

Weekly One Liners 07th to 13th of March 2022

President Kovind Presents 'Nari Shakti Puraskar' for 2020 and 2021

The President of India, **Ram Nath Kovind** has conferred the '**Nari Shakti Puraskar**' for the years 2020 and 2021, on the occasion of **International Women's Day** on March 08, 2022, at **Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi**. Overall 29 women have been conferred the award for the years 2020 and 2021 in recognition of their outstanding and exceptional work towards the empowerment of women, especially the vulnerable and marginalised. There were a total of 28 awards which included 14 awards each for the years 2020 and 2021. The award ceremony for the year 2020 could not be held in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nari Shakti Puraskar 2020:

Sl. No	Name and Place	Description
1.	Anita Gupta (Bhojpur, Bihar)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is presented to her for outstanding contribution forempowering rural and underprivileged women
2.	Arti Rana (Kheri, Uttar Pradesh)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded in recognition of her exceptional work for underprivileged and tribal women.
3.	Dr. Ela Lodh (West Tripura, Tripura) (Posthumous)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded posthumously for her outstanding contribution towards women's health particularly for the marginalised and underprivileged.
4.	Jaya Muthu and Tejjamma (Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to them for their extraordinary contribution for preserving and promoting the age-old intricate Toda Embroidery of Nilgiris.
5.	Jodhaiya Bai Baiga (Umaria, Madhya Pradesh)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for resilience and brilliance in promoting the Tribal Baiga Art at the global level. By doing so, she is helping the art from becoming extinct.
6.	Meera Thakur (S.A.S Nagar, Punjab)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is being awarded to her for promoting the unique Sikki Grass Art and empowering the underprivileged women in Punjab.
7.	Nasira Akhter (Kulgam, Jammu and Kashmir)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is being awarded to her for exemplary grassroots innovation for environmental conservation.
8.	Nivruti Rai (Bengaluru Urban, Karnataka)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for excellence in the field of technology, truly representing the 21st Century Women and empowering students to build Artificial Intelligence enabled Hi-Tech future for India
9.	Padma Yangchan (Leh, Ladakh)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for preserving and reviving the lost cuisine and hand weaving techniques of Ladakh and promoting it at International Level.
10.	Sandhya Dhar (Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to recognise her exceptional contribution and indomitable spirit & dedication towards divyangjan rights.
11.	Saylee Nandkishor Agavane (Pune, Maharashtra)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her in recognition of her excellence in promoting Indian Classical Dance internationally despite facing hardship.
12.	Tiffany Brar (Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala)	Nari Shakti Puraskar is being awarded to her for exemplary work done for visually impaired rural women and motivating the masses despite being visually challenged.

Sl. No	Name and Place	Description
13.	Ushaben Dineshbhai Vasava (Narmada, Gujarat)	Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for outstanding contribution in organic farming and assisting and educating the women farmers at ground level.
14.	Vanita Jagdeo Borade (Buldhana, Maharashtra)	Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded in recognition of her exemplary efforts in wildlife conservation particularly by rescuing Snakes and creating awareness on the subject

Nari Shakti Puruskar 2021:

Sl. No	Name and Place	Description
1.	Anshul Malhotra (Mandi, Himachal Pradesh)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her in recognition of her outstanding contribution for skilling the underprivileged rural women in learning handloom weaving and also for preserving and promoting Himachal Handloom.
2.	Batool Begam (Jaipur, Rajasthan)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for her outstanding contribution in promoting Indian folk music internationally and also being a source of inspiration for others.
3.	Kamal Kumbhar (Osamanabad, Maharashtra)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for contribution in promoting women's entrepreneurship in the field of animal husbandry
4.	Madhulika Ramteke (Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for remarkable efforts for upliftment of women and their economic empowerment.
5.	Neena Gupta (Kolkata, West Bengal)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for her excellence in the field of Mathematics
6.	Neerja Madhav (Uttar Pradesh)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her in recognition of her work for marginalised people through Hindi Sahitya.
7.	Niranjanaben Mukulbhai, (Kalarthi, Surat, Gujarat)	The Nari Shakti Puruskar is awarded to her for promoting Gujarati language and to promote the education of underprivileged tribal girls.
8.	Pooja Sharma (Gurugram, Haryana)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for her outstanding contribution in the field of skill development and empowerment of women and entrepreneurship.
9.	Radhika Menon (Dharwad, Karnataka)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for excellence in Indian Merchant Navy & exemplary courage.
10.	Sathupati Prasanna Sree (Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her exceptional contribution for preserving minority tribal languages.
11.	Shobha Gasti (Belagavi, Karnataka)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for remarkable efforts & exemplary contribution for the cause of empowerment of women and girls.
12.	Sruti Mohapatra (Bhubaneswar, Odisha)	The Nari Shakti Puruskar is awarded to her indomitable spirit and for outstanding contribution towards the upliftment and empowerment of Divyangjan.
13.	Tage Rita Takhe (Subansiri, Arunachal Pradesh)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is given to her for excellence in promoting women entrepreneurship and local product internationally.
14.	Thara Rangaswamy (Chennai, Tamil Nadu)	The Nari Shakti Puraskar is awarded to her for her innovative and relentless efforts to create awareness about and cure for mental disorders.

Freedom of the World 2022 report: India ranked 'partly free'

For the second consecutive year, **India** has been termed as '**partly free**' country in terms of democracy and free society, according to the annual report. The report titled "**Freedom in the World 2022 – The Global Expansion of Authoritarian Rule**" by Freedom House, a US-based NGO that 'assesses political rights and civil liberties. India scored 66 out of 100 in 2022. The country had scored 67 in 2021. India was a free country till 2020 when its score was 71.

In Internet freedom:

- **India scored a mere 49**, the same score as that of Uganda. Here too, the score has come down. The reasons are – the increasing internet shutdowns by governments, low internet penetration and poor infrastructure.
- India's freedom scores are similar to that of **Bolivia, Hungary and Albania**. The countries that have scored the worst include **South Sudan, Syria, Tibet, Turkmenistan, Eritrea and North Korea**.
- Sixty-nine countries are currently not free worldwide. This makes the situation worse than in 1973 when only 63 countries were not free.
- Apart from the worst scorers, the list also includes **Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Thailand and Qatar**. This is an increase from the last year when only 54 countries were not free.
- At the same time, there is an increase in free countries from 82 to 85, compared to 2021. In this category, **Finland, Sweden and Norway** have achieved a perfect 100, besides **New Zealand, Canada, Uruguay, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Ireland and Denmark**.

Key points of the reports

- In 2022, 85 countries were termed as free, 56 as partly free and 69 as not free.
- The Freedom in the World 2022 evaluated the state of freedom in 195 countries and 15 territories during the calendar year 2021.

About the report: The report used 25 indicators, grouped into the categories of political rights and civil liberties to determine whether the country or territory has an overall status of Free, Partly Free, or Not Free. The report is published every year since 1973 to assess the political rights and civil liberties of a country through a series of surveys and analyses.

India finishes at the top in 2022 ISSF World Cup

India has taken first place in the medal standings at the **ISSF World Cup 2022 in Cairo**, organised by the **International Shooting Sport Federation**. By winning a total of **seven medals**, the **Indian team** took first place in the medals tally, with **four gold, two silver, and one bronze**. **Norway** took **second place** in the medals tally with **six medals (three gold, one silver, and two bronze)**. **France** came in **third place** with **three gold medals** out of a total of **twenty**.

KEY POINTS:

- On the final day of the **ISSF World Cup 2022 in Cairo, Egypt**, Indian shooters took home two medals.
- **Rhythm Sangwan** and **Anish Bhanwala** won the **25m rapid fire pistol** mixed team gold medal match against Thailand **17-7** in the tournament's final event.
- Earlier in the day, India's **Gurpreet Singh, Anish Bhanwala, and Bhavesh Shekhawat** were defeated **7-17** by **Germany** in the gold medal match of the men's 25m rapid fire pistol team competition.
- India won their third **World Cup gold** on Sunday, defeating Singapore **17-13** in the women's 25m pistol team event final. In the gold medal match, **Rahi Sarnobat, Esha Singh, and Rhythm Sangwan** defeated the Singaporean trio of **Xiu Hong, Shun Xie, and Ling Chiao Nicole Tan**.
- **Esha Singh** had won the women's 10m air pistol team event in addition to the silver she had earned in the women's 10m air pistol individual event, making this her second gold and third medal of the World Cup.
- **Saurabh Chaudhary** won India's first gold medal in Cairo last week. In the gold medal match of the Men's 10m Air Pistol event, the 19-year-old Indian defeated Michael Schwald of Germany **16-6**.

Six Indian Airports named the ACI World's ASQ Awards 2021

From India, **six airports** have found a place among the 'Best Airport by Size and Region', by the **Airports Council International (ACI)**, in its **Airport Service Quality (ASQ) survey** for the year 2021. The airports have been adjudged among the Asia Pacific region in different categories based on annual passenger traffic. The ACI Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Awards takes into account 33 parameters related to passenger amenities to recognize airport excellence in customer experience.

The six Indian airports include:

Category – Over 40 million passengers per year

- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA), Mumbai (5th consecutive year)
- Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi (4th consecutive year)

Category – 15 to 25 million passengers per year

- Rajiv Gandhi International airport, Hyderabad

Category – 5 to 15 million passengers per year

- Cochin International Airport, Cochin
- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad

Category – 2 to 5 million passengers per year

- Chandigarh Airport, Chandigarh

Important takeaways for all competitive exams:

- Airports Council International Headquarters: Montreal, Canada;
- Airports Council International Founded: 1991.

National Affairs

- H-Jaigarh Energy's Terminal in Maharashtra has received India's first **floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU)**. On **April 12, 2021**, the **FSRU Höegh Giant** arrived at **Jaigarh Terminal in Maharashtra** after sailing from **Keppel Shipyard in Singapore**. This will be India's first **FSRU-based LNG** receiving terminal, as well as Maharashtra's first year-around LNG facility.
- The Prime Minister of India, **Narendra Modi** has inaugurated **Pune Metro Rail Project** on March 06, 2022, and also interacted with differently-abled, visually impaired students present inside the metro coach, during his 10-minute ride in the **Pune Metro**. Pune Metro Rail Project has been built at a total cost of **INR 11,420 Crore**. It has a total length of **33.2 km and 30 stations**.

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has unveiled a tall statue of great Maratha warrior **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in Pune, Maharashtra**. The Statue is made up of **1,850 kg** of gunmetal and is about 9.5-feet tall.
- **Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Textiles** are organising a programme called "**Jharokha-Compendium of Indian handicraft/ handloom, art and culture**" to celebrate the traditional Indian handicrafts, handlooms, and art & culture. To begin with, the first event under this celebration has been organized in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh at Rani Kamlapati Railway Station, on March 08, 2022, which also marks **International Women's Day**.
- India's largest reclining statue of **Lord Buddha** is being built in **Bodh Gaya**. Built by Buddha International Welfare Mission, the statue will be **100 feet long and 30 feet high**. Lord Buddha is in the sleeping posture in the statue. The construction of the giant statue started in the year 2019.
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has approved the establishment of a **World Health Organization Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (WHO GCTM)** at **Jamnagar, Gujarat**.

States in the News

- **Telangana** became the top-performing state in India with a population over one crore in terms of the growth rate of **Per Capita Net State Domestic Product** at Current Prices by the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)**. It succeeded other states like **Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu**.
- Chief Minister of Sikkim, Prem Singh Tamang has announced that the State Government will soon implement '**Aama Yojana**, a scheme for **helping non-working mothers & 'Bahini Scheme'** benefitting **girl students of the state**. The complete details of the Aama Yojna and Bahini Yojana are given below.

- **Haryana government** has announced **Matrushakti Udaymita Scheme** to provide support to women entrepreneurs, on **International Women's Day**. Under the scheme, the women whose family annual income is less than **5 lakh rupees** based on **Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP)** verified data, will be provided access to soft loans by financial institutions to the extent of 3 lakh rupees.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, **M K Stalin** has inaugurated India's largest **floating solar power plant** constructed at a cost of **Rs 150.4 crores**. The floating plant is established in **Southern Petrochemicals Industries Corporation Limited (SPIC)** factory at Thoothukudi in Tamil Nadu to provide clean energy. It aims to provide environmentally sustainable power generation and to reduce carbon footprint.
- The **government of Karnataka** has launched '**Women@Work**' program to provide five lakh jobs within 2026 to women with necessary employable skills. The program aims to focus on the efforts of corporate programs on attracting women workforce. It has been developed by **Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM)** in association with KTECH, Karnataka Skill Development Corporation.
- Haryana Chief Minister, **Manohar Lal Khattar**, while presenting the state budget, has announced a '**Sushma Swaraj Award**' for women for their significant achievements or contribution in different walks of life in the international and national spheres. The Sushma Swaraj Award will carry an award money of **Rs 5 lakh** along with a commendation.
- **Tripura Government** has announced a special scheme '**Mukhyamantri Chaa Srami Kalyan Prakalpa**' for tea workers. A special scheme, allotting **Rs. 85 crores** for its implementation, as a step towards bringing the **7000 tea garden workers of Tripura** under the social security net.
- The **United Nations Environment Assembly** was hosted by the **UN Environment Programme**. It brings together representatives from the UN's 193 member countries, corporations, civil society, and other stakeholders to agree on policies to address the world's most serious environmental concerns.
- The global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog, **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**, retained **Pakistan** in the grey list and asked the country to work on money laundering investigations and prosecutions. FATF also added the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** to its grey watchlist.
- **Russia** has become the most sanctioned country in the world, due to its invasion on **Ukraine**, according to a New York-based sanctions watchlist site **Castellum.AI**. Russia faced 2,778 new sanctions since February 22, 2022, led by the US and European nations, bringing the total sanctions to **5,530**. The country already had 2,754 sanctions in place before February 22.
- **Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)** successfully launched a military satellite, Noor-2, into orbit at an altitude of **500 kilometres (311 miles) from the earth**. This is the second military satellite launched by the **Islamic Republic**. The first military satellite, Noor, was launched in April 2020 at an orbit of 425km (265 miles) above the earth's surface. Noor means light in the Persian language.
- **Yoon Suk-yeol** has been declared as the winner of the **2022 South Korean** presidential election to be elected as the new President of the country. He is scheduled to assume office as president on May 10, 2022, for a fixed term of five years. Yoon Suk-yeol will succeed incumbent President Moon Jae-in.
- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has approved **\$1.4 billion** in emergency support for **Ukraine** to finance expenditures and shore up the balance of payments. Ukraine has turned to financing from allies and international institutions to support its economy after the Russian invasion began on February 24.
- The **Hungarian parliament** has elected **Katalin Novak**, a close ally of Prime Minister Viktor Orban, as the EU member's first-ever female president. Novak, who most recently served as a minister for family policy, portrayed her election as a victory for women.

International Affairs

- The **Global System for Mobile Communications Association(GSMA)** has organised the **2022 Mobile World Congress (MWC)**, which took place in **Barcelona, Spain** from 28 February to 3 March. The focus on 5G and maximizing its potential for benefiting countries and economies is the centrepiece of MWC this year which is taking place amid an ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine.
- The two-day-long **Study in India (SII) 2022** meeting was inaugurated in **Dhaka, Bangladesh**. The event organised by the High Commission of India was inaugurated by the Education Minister of Bangladesh **Dr Dipu Moni** and the High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh **Vikram Doraiswami**.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **Flipkart** and **Google Cloud** have formed a **multi-year strategic agreement** to assist **Flipkart** accelerate its innovation and cloud strategy. **Flipkart's** next phase of expansion will be aided by this alliance, which will help it achieve its goal of enrolling **India's next 200 million buyers** and **lakhs of vendors**. The deal value was kept **opaque** by the companies.

Books and Authors

- Indian writer and journalist, **Amitava Kumar** has come out with a new book titled '**The Blue Book: A Writer's Journal**'. The book has been published by HarperCollins India. The Blue Book is the outcome of the diary-keeping by the author during the time of lockdown due to pandemics.
- The biography of pop icon **Usha Uthup** titled "**The Queen of Indian Pop: The Authorised Biography of Usha Uthup**" was released. The book was originally written in Hindi titled "**Ullas Ki Naav**" by author **Vikas Kumar Jha**.
- A book titled "**On Board: My Years in BCCI**", an autobiographical account of Ratnakar Shetty's experiences as an administrator. The book was released by **Sharad Pawar**, the former president of the MCA, BCCI and International Cricket Council.
- A new biography, titled "**Soli Sorabjee: Life and Times**" was announced, during the occasion of the 92nd birth anniversary of **Soli Sorabjee**. It is authored by advocate and legal scholar **Abhinav Chandrachud** and will be released in April 2022.
- Minister of Labour and Employment and MoEFCC, **Bhupender Yadav** has launched a book titled "**Role of Labour in India's Development**". **V V Giri National Labour Institute** has published the book. The publishing of the book is part of the 'Iconic Week' celebrations of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Paytm**, a digital payments company, announced that it has expanded its partnership with the **Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)** to provide consumers with digital ticketing services via **Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVM)** installed at railway stations across the country. Passengers will be able to scan **QR codes** generated on the screens to purchase unreserved train ride tickets, platform tickets, renew their seasonal tickets, and recharge smart cards.
- **Axis Bank** and **Bharti Airtel** have entered into a strategic partnership to strengthen the growth of the digital ecosystem in India, through a range of financial solutions. The partnership would enable access to credit and various digital financial offerings from **Axis Bank to Airtel's 340 million-plus customers**.
- **The Banks Board Bureau (BBB)** has launched a development programme for public sector bank management with the goal of boosting the quality of bank boards. The nine-month **Directors' Development Programme (DDP)** is made for directors of **Public Sector Banks and financial institutions** with the main objective of improving director effectiveness and increasing their impact on boards, according to the Banks Board Bureau.
- **Reserve Bank of India** has launched two initiatives related to digital payments. One is **UPI123pay-** which provides a UPI payment facility on feature phones and the second is "**DigiSaathi**" which is a 24x7 Helpline for Digital Payments.
- **Reserve Bank of India** has launched a booklet named "**BE(A)WARE**" which features common modus operandi used by fraudsters and precautions to be taken while carrying out various financial transactions. The booklet aims to enhance public awareness about various types of financial frauds perpetrated on gullible customers while carrying out digital payments and other financial transactions.
- **Mastercard** and **Zeta**, a financial tech startup that provides **next-generation credit card** processing to **banks** and **fintechs**, established a **5-year worldwide agreement** today. As part of the deal, the companies will work together to **create credit cards** with issuers all around the world using **Zeta's modern, cloud-native, and API-ready credit processing stack**.
- **Axis Bank** has launched the '**HouseWorkIsWork**' project, which provides possibilities for those who want to return to the **workforce**. The intent behind this initiative is to give these women the confidence that they are **employable**, that they have **skills**, and that they can fit in various **job roles in a bank**, and it is about getting these women back to work."

- With the aim of expanding export shipments, the **Reserve Bank of India** extended the interest equalisation scheme for pre and post-shipment rupee loans for **MSME** exporters through March 2024. The 'Interest Equalisation Scheme for pre and post-shipment **Rupee Export Credit**' provides a subsidy to exporters. The scheme was first extended until the end of **June** last year, and then again until **September 2021**.
- **Reserve Bank of India** has announced that **National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID)** will be regulated and supervised by it as an **All India Financial Institution (AIFI) under the RBI Act, 1934**. NaBFID will be regulated and supervised by RBI as an AIFI under **Sections 45L and 45N of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934**.
- **Future Generali India Insurance Company Limited (FGII)** has announced the launch of **FG Dog Health Cover**, comprehensive health insurance for pet dogs, along with industry-first 'Emergency Pet Minding' cover.
- **Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL)** has announced the opening of the **Jio World Centre**, which will be India's largest and most prestigious multi-faceted destination. The Centre, which covers 18.5 acres in **Mumbai's Bandra Kurla Complex** and was envisioned by **Nita Ambani, Director Reliance Industries and Founder-Chairperson of Reliance Foundation**, and it is set to become a historical business, commerce, and culture destination, which will provide the people of India with a world-class landmark.
- **HDFC Mutual Fund** has launched a women-led financial empowerment initiative '**LaxmiForLaxmi**' which will connect women investors to a woman financial expert near them through a unique missed call service. The female financial expert will guide and address the queries of the woman investor.
- **ToneTag** has partnered with **NSDL Payments Bank and NPCI** to launch its "**VoiceSe UPI payments service**" for feature phone users. This comes after the Reserve Bank of India has launched the UPI 123Pay facility that enables UPI payments for feature phone users. ToneTag is a sound-based proximity communication and payments service provider based in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- **Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Limited**, a health insurance company launched "**Star Women Care Insurance Policy**". It is a woman-centric comprehensive health cover specially designed to protect the healthcare needs of women at every stage of their lives. The policy can be purchased through premiums that can be paid in quarterly or half-yearly instalments, and this policy can also be taken for 1 year, 2 year or 3-year terms.
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has raised the investment limit for retail investors applying in public debt securities issuance via the **universal payments interface (UPI)** mechanism to **Rs 5 lakh** from **Rs 2 lakh** previously. The move comes after the National Payments Corporation of India **NPCI** decided to increase the per transaction limit for UPI-based applications supported by blocked amount **ASBA** initial public offering.
- Domestic rating agency **CRISIL** retained its real GDP growth forecast at **7.8%** for the fiscal year 2023, as compared with the **8.5% projected** in the Economic Survey.
- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has directed **Paytm Payments Bank Ltd** to stop the onboarding of new customers with immediate effect. The bank has also been directed to appoint an IT audit firm to conduct a comprehensive **System Audit of its IT system**. The RBI took the decision in exercise of its powers under section **35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949**.

Appointments/Resignations

- **State Bank of India (SBI)** has appointed former Ujjivan Small Finance Bank CEO, **Nitin Chugh** as **Deputy Managing Director (DMD)** to drive digital banking operations. He has been appointed for an initial term of three years.
- The Central Government has appointed Justice **Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel**, Chief Justice of Delhi High Court, as the **Chairperson of Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal(TDSAT)**. He was appointed as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court on June 7, 2019, and is now given the Chair of TDSAT, days before his retirement on March 12, 2022.
- **T Raja Kumar**, a Singaporean, has been named president of the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**, the world's anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing agency. His appointment is for a set two-year term, which begins on **July 1**. During the **FATF** plenary, he was chosen to succeed **Dr Marcus Pleyer of Germany**.

- Global pharma major **Lupin Limited (Lupin)** has announced that it has signed on six-time world boxing champion, **Mary Kom** as the brand ambassador for its Shakti campaign. The campaign is aimed at increasing awareness of heart diseases among women.
- The cabinet has appointed **Ashwani Bhatia**, managing director (**MD**) of the **State Bank of India (SBI)**, as a whole-time member (**WTM**) of the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**.
- **Debasish Panda** has been appointed as the chairman of the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**. He is a former financial services secretary.
- **Prabha Narasimhan** has been appointed as the **CEO and MD of Colgate-Palmolive (India) Limited**. She succeeded **Ram Raghavan**, who has been promoted to the role of President, Enterprise Oral Care, at Colgate Palmolive Company. Prior to this, she was working as executive director of Hindustan Unilever (HUL).

Defence News

- India's first indigenously developed Flying Trainer, '**HANSA-NG**', successfully completed the sea-level trials at **Puducherry**. **HANSA-NG** was flown from **Bengaluru to Puducherry** on February 19, covering a distance of 140 nautical miles in 1.5 hours at a cruising speed of **155 km/hr**.
- The **9th edition of India - Sri Lanka** Bilateral Maritime Exercise named **SLINEX (Sri Lanka-India Naval Exercise)** is held at **Visakhapatnam from 07 Mar to 10 Mar 2022**. The aim of the exercise is to enhance interoperability and improve mutual understanding between the navies of the two neighbouring countries in the strategically significant Indian Ocean Region.
- **Air Marshal B Chandra Sekhar**, recipient of the **Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM)**, has been named Commandant of the **Indian Air Force Academy**.

Awards and Recognitions

- **National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd** Country's largest Iron Ore producer, a CPSE under Ministry of Steel received 1st prize in the **Ispat Rajbhasha Award for 2018-19 and 2020-21** and company also received the **Ispat Rajbhasha Prerna Award for 2019-20**.
- Bangladeshi environmental lawyer, **Rizwana Hasan** has been selected for the **International Women of Courage (IWOC) Award for 2022**. She is among the 12 women from around the world who will be honoured by the US Department of State with the award for showing exceptional courage and leadership to make a difference in their communities.
- **Vishwakarma Rashtriya Puraskar (VRP), National Safety Awards (NSA)** for the performance year **2018** and **National Safety Awards (Mines)** for the contest years **2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020** were presented today by **Shri Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister of Labour and Employment, Environment, Forest and Climate Change**.

Summit and Conference

- **National Informatics Centre (NIC)** has partnered with governments on digital initiatives. We've constructed **state-of-the-art PAN-India ICT infrastructure**, digital platforms, and solutions for the government's exclusive usage over the years. We've helped the federal and state governments automate their procedures and deliver public services electronically.
- **India Global Forum's (IGF)** annual summit is being organized in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**. The summit will bring together eminent faces of tech-driven disruption and those who have joined the unicorn club along with Union ministers, policymakers, and global business leaders.
- The **German government** has stated that it will hold a virtual meeting of **G7** agriculture ministers to explore the implications of the conflict between **Russia** and **Ukraine** on global food security. The meeting, according to **Cem zdemir, Germany's Minister of Agriculture and Food**, will also focus on ways to stabilise food markets.
- For **Election Management Bodies (EMBs)** from approximately 32 countries and four international organisations, the **Election Commission of India (ECI)** convened the virtual **International Election Visitors Programme (IEVP) 2022**. More than 150 **EMB** Delegates who were participating online were given an overview of the ongoing elections for Legislative Assemblies in **Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh**.

- The **3rd edition** of the **National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF)** has been organised jointly by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports on March 10 and 11, 2022, in the **Central Hall of Parliament, New Delhi**. Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur will address the inaugural session of NYPF on March 10, while the Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will address the valedictory function on March 11.

Schemes and Committees News

- **Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises** has launched a Special Entrepreneurship Promotion Drive for Women named –“**SAMARTH**”. The drive was launched by Union Minister for MSME, Shri Narayan Rane along with Minister of State for MSME, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma in New Delhi. To provide Skill Development and Market Development Assistance to women and to train more than 7500 women candidates from rural and sub-urban areas in the FY 2022-23.
- Union Labour and Employment Minister, **Bhupender Yadav** has launched the ‘**Donate-a-Pension**’ campaign under **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM)** scheme, on March 07, 2022, from his residence and donated the same to his gardener. Under the new initiative, citizens can contribute to the pension fund of their immediate support staff such as domestic workers, drivers, helpers etc, by donating the premium amount.
- In a state-level women’s conference held at **BTI Ground in Raipur**, Chief Minister **Bhupesh Baghel** introduced the ‘**Kaushalya Matritva Yojana**’ by handing out **Rs 5000 checks** to five beneficiaries for safe motherhood.
- Union Cabinet, led by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, approved the establishment of the **National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC)** as a wholly-owned Government of India corporation with an initial authorised share capital of **5000 crores** and a paid-up share capital of **150 crore**. The **National Land Management Corporation (NLMC)** would monetize surplus land and building assets owned by **Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs)** and other government organisations. The idea is in accordance with the **2021-22 Budget Announcement**.

- **NITI Aayog’s Atal Innovation Mission** announced a partnership with **Snap Inc.** to promote **Augmented Reality (AR) skill development** among **Indian youth**. **Snap Inc.** is a global camera firm whose camera plays a transformative role in how people view the world around them by merging what they see in the physical world with all that is available in the digital world.
- The **Supreme Court of India** has named Justice (retd) **AK Sikri** as **Chairperson of the High Powered Committee (HPC)**, of the **Chardham project**. The previous Chairperson Professor **Ravi Chopra** had resigned from his post in February 2022, after being appointed as the chairperson of the HPC on August 8, 2019.

Ranks and Reports

- The latest edition of **Democracy Report** was released recently by the **V-Dem Institute at Sweden’s University of Gothenburg**. The study was titled ‘**Democracy Report 2022: Autocratisation Changing Nature?**’. It classifies India as an electoral autocracy ranking it 93rd on the LDI, out of 179 countries. Top 5 LDI Countries: Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Costa Rica and New Zealand.
- **Andhra Pradesh** has retained its number one spot in the **SKOCH State of Governance rankings** for the second consecutive year. According to a release, the State retained the first rank for the second consecutive year. The second rank was bagged by **West Bengal and Odisha was ranked 3, Gujarat was ranked 4 and Maharashtra was ranked 5. Neighbouring Telangana was ranked 6.**

Science and Technology News

- Tech giant, **Microsoft** has announced to set up its **fourth data centre in India in Hyderabad, Telangana**. Hyderabad Data centre will be one of the largest data centres in India and will be operational by **2025**. Microsoft already has a data centre in three Indian regions across Pune, Mumbai, and Chennai. The new data centre will add to the growing demand for Microsoft’s cloud services from both the private enterprises as well as the government sector.
- The **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)** has designed and installed a supercomputer named “**PARAM Ganga**”, at **IIT Roorkee**, under Phase II of National Supercomputing Mission (NSM). PARAM Ganga has a supercomputing capacity of **1.66 Petaflops**.

- As part of the **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav Program**, **Union Minister for Power R.K. Singh** launched the **Virtual Smart Grid Knowledge Center (SGKC)** and **Innovation Park**. **Krishan Pal Gurjar, Minister of State for Power**, was also in attendance. POWERGRID established the Smart Grid Knowledge Center (SGKC) to demonstrate and advance cutting-edge smart grid technologies.

Sports News

- Indian women cricket captain, **Mithali Raj** has become the first woman to appear in six **World Cups**. She is the only third cricketer overall to play six world cup after Sachin Tendulkar and Javed Miandad. She has played in the **ICC women's cricket world cup events in 2000, 2005, 2009, 2013, 2017 and now in 2022**.
- Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)'s, **Indian Premier League (IPL)** Governing Council has announced **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**'s flagship product RuPay as an official partner for the **Tata IPL 2022**.
- 19-year-old **Priyanka Nutakki** has secured her final WGM-norm at MPL's forty-seventh National Women Chess Championship. She became India's **twenty-third Woman Grandmaster**.
- Sweden's Olympic pole vault champion **Armand Gustav "Mondo" Duplantis** cleared **6.19m** to smash his own world record by one centimetre at the World Indoor Tour Silver meeting in Belgrade. Duplantis set the record of 6.18 in February 2020 indoors in Glasgow.
- In Chess, Indian Grandmaster, **S L Narayanan** was declared the winner in the **Grandisacchi Cattolica International Open, held in Italy**.
- International Paralympic Committee (IPC)** has banned the athlete's entries from the **Russian Paralympic Committee (RPC)** and **National Paralympic Committee (NPC) Belarus** for the **Beijing 2022 Winter Paralympics** due to the war in **Ukraine**. Beijing 2022 Winter Paralympics is scheduled to take place from 4th to 13th March 2022 & it marks the 13th Winter Paralympic Games.
- India pacer **S Sreesanth** has announced his retirement from all forms of domestic cricket. Sreesanth played **27 Tests and 53 ODIs for India**, taking 87 and 75 wickets respectively. He has also taken seven wickets in 10 T20 Internationals.

- Famous Golfer, **Tiger Woods** was formally inducted into the **World Golf Hall of Fame**. The 46-year-old Woods entered the storied hall as part of the Class of 2022 along with retired PGA Tour commissioner **Tim Finchem**, U.S. Women's Open champion **Susie Maxwell Berning** and **Marion Hollins**, a U.S. Women's Amateur champion and golf course architect who was recognised posthumously.

Important Days

- The **Jan Aushadhi Diwas** is celebrated on **7 March 2022** by the **Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI)**. The day is observed to spread awareness about the usages of generic medicines and the benefits of Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana. The theme of the 4 Janaushadhi Diwas is **"Jan Aushadhi-Jan Upyogi"**.
- International Women's Day (IWD)** is celebrated globally on **March 8** every year. The day recognises the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The theme of 2022 International Women's Day is **"gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow"**.
- No Smoking Day** is celebrated on the **second Wednesday** in the month of March every year across the world. This year No Smoking Day will be celebrated on **9th March**. The day is celebrated to help those who wish to quit smoking as well as to raise awareness about the implications of smoking on an individual's health.
- World Kidney day** is celebrated on the **second Thursday of March** every year. This year, it is being observed on **March 10**. World Kidney Day is a global campaign aimed at raising awareness of the importance of our kidneys. The theme for World Kidney day 2022 is **"Kidney Health for All"**. The 2022 campaign will focus on efforts to increase education and awareness about kidney health and on reducing the stubbornly high CKD knowledge gap at all levels of kidney care.

- In the year **1969**, the CISF was set up on **March 10** and three battalions were formed under the **CISF act 1968**, which was passed by the Parliament of India. Since then, the day is celebrated as CISF Raising Day every year.
- **March 10** marks the **International Day of Women Judges**. On this day, the United Nations reaffirms its commitment to develop and implement appropriate and effective strategies and plans for the advancement of women in the judicial system and institution at the managerial and leadership level.

Obituaries

- Former Australia cricketer (wicketkeeper), **Rodney William Marsh** has passed away in Adelaide Australia. He was the 1st Australian wicketkeeper to score a century in test cricket and finished his career with 3 centuries.
- Veteran politician, former Supreme Court judge, and President of Pakistan, **Rafiq Tarar** passed away at the age of 92 years. Muhammad Rafiq Tarar was born on 2 November 1929 in **Peer Kot, Pakistan**. He served as a **Supreme Court judge from 1991 to 1994**. He also served as the Chief Justice of the Lahore High Court from 1989 to 1991. Later, he became Pakistan's President for the period of 1997 to 2001.

Miscellaneous News

- A national-level shooter and an environmentalist hailing from Delhi, **Aarushi Verma** has been selected to represent India at the **2041 Climate Force Antarctica Expedition** which is set to be held in **March 2022**. She is a national-level shooter in Pistol and trap shooting and a State & Northern India Champion & National medalist, and an active environmentalist. She will be fully supported and sponsored by The Hans Foundation.
- The trial of the '**Kavach**' functioning system between **Gullaguda and Chitgidda Railway stations** was examined by **Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, Union Minister of Railways, Communication, Electronics and Information Technology**. **2,000 km** of railway network will be brought under **Kavach** for safety and capacity augmentation in 2022-23, as a part of Prime minister's **Atmanirbhar Bharat**.
- **India's first fully owned by women industrial park** opened its doors in **Hyderabad**. The park, that is promoted by the **FICCI Ladies Organization - FLO** in collaboration with the **State government, consists of 25 units** which represent **16 different sectors of green category**, and all of them are owned and controlled completely by women.

- The Union Civil Aviation Minister **Jyotiraditya Scindia** and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** jointly inaugurated the first drone school in **Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh**. This drone school is one of the **five Drone Schools** planned to be opened in different cities of Madhya Pradesh. The other four cities are **Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur and Satna**.

Static Takeaways

- WHO Established: 7 April 1948;
- WHO Director General: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus;
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Telangana Capital: Hyderabad;
- Telangana Governor: Tamilsai Soundararajan;
- Telangana Chief minister: K. Chandrashekar Rao.
- Sikkim Capital: Gangtok;
- Sikkim Governor: Ganga Prasad;
- Sikkim Chief minister: Prem Singh Tamang.
- Haryana Capital: Chandigarh;
- Haryana Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya;
- Chief Minister of Haryana: Manohar Lal Khattar.
- Tamil Nadu Capital: Chennai;
- Tamil Nadu Chief minister: K. Stalin;
- Tamil Nadu Governor: N. Ravi.
- Karnataka Capital: Bengaluru;
- Karnataka Chief Minister: Basavaraj S Bommai;
- Karnataka Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot.
- Haryana Capital: Chandigarh;
- Haryana Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya;
- Haryana Chief Minister: Manohar Lal Khattar.
- Global System for Mobile Communications Association Established: 1995;
- Global System for Mobile Communications Association Headquarters: London, United Kingdom;
- Global System for Mobile Communications Association Chairperson: Stéphane Richard.
- FATF Founded: 1989;
- FATF Members: 39;
- FATF Headquarters: Paris, France;
- FATF President: T Raja Kumar (Singapore).
- Russia Capital: Moscow;
- Russia President: Vladimir Putin;
- Russia Currency: Russian Ruble.
- Iran Capital: Tehran;
- Iran President: Ebrahim Raisi;
- Iran Currency: Iranian rial.
- South Korea Capital: Seoul;

- South Korea Currency: South Korean won.
- Ukraine Capital: Kyiv;
- Ukraine Currency: Ukrainian hryvnia;
- Ukraine President: Volodymyr Zelenskyy;
- Ukraine Prime minister: Denys Shmyhal.
- Hungary Capital: Budapest;
- Hungary Currency: Hungarian forint.
- Axis Bank CEO: Amitabh Chaudhry;
- Axis Bank Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Axis Bank Founded: 1993, Ahmedabad.
- Bharti Airtel CEO: Gopal Vittal;
- Bharti Airtel Founder: Sunil Bharti Mittal;
- Bharti Airtel Founded: 7 July 1995.
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- RBI Founded: 1 April 1935;
- RBI Governor: Shaktikanta Das.
- Chairman of NaBFID: KV Kamath.
- Future Generali India Insurance Company Limited CEO: Anup Rau;
- Future Generali India Insurance Company Limited Headquarters location: Mumbai;
- Future Generali India Insurance Company Limited Founded: 2000.
- HDFC Bank Headquarters: Mumbai;
- HDFC Bank Founded: August 1994;
- HDFC Bank CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan;
- HDFC Bank Chairman: Atanu Chakraborty;
- HDFC Bank Tagline: We understand your world.
- Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Limited Establishment: 2006;
- Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Limited Headquarters: Chennai, Tamil Nadu;
- Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Limited Wholetime Director & CEO: Jagannathan.
- Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal Establishment: 2000;
- Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal Headquarter: New Delhi.
- National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd Headquarters: Hyderabad;
- National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd Founded: 15 November 1958.
- BCCI Founded: 1928;
- BCCI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India;
- BCCI President: Sourav Ganguly;
- BCCI Vice president: Rajeev Shukla;
- BCCI Secretary: Jay Shah;
- BCCI Men's coach: Rahul Dravid;
- BCCI Women's coach: Ramesh Powar.
- International Paralympic Committee Founded: 22 September 1989;
- International Paralympic Committee Headquarters: Bonn, Germany;
- International Paralympic Committee CEO: Xavier Gonzalez;
- International Paralympic Committee President: Andrew Parsons (Brazil).
- Secretary-General of United Nations: Antonio Guterres.
- United Nations founded: 24 October 1945.
- Headquarters of United Nations: New York, United States.
- Director-General of CISF: Sheel Vardhan Singh.