the vice president of the USA.



#### About Chidanand Rajghatta:

- i. Chidanand Rajghatta is an Indian born journalist and political commentator based in Washington DC, USA.
- ii. He is the foreign editor and the US bureau chief of the Times of India (TOI) and one of the longest-serving foreign correspondents in Washington, DC.
- iii. He has also worked with The Indian Express, The Telegraph of Kolkata, India Today, and

The Sunday Times of India.

### Other books:

- The Horse That Flew: How India's Silicon Gurus Spread Their Wings
- Illiberal India: Gauri Lankesh and the Age of Unreason.

### Germany unveils world's first driverless train

German rail operator Deutsche Bahn and industrial group Siemens unveiled the **world's first automated, driverless train** in the city of Hamburg, Germany. According to them, it is more punctual and energy efficient than traditional trains.

- Four **more driverless trains** will join the northern city's S-Bahn rapid urban rail network.
- These rails will start carrying passengers from December, using the existing rail infrastructure and will be sharing tracks with other regular trains.
- It is part of a 60 million euro (\$70 million) modernization of Hamburg's rapid urban rail system.
- The automated trains can transport up to 30 per cent more passengers, improve punctuality and save more than 30 per cent energy.

### Facebook Inc rebranded as "Meta"

As

part of a major rebrand, **Facebook Inc** has changed its corporate name to **Meta (Meta Platforms, Inc.)**, in an effort to include its virtual reality vision for the future. Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, unveiled his plans to build "Metaverse", an online world where people can game, work and communicate in a virtual environment.



- The company has also unveiled its new sign, a **blue infinity shape**, at its headquarters in Menlo Park, California. The new sign replaces its thumbs-up "Like" logo.

### Rebranding:

i. The branding 'Facebook' will be removed from Whatsapp, Instagram, Oculus, Workplace, Portal, Novi and other places.

### What is Metaverse?

i. Metaverse is a set of virtual spaces which will allow the user to create and explore with others who are not in the same physical space.

ii. The term '**Metaverse**' was first coined in the 1992 novel **Snow Crash** by Neal Stephenson.

**About Meta Platforms, Inc.:**

Meta Platforms, Inc. was formerly known as Facebook, Inc. (launched in February 2004) until October 28, 2021.

**Founder, Chairman & CEO**– Mark Zuckerberg

**Headquarters**– Menlo Park, California, United States of America

## Defence

### 8th Edition of India- Sri Lanka Military Exercise Mitra Shakti – 2021 Held in Sri Lanka

The **8th** Edition of **India-Sri Lanka** bilateral joint Military Exercise ‘**Mitra Shakti – 2021**’ was scheduled to be conducted at Combat Training School, Ampara, Sri Lanka from **October 4 to 15, 2021**.



- The duration of the exercise was about 12 days.
- **Objective:** To promote close relations between armies of both countries and enhance inter-operability and sharing best practices in counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations.
- An all-arms contingent of 120 personnel of the Indian Army is participating in the military
- Mitra Shakti is a military exercise that will be conducted **every year** between armies of India and Sri Lanka. The exercise doesn't take place in 2020 due to the COVID-19.

#### About Sri Lanka:

**Capital** – Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

**President** – Gotabaya Rajapaksa

**Currency** – Sri Lankan Rupee

### 5th India-Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise JIMEX 2021 held at Arabian Sea

**i.** The 5th edition of India-Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise, ‘JIMEX 2021’ between Indian Navy (IN) and the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) is being held in Arabian Sea from October 6-8, 2021.

**ii.** IN is represented by indigenously built **INS (Indian Naval Ship)**

**Kochi** and **Guided Missile Frigate Teg**, under the command of **Rear Admiral Ajay Kochhar**, Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet (FOCWF).



**iii.** Japan is represented by JMSDF ships Kaga, an Izumo Class Helicopter Carrier and Murasame, a Guided Missile Destroyer, led by **Rear Admiral Ikeuchi Izuru**, Commander Escort Flotilla – 3 (CCF-3).

#### About Japan:

**Prime Minister** – Fumio Kishida

**Capital**– Tokyo

**Currency**– Yen

### 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of India-UK Military Exercise Ajeya Warrior-2021 Held in Uttarakhand

The 6th Edition of India – UK (United Kingdom) Joint Company Level Military Training exercise **Ajeya Warrior-2021** was commenced in Chaubatia, **Uttarakhand** on October 07, 2021, and it was scheduled to be completed on October 20, 2021.



#### Key Points:

**i.Objective:** To strengthen bilateral defence cooperation between the two countries and develop inter-operability among them.

**ii.**An Infantry Company from the Indian Army and an equivalent strength from UK Army would be sharing their experiences gained during the conduct of various military operations in their respective countries and during overseas engagements.

**iii.**The training would be completed with a 48 hours difficult exercise to validate the performance of both the Armies in conducting joint military operations in a semi-urban environment.

### 17<sup>th</sup> India-US Joint Military Training Exercise ‘Ex Yudh Abhyas 21’ commenced at Alaska, US

i.A

14-day long 17th Edition of India-US joint training exercise ‘Ex Yudh Abhyas 21’ was commenced on October 15, 2021 at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson in Alaska, United States (US). It will culminate on October 29, 2021 after a 48 hours long validation.

**ii.**350 soldiers of **7 MADRAS Infantry Battalion Group** of Indian Army and 300 US Army soldiers belonging to First Squadron (Airborne) of the 40th Cavalry Regiment are participating.

**iii.**This is the **only** India-U.S. service exercise continuing in **bilateral format**.

## Appointments or Resign/Retired

### Former Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida Set to Become the 100th PM of Japan

Former Foreign Minister **Fumio Kishida(64 years old)** has been elected as the president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party(LDP) and set to become the next and the 100th Prime Minister(PM) of Japan. He will be succeeding Yoshihide Suga, who stepped down as Japan's PM.



#### About Fumio Kishida:

- i. Fumio Kishida hails from Hiroshima, Japan.
- ii. He served as the LDP policy chief and Japan's longest-serving post-war foreign minister under the premiership of Shinzo Abe from 2012 to 2017.

### Fire-Boltt Appointed Indian Cricketer Virat Kohli as its Brand Ambassador

**Fire-Boltt**, India's leading smart wearable brand, has appointed Indian cricketer **Virat Kohli** as its brand ambassador. As the brand ambassador he will take part in the various marketing, advertisement and endorsement campaigns of the brand.

- The products of Fire-Boltt range from smartwatches, Bluetooth earphones, Bluetooth headphones, true wireless earbuds, Bluetooth speakers, soundbars and lifestyle shoes.

#### Note:

National award winning Bollywood Actor, **Vicky Kaushal**, was appointed as the first ever brand ambassador of **Fire-Boltt**.

#### About Virat Kohli:

- i. Virat Kohli was born on 5th November 1988 in Delhi.
- ii. The government of India honoured him with Padma Shri(Sports) in 2017, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award in 2018, and Arjuna Award in 2013.
- iii. Some of the other brands endorsed by Virat Kohli are,
  - Hyperice, a global high-performance wellness brand
  - Digit Insurance, a general insurance company
  - Vivo, a Chinese smartphone brand
  - Audi AG, a German automotive manufacturer

### CCI chief Ashok Kumar Gupta gets Additional Charge as the Chairperson of

**NFRA** The chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI), **Ashok Kumar Gupta** was given additional charge as the chairperson of the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)

He will succeed **Rangachari Sridharan**, who served as the chairperson for 3 years.

#### Highlights

i. Ashok Kumar Gupta will serve the office only for 3 months as an additional charge or till the appointment of a regular officer or till further orders.

ii. The decision was approved by the Minister of Corporate Affairs (MCA) Nirmala Sitharaman.

#### About Competition Commission of India (CCI)

**Founded-** 14 October 2003

**Headquarters-** New Delhi, Delhi

#### About National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)

**Founded-** 1 October 2018

**Headquarters-** New Delhi, Delhi

### CoinSwitch Kuber names Ranveer Singh as its brand ambassador

Crypto platform **CoinSwitch Kuber** has roped in Bollywood actor **Ranveer Singh** as its first-ever brand ambassador.

- With this collaboration, Ranveer Singh will be featured in three ad films for CoinSwitch Kuber's ongoing 'KuchToh Badlega'.
- The objective is to connect with millennials and Gen-Z users by featuring Ranveer through its 'KuchToh Badlega' campaign.



**Note:** Earlier, actor **Amitabh Bachchan** was appointed as the brand ambassador of Indian crypto exchange **CoinDCX**.

### Sajjan Jindal-1st Indian Appointed as Chairman of World Steel Association

The World Steel Association (WSA) appointed **Sajjan Jindal**, Chairman and Managing Director of JSW Steel Limited as the Chairman of WSA for the period 2021-22. Jindal will be the **first representative from India** to serve as Chairman of the WSA.

**Yu Yong**, chairman of BHIS Group Ltd was heading as the chairman of Worldsteel for the last two years and he is now appointed as the vice-chairman, **succeeded by Jindal**.



#### Highlights



i. The WSA is the **main centre for steel industries**. It provides global leadership on all major strategic issues impacting the industry, particularly focusing on economic, environmental and social sustainability.

ii. Worldsteel members represent approximately **85%** of the world's steel production, including more than 160 steel producers, national and regional steel industry associations and steel research institutes.

iii. JSW Group's flagship JSW Steel is India's leading and one of the world's most efficient integrated steelmakers.

### **India in Steel Production**

According to the World Steel Association () data, **India** now ranks as the **second-largest producer of crude steel** after China.

### **Sahdev Yadav appointed as President of Indian Weightlifting Federation**

In October 2021, **Sahdev Yadav**, former Secretary General of IWLF, was unanimously elected as the **President** of the Indian Weightlifting Federation (**IWLF**). He was appointed for a term of 4 years. The election also saw the appointment of S.H. Anande Gowda and Naresh Sharma as the new Secretary General & Treasurer of IWLF.

i. 10 new Vice Presidents, 4 Joint Secretaries & 7 executive committee members were also elected, in the election conducted by Returning Officer Narinder Paul Kaushik, Delhi District Court.



- Rakesh Gupta, Joint Secretary, Indian Olympic Association (IOA) was the IOA observer for the election.

### **Realme Roped KL Rahul as Brand Ambassador; Adidas Roped in Deepika Padukone as Global Brand Ambassador**

Realme, a Chinese smartphone brand, has appointed Indian Cricketer KL Rahul as its brand ambassador for its smartphone category.

- The association of realme with KL Rahul will reinstate the brand ideology of being youth-oriented.
- The primary target of this partnership is the millennials in India.

### **Realme:**

i. Realme was established in 2018 by Sky li and Madhav Sheth in India.

ii. It is the 6th Largest smartphone brand in the smartphone category globally.

#### About KL Rahul:

i. K Lokesh Rahul (KL Rahul) hails from Bangalore, Karnataka.

ii. He is an Indian International cricketer who represents Karnataka in domestic cricket.

iii. He is the captain of the Punjab Kings in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2021.

iv. In the Indian team, he is a right-handed batsman and a wicket-keeper.

#### PM Modi Reconstituted the 7 Member EAC to PM for 2 years; Bibek Debroy retained as head

Prime

Minister (PM) Narendra Modi has approved to reconstitute the 7 member Economic Advisory Council (EAC) to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) following the end of its tenure in September 2021. The EAC-PM has been reconstituted for a period of two years or until further orders.

- Noted economist and NITI Aayog member **Bibek Debroy** who has been serving as the chairman of EAC-PM since 2017 will continue as the Chairman of the reconstituted EAC-PM.

#### Part-Time members:

PM Modi has inducted 3 new part-time members for a period of 2 years, they are,

- Rakesh Mohan, former deputy governor of Reserve Bank of India
- T.T Ram Mohan, Professor of IIM Ahmedabad
- Poonam Gupta, Director-General of National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER).

#### Other part-time members:

- Sajid Chenoy, J.P. Morgan's Chief India Economist
- Neelkanth Mishra co-head of Asia Pacific Strategy and India Strategist for Credit Suisse.
- Nilesh Shah, Managing Director of Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Co. Ltd

#### Shaktikanta Das got 3-year Extension as RBI Governor till 2024

The

Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the **extension** of the term of Shaktikanta Das, the current Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) by another **3 years** i.e. up to **December 2024**.



#### About Shaktikanta Das:

**i.** He was appointed as the **25th** Governor of RBI (succeeding Urjit R. Patel) for 3 years from **December 12, 2018**. The current extension will be his 2nd term as RBI Governor.

**ii.** He was a 1980 batch IAS officer from the Tamil Nadu cadre and before assuming charge as the governor, he served as the Secretary, Department of Revenue and Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India (till May 2017), and Member of 15th Finance Commission and G20 Sherpa of India..

**iii. 5th Governor to get Long Tenure:**

- Generally, RBI governors are given a 5-year term and Shaktikanta Das is the 5th governor (out of 25) to get a 6 years long tenure.
- Other governors who have served long tenure include – Bimal Jalan (1997-2003), CD Deshmukh (1943-1949), James Taylor (1937-1943), and Benegal Rama Rau (1949-1957) (the only governor who have served for 8 years).

## Honours/ Awards

### Elon Musk Overtakes Jeff Bezos to Become World's Richest Person: Bloomberg Billionaires Index

According to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, a daily ranking of the world's richest people, as of 28th September 2021, with a total net worth of **213 billion USD**, **Elon Musk**, CEO of Tesla has overtaken Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon, (total net worth of 197 billion USD) to become the **world's richest person**. Elon Musk gained 13 billion USD in net worth with a rise in the share price of Tesla.



- Bernard Arnault, the chairman of Louis Vuitton (LVMH) has secured the 3rd position with a net worth of 160 billion USD.
- Mukesh Ambani Topped among Indians & ranked 11th globally. Gautam Adani followed him & ranked 14th globally.

### David Julius And Ardem Patapoutian Win 2021 Nobel Prize in Medicine

American scientists David Julius and Lebanese-American molecular biologist Ardem Patapoutian won the **2021 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine** for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch.

- The discovery explains how heat, cold and mechanical force can initiate the nerve impulses that allow us to perceive and adapt to the world around us.
- This finding is being used to develop treatments for a wide range of disease conditions, including chronic pain.

#### David Julius: –

i. David Julius is an American physiologist and a professor at the University of California, San Francisco. He is well known for his work on molecular mechanisms of pain sensation and heat.

ii. He was also the 2010 Shaw Prize recipient in Life Science and Medicine and the 2020 Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences.

#### Ardem Patapoutian :-

Ardem Patapoutian is a Lebanese-American molecular biologist and neuroscientist of Armenian descent at Scripps Research in La Jolla, California.

#### Gist About Noble Prize

Nobel Prizes are conferred to the recipients who have contributed the greatest benefit to humankind in the areas of the fields of Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, and Peace according to the Sir Alfred Nobel's will of 1895.

## Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann, Giorgio Parisi conferred with 2021 Nobel Prize in Physics

Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, Sweden honoured the **Japanese-American Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann of Germany, and Giorgio Parisi of Italy** for 2021 Nobel Prize in Physics.



- The three scientists were awarded for ground breaking contributions to our understanding of complex physical systems.
- **Syukuro Manabe**, 90, a Japanese-American meteorologist and climatologist and **Klaus Hasselmann**, 89, a German oceanographer have been for the physical modelling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming.
- **Giorgio Parisi** has been recognized for the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales.

## Benjamin List and David W.C. MacMillan Won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the **2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry** to German chemist **Benjamin List** and British chemist **David W.C. MacMillan** for the development of a precise new and ingenious tool for molecular construction: **asymmetric organocatalysis**.



- 2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was announced by **Professor Göran K. Hansson**, Secretary-General of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.
- The Nobel Prize carries a gold medal and a cash prize of **10 million Swedish kronor (around Rs 8.5 crore)** which will be shared equally between the laureates.
- Benjamin List and David W.C. MacMillan independently discovered that organic molecules can be used as a catalyst, a tool to speed up the reactions.

### Significance of asymmetric organocatalysis:

- Asymmetric organocatalysis is the third type of catalysis that builds upon small organic molecules.
- The development of asymmetric organocatalysis has made chemistry greener and made it easier to produce asymmetric molecules.

## India sweeps 2021 FIH Hockey Star Awards

For the first time ever, India swept the eight **2021 International Hockey Federation's**

(FIH) annual **Hockey Star Awards** with drag-flickers **Harmanpreet Singh** and **Gurjit Kaur** claiming the **Player of the Year** honours in men and women.

- However, world no. 1, 2021 Tokyo Olympics champions of Men's Hockey, Belgium team had expressed disappointment over the voting system and the outcome of FIH Hockey Star Awards after none of their players won any award.

### **The awards**

<b>Award</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>
<b>Player of the Year Award</b>	Harmanpreet Singh	Gurjit Kaur
<b>Goalkeeper of the Year Award</b>	PR Sreejesh	Savita Punia
<b>Rising Star of the Year Award</b>	Vivek Sagar Prasad	Sharmila Devi
<b>The Best Coach Award</b>	Graham Reid	Sjoerd Marijne

### **About FIH**

It stands for Federation International de Hockey and commonly known as International Hockey Federation.

**President** – Dr Narinder Dhruv Batra

**Headquarters** – Lausanne, Switzerland

### **Tanzanian Novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah won the Nobel Prize in Literature 2021**

The

Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the **2021 Nobel Prize in**

**Literature** to **Abdulrazak Gurnah**, a Tanzanian novelist based in the United Kingdom for his works on the effects of colonialism and fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents.



- The 2021 Nobel Prize for Literature was presented by Mats Malm, Permanent Secretary of the Swedish Academy.

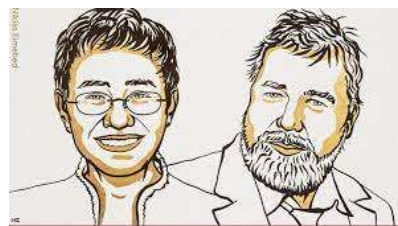
- The 2021 Nobel Prize for Literature consists of a gold medal and a cash prize of 10 million Swedish Kronor (around Rs.8.5 crores).

#### About Abdulrazak Gurnah:

- i. Abdulrazak Gurnah, born in 1948 in Zanzibar, Tanzania, is serving as a professor at the University of Kent, Canterbury, England.
- ii. He is also the associate editor of the journal Wasafiri.
- iii. He published his debut novel titled “Memory of Departure” in 1987.

#### Journalists Maria Ressa & Dmitry Andreyevich Muratov won the Nobel Peace Prize 2021

The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award the **Nobel Peace Prize 2021** to **Maria Ressa**, journalist from **Philippines** and **Dmitry Andreyevich Muratov**, journalist from **Russia** for their efforts to protect the freedom of expression, the precondition of democracy and lasting peace.



Maria Ressa is the **18th woman** to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

- The Nobel Peace Prize 2021 was announced by Berit Reiss-Andersen, Chair of the Norwegian Nobel Committee.
- The prize carries a gold medal and a cash prize of 10 million Swedish krona (~Rs 8.5 crore) which will be shared equally between the 2 laureates.

#### David Card, Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens won the Nobel Prize in Economic Science 2021

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the **Nobel Prize in Economic Science** which is formally known as the ‘**Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences** in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2021’ to **David Card** for his empirical contributions to labour economics and **Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens** for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships.

- The prize for economic science consists of a gold medal and a cash prize of 10 million Swedish kronor (SEK).
- The academy has decided to award one half of the prize (5 million SEK) to David Card (½) and the other half jointly to Joshua D. Angrist (¼) and Guido W. Imbens (¼), 2.5 million SEK each.

#### About Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences:

- i. The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences was established by Sveriges Riksbank,

the central bank of Sweden, in memory of Alfred Nobel, the founder of the Nobel Prize.

ii. The prize is based on the donation received by the Nobel Foundation in 1968 from the bank on its 300th anniversary.

iii. The prize is awarded according to the principles of the Nobel prize.

iv. The first ever Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to Ragnar Frisch and Jan Tinbergen in 1969.

### Vice President Naidu presents Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence to AIIMS chief Dr Randeep Guleria

The

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu presented the 22nd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence to Director of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Dr Randeep Guleria. The Vice President also paid tribute to the former Prime Minister, Lal Bahadur Shastri at Upa- Rashtrapati Nivas, Delhi.



#### Highlights

i. 22nd Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence was presented to honour the exemplary standards of morality in public life.

ii. Dr Guleria got the award for creating awareness about the pandemic and devotion to duty, nurturing the Department of Pulmonary Medicine and Sleep Disorders in AIIMS.

### Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella Gets 2021 C K Prahalad Award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership

Microsoft Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Indian American **Satya Nadella** got the prestigious **C K Prahalad award for Global Business Sustainability Leadership** for the year 2021.



#### Key points

i. The award recognises exceptional, globally significant private-sector action, innovation and long-term business success in a globalizing world.

ii. Four Microsoft leaders received the award. They are president and vice chair Brad Smith, chief financial officer Amy Hood, chief environment officer Lucas Joppa along with Nadella for their collaborative leadership aimed at transforming Microsoft into a carbon negative company by 2030 and to **remove all its historical emissions by 2050**.

iii. By 2025, the company will shift to 100 % renewable energy for its data centres, buildings and campuses and it will protect more land than its operations use.

#### About Microsoft



**Chief Executive Officer:** Satya Nadella

**Founded:** 4 April 1975, Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States

**Headquarters:** Redmond, Washington, United States

**Chairperson:** John W. Thompson

### Reliance Industries Tops Indian Firm, Ranked 52nd in Forbes' World's Best Employer Rankings 2021

According to the **World's Best Employers ranking 2021** published by **Forbes**, Reliance Industries Limited (**RIL**) placed at the **52nd position** in the overall ranking of 750 global corporations and topped the Indian firms under the ranking.

#### Top companies:

Rank	Company	Country
1	Samsung Electronics	South Korea
2	IBM (International Business Machines)	USA
3	Microsoft	USA
52	<b>RIL</b>	<b>India</b>

#### Other Indian Companies:

**i.**In addition to RIL, the other Indian companies under top 100 rankings include **ICICI Bank** (65), **HDFC Bank** (77) and **HCL Technologies** (90).

**ii.**Other Indian firms include – The State Bank of India (**SBI**) (119), Larsen & Toubro (**L&T**) (127), Bajaj (215), **Axis Bank** at 254, **Indian Bank** (314), Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) (404), Amara Raja Group (405), Kotak Mahindra Bank (418) and Bank of India (451), ITC (453), Cipla (460), Bank of Baroda (496), Life Insurance Corp (LIC) (504), Infosys (588), Tata Group (746).

### ASI Confers Aryabhata Award to Secretary DDR&D and Chairman DRDO, Dr G Satheesh Reddy

Secretary **DDR&D** ( Department of Defence Research and Development) and Chairman **DRDO**(Defence Research and Development Organisation) **Dr G Satheesh Reddy** has been conferred the prestigious ‘**Aryabhata Award**’ by the Astronautical Society of India (**ASI**) for his outstanding life-time contribution to the promotion of astronautics in India.

- The award ceremony was held at UR Rao Satellite Centre Bangalore, Karnataka with participants (joined virtually) from across the **ISRO** (Indian Space Research Organisation), DRDO and other academic institutions.

#### Highlights:

- i.The award is given for his contribution to helping the country become self-reliant in critical defence technology such as strategic and tactical missile systems.
- ii.He is an institution builder and has set up mechanisms to establish robust defence development and production ecosystems.

#### About ASI (Astronautical Society of India):

- It promotes the interests of other developing countries in the field of astronautics through the **International Astronautical Federation (IAF), Paris** in which the **ASI is a voting member**.

### Russian Opposition Leader Alexei Navalny Won ‘Sakharov Prize’, the Top EU Human Rights Prize

Russian Opposition leader (Party-Russia of the Future), lawyer and anti-corruption activist, **Alexei Navalny** was awarded the ‘**Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought**’ (Sakharov Prize), the European Union’s (**EU**) **top human rights prize** for human rights defenders.

- Navalny was imprisoned in Russia in 2020 for campaigning against the corruption of Vladimir Putin regime through social media and political campaigns.

#### About Sakharov Prize:

- i.The Sakharov Prize recognises the individuals, groups, and organisations that have made an outstanding contribution towards protecting freedom of thought.
- ii.The prize was awarded for the 1st time in 1988 to **Nelson Mandela** and **Anatoli Marchenko**.
- iii.The prize includes an endowment of EUR 50,000.

## Martin Scorsese, Istvan Szabo to be Honoured with 1st Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement award at IFFI 2021

American Director **Martin Scorsese** & Hungarian Director **Istvan Szabo** will be honoured with the first-ever Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI 2021) which is to be held from 20th to 28th November 2021 in Goa.



- The winners were announced by Anurag Thakur, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting.
- The 52nd edition which will be held in a hybrid format is organised by the Directorate of Film Festivals (**DF**F), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting(**MIB**), Government of India in collaboration with the Government of Goa and the Indian Film Industry.
- The BRICS Countries are the focus countries of the 52nd IFFI.

### BRICS Film Festival:

Union Minister Anurag Thakur has also announced that for the first time, the films from all 5 BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, South Africa, China and India) will be showcased through the BRICS Film Festival along with the IFFI 2021.

## India's Official Entry to the Oscars 2022: Tamil Film "Koozhangal"

Tamil Film titled "Koozhangal" (Pebbles) directed by filmmaker Vinothraj PS and produced by Rowdy Pictures of Vignesh Shivan and Nayanthara, has been selected as India's official entry for the 94th Academy Awards(Oscars 2022). If selected the film will compete under the "Best International Feature Film" category.



- The film has won the Tiger Award for best film, at the 50th International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2021 and was screened at the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles (IFFLA).
- The 94th Academy Awards is set to be held on 27th March 2022 in Los Angeles, United States of America.

## TVS Motor Company Wins India Green Energy Award 2020

TVS Motor Company has been awarded the 'Outstanding Renewable Energy User' at the third Edition of India Green Energy Award 2020 by the Indian Federation of Green

Energy (IFGE).The award was presented by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari.

- IFGE has recognized the efforts of TVS Motor in researching and implementing the use of alternative power sources in the renewable energy domain while ensuring their longevity and stability.

#### **About India Green energy awards**

**i.**It is an Initiative of Indian Federation of Green Energy (IFGE).

**ii.**It aims to recognize & highlight the importance of Green Energy for the future of humankind.

#### **About TVS Motor Company**

**CEO** – K.N.Radhakrishnan

**Headquarters** – Chennai, Tamil Nadu

**Founder** – T.V.Sundram Iyengar

## Sports

### Sania Mirza-Shuai Zhang wins 2021 Ostrava Open women's doubles title

Sania Mirza and her Chinese partner Shuai Zhang won the 2021 Ostrava Open women's doubles title by defeating the pair of Kaitlyn Christian and Erin Routliffe in the women's doubles final of the Ostrava Open held in Ostrava, Czech Republic.



- It is Sania's 43<sup>rd</sup> (Women's Tennis Association) WTA title and her first title of 2021.
- The second seeded Indo-Chinese duo defeated the third seeded pair of American Christian and New Zealander Routliffe 6-3, 6-2 in the summit clash in one hour and four minutes.
- Sania and Zhang had defeated the Japanese pair 6-2, 7-5 in the semifinals of the WTA 500 event.

**Note:** It was Sania's second final of the season, following a runner-up finish at the WTA 250 Cleveland event in the USA in August, 2021, with Chirstina Mchale.

Sania Mirza ranks 62 with 1432 points in double in world ranking Barbora Krejckova, Czech professional tennis player tops the table in the same followed by Katerina Siniakova of Czech Republic and Elise Mertens of Belgian in second and third spot respectively.

### FC Goa wins maiden Durand Cup 2021

Indian Super League side **FC Goa** win their maiden Durand Cup Football Tournament title after a 1-0 win over local giants **Mohammedan Sporting Club** in the final at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata, West Bengal on October 3, 2021.



- Captain Edu Bedia scored the winner from a free kick in the 105th minute after the match went into the extra time.

**Note:** The Durand Cup is the first-ever trophy for FC Goa coach Juan Ferrando's on Indian soil.

### About FC Goa

Football Club Goa is an Indian professional football club based in Goa

**League:** Indian Super League

**Owner:** Goan Football Club Pvt. Ltd

**Head coach:** Juan Ferrando

### About Mohammedan Sporting Club

Mohammedan Sporting Club is an Indian professional football club based in Kolkata, West Bengal.

### Magnus Carlsen won the first Melt water Champions Chess Tour 2021

Magnus Carlsen, the Norwegian chess grandmaster, won the inaugural Melt water Champions Chess Tour 2021, which started in November 2020 and concluded in October 2021. Magnus Carlsen secured the victory and clinched the world's first (non-fungible token) NFT chess trophy.



- Teimour Radjabov of Azerbaijan finished the tour in 2nd place and Levon Aronian of Armenia finished in 3rd place.
- The first prize of the Meltwater Champions Chess Tour 2021 title carries a cash prize of 100000 USD.

### Melt water Champions Chess Tour

- The Champions Chess Tour 2021, known for sponsorship reasons as the Melt water Champions is a 10-month long series of 10 online chess tournaments featuring the world's top players, was the most viewed online chess event in history.
- The total prize money for the championship is 1.5 million USD.

### Anshu Malik becomes the first Indian woman to win silver at WWC

Anshu Malik becomes the first Indian woman to win a silver medal at the 2021 World Wrestling Championships (WWC). The 17<sup>th</sup> edition of World Wrestling Championship was held in Nye Jordal Amfi stadium at Oslo, Norway from 2 to 10 October 2021.

- Anshu Malik lost the final to Olympic medallist **Helen Maroulis** 4-1, in the women's 57 kg division.
- Earlier, Anshu made her debut in the Olympics and has now become the first woman in history to win silver in the Wrestling Worlds.
- Anshu Malik is a two Asian Championship medalist, which includes gold and a Ranking Series silver medallist.

### Sarita Mor wins bronze in 59kg category

**Sarita Mor** bags the **bronze medal** in the **59kg** category at the World Wrestling Championships by defeating Sweden's Johanna



Lindborg with 8-2.

- With this win, she became the sixth Indian woman wrestler to win a bronze medal at the World Championships.
- The other bronze medallists — Alka Tomar in 2006, Geeta Phogat 2012, Babita Phogat 2012, Pooja Dhanda 2018 and Vinesh Phogat 2019.

**Note:** Till date, Sushil Kumar is the only Indian to win world champion wrestling in 2010.

### **About 2021 World Wrestling Championship**

It is the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the championship

**Host**– Oslo, Norway

**Held**- October 2-10, 2021

### **FIFA reveals Ibha, Asiatic lioness as mascot For U-17 2022 WWC**

FIFA unveiled Ibha, an Asiatic lioness as the official mascot of the U-17 Women's World Cup India 2022. Ibha represents women power.

- The objective of the mascot is to **inspire girls** and women around the world to work up to their **full potential**.
- The seventh edition of biennial international football tournament, the **2022 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup** is being hosted by **India** from October 11 to 30, 2022.
- The announcement coincided with the **International Day of the Girl Child**.



### **About Ibha**

**i.** Ibha is a strong, playful and charming Asiatic lioness.

**ii.** Aims to inspire and encourage women and girls by using teamwork, resilience, kindness and empowering others.

**iii.** It will play an important role in engaging with fans, as well as encouraging and inspiring more women and girls across India.

### **Germany becomes first team to qualify for 2022 World Cup**

Germany became the **first team to qualify** for the **2022 World Cup** by beating North Macedonia 4-0 and to secure top spot in qualifying Group J with two games to spare.

### **About FIFA**

It stands for Federation Internationale de Football Association

**President** – Gianni Infantino

**Headquarters** – Zurich, Switzerland

### Australia wins by 14 runs against India in WT20I

Australia beat India by 14 runs in the third and final T20 Women's International to seal the multi-format series by 11-5 points.

- All three formats have been clubbed together and India after losing the WODI series by 1-2 margin, lost the WT20I 0-2.
- Unbeatable scores by opener Beth Monney 61 and Tahlia McGrath 44 helped Australia to put up a decent score of 149 for five.
- For India, left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad took 2 wickets of 37, Renuka Singh 1 for 23, Pooja Vastrakar 1 for 24 and off-spinner Deepti Sharma 1 for 24.
- Chasing the total, Smriti Mandhana scored 49-ball 52 but India kept losing wickets to eventually manage only 135 for 6 in their stipulated 20 overs.

### Smriti Mandhana becomes first Indian woman to score ton in pink-ball test

Indian women's cricket team opener Smriti Mandhana became the first Indian woman to score a century in a pink-ball Test, when she played a 127-run knock against Australia in the one-off Pink Ball Test.

- She is also the Indian first woman to score a century on Australian soil.



### Highlights of IPL 2021 – CSK wins 4th IPL Title

Chennai Super Kings (CSK) under the Captaincy of Mahendra Singh Dhoni (MS Dhoni) won their **4th IPL Title**, after defeating Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in the finals of the **14th Edition** of Indian Premier League (IPL) or IPL 2021 or Vivo IPL 2021. Final was held at Dubai International Cricket Stadium, UAE.

**Team Captains** – CSK was led by MS Dhoni, India & KKR was led by Eoin Morgan (Irish-born England cricketer)

**i.**Faf Du Plessis (South Africa), who played his 100th IPL game, was the top scorer for CSK in the finals. He was awarded the 'Man of the Match' award for his match winning 86 runs.**ii.****Orange Cap** – **Rituraj Gaikwad** (CSK) scored a massive 635 runs in 16 matches in the 14th IPL to win the Orange Cap which is given to the most run scorer of the tournament.**iii.****Purple Cap** – **Harshal Patel**, from Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB), won the Purple Cap for picking up the most number of wickets in the current season.

- He picked 32 wickets in 15 matches, to equal Dwayne Bravo's (CSK) 2013 record for the most wickets in a single IPL edition.



### **Football: India Won Ooredoo SAFF Championship 2021 Held in the Maldives; 8th SAFF title of India**

Indian Football team (nicknamed: **The Blue Tigers**) won the **2021** South Asian Football Federation (**SAFF**) **Championship**, known as **Ooredoo SAFF Championship 2021** for sponsorship reasons, against the Nepal national football team (nicknamed: **The Gurkhas**) at the National Stadium in Male, Maldives.

SAFF Championship 2021 is the **13th edition** of the SAFF Championship.

- The 2021 championship title marks the **8th SAFF Championship title of India**.
- India (winners) received a cash prize of 50000 USD (~Rs 37.6 lakhs) and Nepal (Runners) received a cash prize of 25000 USD(~Rs 18.8 lakhs).

#### **Note:**

This is the first time for Nepal to reach the SAFF Championship finals.

#### **About Ooredoo SAFF Championship 2021:**

i.SAFF Championship 2021 was held from 1st to 16th October 2021 at the National Football Stadium in Male' City, Maldives.

#### **Record of Sunil Chhetri:**

i.During the SAFF Championship 2021, Sunil Chhetri broke legendary Brazilian football player Pele's record of 77 International goals.

ii.With the 5 goals scored during the SAFF Championship, Sunil Chhetri increased his international goal tally to 80 and became the 2nd highest goal scorer equaling Lionel Messi(80) of Argentina.

### **Max Verstappen wins Formula 1 U.S. Grand Prix 2021**

Belgian-Dutch Racing driver, Max Verstappen (Red Bull Racing-Honda) won 2021 United States Grand Prix (officially known as the Formula 1 Aramco United States Grand Prix 2021) by defeating Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) of the United Kingdom, held at Circuit of the Americas, Austin, Texas, United States (US).

It was organized by the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA).



#### **About Max Verstappen:**

i.Born on 30 September, 1997 at Hasselt, Belgium.

ii.He made his debut in 2015 Australian Grand Prix and won his first race in 2016 Spanish Grand Prix.

iii. He is currently competing in Formula One, under the Dutch Flag, with Red Bull racing and he is due to remain at Red Bull until the end of 2023 season.

#### About Formula 1 racing

- i. Formula 1 racing is one among the 5 best known Formulae in open wheel racing.
- ii. The other formulae are, Formula E, Formula Two, Formula Three, regional Formula Three and Formula Four.

#### FIFA Ranking 2021: India Rise One Spot to 106th; Belgium Tops

India has ranked **106th** in the **FIFA** (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) **Rankings 2021**, the position of team India was increased to one spot.

#### Highlights:

- i. After the victory in **SAFF** (South Asian Football Federation) **Championship 2021** of team India led by **Sunil Chhetri**, it has secured the 106th position. The team has defeated Nepal in the summit clash.
- ii. Under the FIFA Rankings, **Belgium** is at **1st** position. **Brazil** holds **2nd** position, it is only 12 points behind Belgium. France holds 3rd position.

#### FIFA Rankings 2021:

Rank	Countries
106	India
1	Belgium
2	Brazil
3	France
4	Italy
5	England

#### About FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association):

**President:** Gianni Infantino

**Headquarters:** Zurich, Switzerland

**Founded:** 21 May 1904

## Obituaries

### Father of Pakistan's nuclear bomb Abdul Qadeer Khan passed away

Pakistani nuclear scientist and metallurgical engineer Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan (85), also known as the father of Pakistan's nuclear weapons program, passed away in Islamabad, Pakistan. He was born in 1936 at Bhopal, British India.



- Khan founded the Engineering Research Laboratory, or ERL, for the purpose of developing a uranium-enrichment capability. In May 1981 the laboratory was renamed the Khan Research Laboratory, or KRL.
- After Pakistan's defeat to India in 1971, Pakistan wished to build a nuclear bomb as a future deterrent.
- Khan was working at a European company involved in building centrifuges to enrich uranium.

### Kannada Actor Puneeth Rajkumar Passed Away

Kannada actor **Puneeth Rajkumar**, who was popularly known as the **Powerstar**, has passed away at the age of 46 in Bengaluru, Karnataka. He was born as Lohit Rajkumar on 17th March 1975 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Puneeth Rajkumar was the son of the late Kannada Superstar Dr Rajkumar.

#### About Puneeth Rajkumar:

- i. Puneeth Rajkumar, fondly known as '**Appu**', is an actor, playback singer, television presenter, and producer.
- ii. Puneeth Rajkumar started his career as a child artist in 1976 and made his debut as a lead actor in 2002.
- iii. He has starred in a total of 49 movies including 28 movies as lead.
- iv. He has also hosted the Kannadada Kotyadhipati, a quiz show, the Kannada version of the 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire?'.

#### Awards:

- i. At the age of 10 he won the national award for the best child artist for the 1985 film '**Bettada Hoovu**'.
- ii. He won his 1st Karnataka State Award for Best Child Artist for the films Chalisuva Modagalu and Yeradu Nakshatragalu and his 2nd state award for best child artist for Eradu Nakshatragalu.

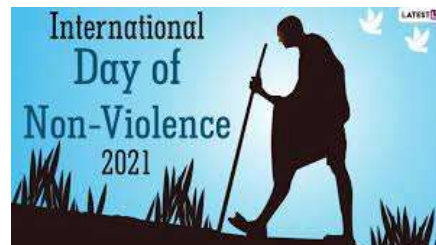
## Important Days with theme

### International Day of Non-Violence or Gandhi Jayanti observed on October 2,

**2021**. Gandhi Jayanti, the birthday of 'Father of Nation', Mahatma Gandhi was observed on October 2. The year 2021 marked his 152nd anniversary. His birth anniversary is celebrated as the International Day of Non-Violence by the United Nations (UN).

**ii.** This day was established through the UN General Assembly (UNGA) resolution A/RES/61/271 of 15 June 2007.

**iii.** The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh **Radha Krishna Mathur** unveiled the world's largest National Flag, made of Khadi cotton at Leh, Ladakh. This Monumental Khadi National Flag was prepared by **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)**.



### Static Info about Mahatma Gandhi:

**i.** The original name of 'Father of nation' was Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi.

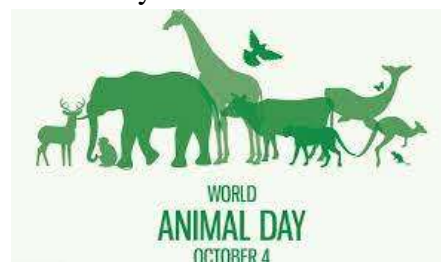
**ii.** His major Ideologies are: Truth and nonviolence; Satyagraha; Sarvodaya; Swaraj; Trusteeship; and Swadeshi.

**iii.** He was assassinated on January, 30 1948. This day is observed as the **National Martyr's day** in India.

### World Animal Day 2021- October 4

**World Animal Day** is celebrated annually on October 4, the feast day of Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. The day is celebrated to take action for animal rights and welfare. **Background:**

- Animal Protection Activist, **Heinrich Zimmermann** initiated the observance of the day, after which UK-based animal welfare charity, Naturewatch Foundation is annually observing this day. In 2003, **Naturewatch Foundation** launched the first World Animal Day website.
- Heinrich Zimmermann organised the first World Animal Day on March 24, 1925 at Berlin, Germany, then from 1929, World Animal Day was observed on October 4 & received universal acceptance in 1931 at the International Animal Protection Congress in Florence, Italy and then observed on October 4 every year.



### World Teachers' Day 2021 – October 5

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)'s **World Teachers' Day** is annually observed across the globe on **5th October** to celebrate the teachers across the globe.

The day also commemorates the adoption of the **1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers**.

- World Teachers' Day is co-convened in partnership with the International Labour Organization (**ILO**), the United Nations Children's Fund (**UNICEF**) and Education International (**EI**).
- The theme of World Teachers' Day 2021 is "**Teachers at the heart of education recovery**".

#### **Background:**

i. UNESCO has decided to observe the International Teachers' Day on 5th October of every year to create awareness about the importance of the teaching profession.

ii. The first ever World Teachers' Day was observed in 1994.

#### **89th Indian Air Force Day – 8th October 2021**

**Indian Air Force Day** is annually observed across India on **8th October** to increase awareness about the Indian Air Force, an organisation that works towards strengthening national security.

- The day marks the establishment of the Indian Air Force on **8th October 1932**.
- The **8th October 2021** marks the celebration of the **89th anniversary** of Indian Air Force Day.
- The 2021 Indian Air Force Day is celebrated as "**Swarnim Vijay Varsh**", commemorating the victory of the 1971 war.



#### **History of Indian Air Force:**

i. The Indian Air Force (**IAF**) was established on **8th October 1932** and raised as a support force of the Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom.

ii. The IAF, also known as "Bhartiya Vayu Sena", is the air wing of the Indian Armed Forces and the fourth largest air force in the world.

#### **About Indian Air Force (IAF):**

**Chief of the Air Staff**– Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari

**Established on** 8th October 1932

**Motto**– 'Nabha Sparsham Deeptham' (touch the sky with glory)

#### **World Post Day 2021 – October 9**

The

United Nations (UN)'s **World Post Day** is annually observed across the globe on **October**

**9th** to commemorate the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874.

- The day aims to create awareness about the role of the postal sector in the everyday life of people across the globe and its contribution to the social and economic development of the countries.
- The theme of 2021 World Post Day is **“Innovate to recover”**.

#### **Background:**

**i.**The World Post Day was declared by the Universal Postal Union(UPU) Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969.

**ii.**The Posts of various countries introduce and promote new postal products and services on World Post Day.

#### **International Day of the Girl Child 2021 – October 11**

The

United Nations(UN)’s **International Day of the Girl Child** has been annually observed across the globe on **October 11th** to highlight the need to address the challenges faced by girls across the globe.

- The day also promotes the empowerment and fulfilment of the human rights of girl children.
- The day is celebrated by the UN Women along with other UN Agencies, civil societies and girls across the globe.



The International Day of the Girl Child 2021 is celebrated under the theme **“Digital generation. Our generation”**.

#### **Background:**

**i.**The United Nations General Assembly(UNGA) adopted the resolution A/RES/66/170 on 19th December 2011 and proclaimed the 11th October of every year as the International Day of the Girl Child.

**ii.**The first ever International Day of the Girl Child was observed on 11th October 2012.

#### **World Food Day 2021 – October 16**

The

United Nations(UN)’s **World Food Day** is annually observed across the globe on **October 16th** to create awareness about the section of people across the globe that suffer from extreme hunger and the need to ensure healthy diets for all.

The day commemorates the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations(**FAO**) on 16th October 1945.



- 16th October 2021 marks the 76th anniversary of FAO.

The theme of World Food Day 2021 is “**Our actions are our future- Better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life**”.

### United Nations Day 2021 – October 24

The **United Nations (UN) Day** is annually observed across the globe on **24th October** to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations in 1945. 24th October **2021** marks the **76th Anniversary** of the United Nations.

The **United Nations (UN) Day** is



#### Background:

- i. The UN officially came into existence on 24th October 1945, when the United Nations Charter had been ratified by China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States and most other signatories.
- ii. The UNGA adopted the resolution A/RES/168 in 1947 and declared the 24th October of every year as the United Nations Day.

#### Note:

The name “United Nations”, coined by Franklin D. Roosevelt, then President of the United States.

### 75th Infantry Day – 27th October 2021

**Infantry Day** is annually observed across India on October 27th to remember the first military event of Independent India that took place on 27th October 1947 against the Pakistan invaders in the Kashmir valley.



- The day also remembers and honours the sacrifices of the infantry soldiers who laid down their lives in the line of duty.

The **27th October 2021** marks the observance of the **75th Infantry Day**.

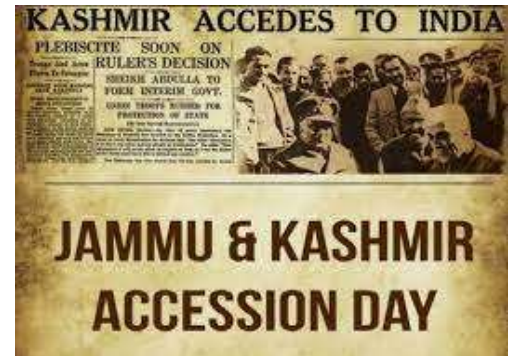
#### Background:

- i. On 22nd October 1947, Pakistan intruders entered Jammu & Kashmir to occupy the state and integrate it into Pakistan.
- ii. On 27th October 1947, The first battalion of the Sikh regiment commanded by Lt Col Dewan Ranjit Rai and the 13 Kumaon landed at the Srinagar airbase and fought against the Pakistani invaders and won the battle.

**Jammu & Kashmir Accession Day 2021 – 26th October**

Jammu and Kashmir Accession Day or Accession Day is annually celebrated in the union territory of Jammu & Kashmir(J&K) on **26th October** commemorates the day on which the last Dogra Maharaja Hari Singh of J&K signed the Instrument of Accession in 1947.

- The Instrument of accession signed on 26th October 1947 made J&K an integral part of India.
- 26th October 2021 marks the **74th Anniversary of the Accession** of J&K with the Indian Union.

**Accession of J&K:**

- i. Maharaja Hari Singh of J&K signed the Instrument of Accession in 1947, on 26th October 1947, in which Jammu and Kashmir joined the Dominion of India.
- ii. Lord Mountbatten, Governor-General of India approved the accession of Jammu and Kashmir on 27th October 1947.