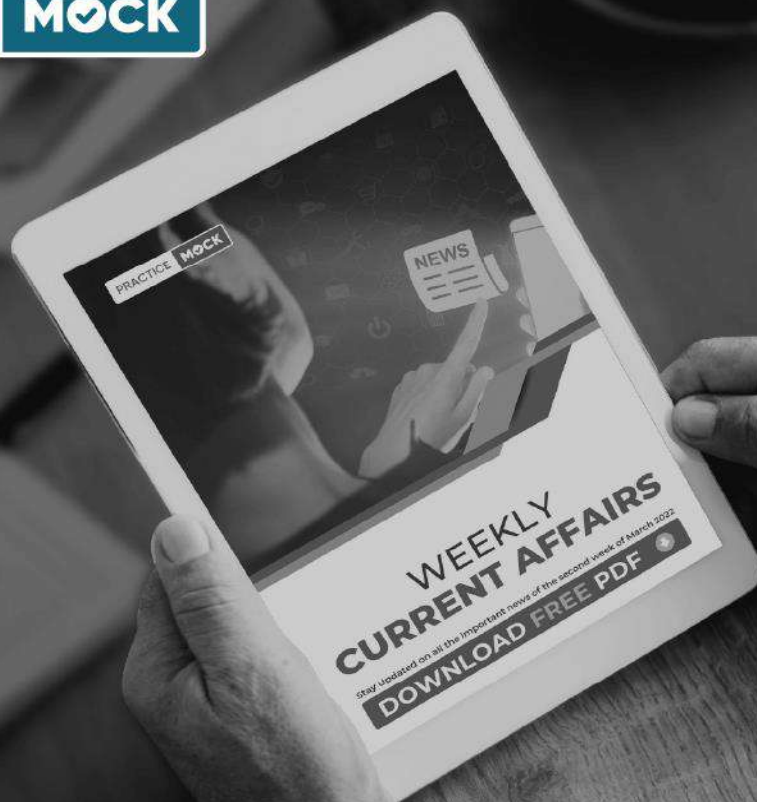


PRACTICE

MOCK



July 2022 - Week 2

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Stay Updated on all the important news of the second week of July 2022

DOWNLOAD **FREE** PDF



Contents

NATIONAL AFFAIRS	3
STATES AFFAIRS.....	9
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.....	12
REPORTS & INDICES	14
GOVERNMENT SCHEMES & PROGRAMMES.....	20
BUSINESS & ECONOMY	23
BANKING & FINANCE	27
RBI IN NEWS.....	33
AWARDS & RECOGNITION	36
BOOKS & AUTHORS.....	36
PERSON IN NEWS	37
OBITUARIES.....	39
SPORTS.....	41
IMPORTANT DAYS	44
Other Important Study Material to help you with your preparation	46

PRACTICE

MOCK

**RRB CLERK
2022 PRELIMS**

Take a **FREE** Mock Test
Get Your All India Rank

PRACTICE **MOCK**

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. **Parshottam Rupala**, Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, has inaugurated India's first-ever **India Animal Health Summit 2022** held at NASC Complex, New Delhi for greater use of Ayurveda for ensuring better animal health. It has been organized by the Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) and the Agriculture Today Group.
 - **India Animal Health Awards 2022** has also been presented in different categories to individuals, and organizations, for outstanding contributions in their respective fields.
2. **India's first floating terminal for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)** is likely to be operational in the second half of 2022. It will be located in **Jaigarh** in Maharashtra. While another floating terminal at Jafrabad in Gujarat is also likely to begin operations in 2022.
 - Both are floating storage and regasification units (FSRUs) which are cumulatively expected to add 11 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) of regasification capacity.
 - The FSRU at Jaigarh is led by H-Energy Gateway Pvt Ltd while Jafrabad MTPA FSRU is led by Swan Energy.
 - At present, India has six operational import terminals. They are Dahej, Hazira, Mundra at Gujarat, Dabhol at Maharashtra, Kochi at Kerala, and Ennore at Tamil Nadu.
3. India has added **540 species** to its faunal database in 2021 taking the total number of animal species to 1,03,258. The country has also added **315 taxa** to the Indian flora during 2021, taking the number of floral taxa in the country to 55,048. Also **13** new genera have also been discovered.
 - Out of the 540 faunal species, 406 are new discoveries and 134 new records to India.
 - Among the new species discovered is one species from mammal, 35 reptiles and 19 species of pisces.
 - The new mammal species discovered is **Crocidura narcondamica**, a white-toothed shrew, from Narcondam Island of the Andaman and Nicobar group of islands.
 - Among the reptiles discovered in 2021, notable is **Boiga whitakeri**, or **Whitaker's cat snake**, from the Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu.
 - The most number of new discoveries was from the faunal group Hymenoptera, an order of insects, comprising the sawflies, wasps, bees, and ants, in which 80 species, including one new genus, were discovered.
 - With 1.03 lakh species of fauna, India contributes to **6.1%** of faunal diversity in the world.

4. The Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (FAHD) has constituted a **'National Advisory Committee for the Animal Husbandry and Dairying sector'** that includes several industry experts as well as business leaders.
- The newly formed committee will be chaired by **Parshottam Rupala**, Union Minister for FAHD, and co-chaired by Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, Minister of State FAHD.
 - The **48-member committee** will meet **once** every quarter in a financial year to discuss, recommend, prescribe and advise policies regarding the sectors.
 - Joint Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairy (DAHD), Dr O.P. Chaudhary, will act as Member Secretary of the Committee and plan coordination unit of DAHD.
5. **GODI India** has become India's first company to receive Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification for its 21700 cylindrical NMC811 **lithium-ion cells**. As per the BIS requirement, the Godi-designed and made-in-India cells were tested and qualified by TUV, the third-party testing agency.
- For the first time in Indian history, NMC811 21700, 3.65V-4.5Ah cylindrical cells were made-in-India & Made-for-India.
 - The company will set up a giga-factory for lithium-ion cell manufacturing in India by 2024.
6. **India** has been elected to the Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO's 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) for the **2022-2026** cycle. Earlier, India has served as a member of the ICH Committee twice, from 2006 to 2010 and from 2014 to 2018.

Convention for Safeguarding the Intangible Heritage:

- It was adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in **2003** and entered into force in 2006. It comprises 24 members and is elected in the General Assembly of the Convention according to the principles of equitable geographical representation and rotation. The members of the Committee are elected for a term of four years.

Note: India has **14 intangible cultural heritage** elements on the prestigious UNESCO Representative List of ICH of Humanity. In 2021, *Durga Puja* in Kolkata was inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity.

7. The Western Railway (WR) has opened its longest skywalk from the **Khar Road railway station** to the nearby **Bandra Terminus station** to allow passengers to reach the platforms to board trains easily.

- The skywalk spans 314 meters long and is 4.4 meters wide.
- The platform connecting the two stations is also connected to the other platforms of Bandra Terminus Station.
- It has been built at a cost of around Rs.14 crore.

8. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has virtually unveiled the '**Statue of Peace**' of **Swami Ramanujacharya** in Srinagar, located in a temple in the Sonwar region.

Saint Ramanujacharya:

- He is also known as Ramanuja. He is considered to be a great thinker, philosopher and social reformer, a south Indian Brahmin born in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.
- He propounded doctrine of **Vishishtadvaita** or qualified oneness.
- He is known to have revolted against the discrimination of untouchability and played a role in bringing a big change in society.
- He is a follower of **Vaishnavism** and taught people the principles of salvation.
- He wrote many books, including **Sri Bhashya, Vedartha Sangraha and Bhagavad Gita Bhasya**, based on his belief that is different from the teachings of Adi Shankaracharya.
- He is believed to be the first Hindu acharya to initiate women into 'sanyasa' (renunciation of the world).
- He is also known for blending Vedanta methodology with 'bhakti'.

Note: This statue is different from Statue of Peace, unveiled by PM Narendra Modi in Rajasthan (2020), of Jain monk Acharya Shree Vijay Vallabh Surishwer.

9. The Government of India (GoI) has decided to promote the cultivation of **Dragon Fruit**, known as a "super fruit" for its health benefits. It has been planned to increase the cultivation to **50,000 hectares** (from 3,000 hectare) in five years.

Dragon fruit (Hylocereus undatus):

- It is indigenous to the **Mexico**.
- It is a member of the cacti family.
- It is also known as 'Pitaya', 'Pitahaya', strawberry pear, noblewoman and 'queen of the night' throughout the world.
- It is now produced mainly in **Vietnam**, helping it to boost its economy.
- **Mizoram** tops among the States that cultivate this fruit in India. It is also grown in Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Odisha, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh etc.

- It is a rich source of vitamins and minerals.
- The fruit is considered good for diabetic patients, low in calories and high in nutrients like iron, calcium, potassium and zinc.

Note: The Gujarat Government renamed dragon fruit as '**Kamlam**' (lotus) in 2021.

10. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** and the **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** to eliminate **Tuberculosis (TB)** in India. The MoU will forge inter-Ministerial collaboration and strategic partnerships with the goal of eliminating TB in India by **2025**.

- Both the Ministries will take forward the "TB Harega, Desh Jeetega" campaign in rural India. This campaign was launched in 2019.

11. Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has honoured **Maha Metro** and National Highway Authority of India (**NHAI**) with the prestigious *Asia Book of Records* and *India Book of Records* certification for constructing the longest multi-layer viaduct in Asia and three metro stations under the **Nagpur Metro Rail** project.

- The Multi-Layer Via-duct over Wardha Road measuring **3.14 km** is longest in Asia.
- The Multi-Layer Viaduct has three metro stations: Chhatrapati Nagar, Ujwal Nagar and Jai Prakash Nagar.

Note: A viaduct is a specific type of bridge that consists of a series of arches, piers or columns supporting a long elevated railway or road.

12. The **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**, by exercising its powers under sections 3, 3A and 5 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation (DMC) Act, 1957, has established a three-member commission for carrying out a fresh delimitation exercise of the **municipal wards** in **Delhi**.

- **Chairman:** Vijay Dev, State Election Commissioner, Delhi
- **Other members:** Pankaj Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary in the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, and Randhir Sahay, Additional Commissioner
- The commission will present its report within 4 months of its formation.

13. Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari has said that the **Dwarka Expressway**, which is being developed as the first elevated urban expressway in India, will become operational in **2023**. This will ease traffic congestion on Delhi-Gurugram Expressway.

The Dwarka Expressway, also known as the Northern Peripheral Road, is a part of Delhi-Jaipur-Ahmedabad-Mumbai arm of Golden Quadrilateral.

Dwarka Expressway:

- The expressway will connect **Dwarka** in Delhi to **Gurugram** in Haryana.
- It is being developed at a total cost of **Rs.9,000 crore**.
- It has a total length of **29 km**, out of which 19 km falls in Haryana and the remaining 10 km is in Delhi.
- It will be 16-lane access-controlled highway with provision of minimum 3-lane service road on both sides.
- The expressway begins from Shiv-Murti on **NH-8** (Delhi-Gurugram expressway) and ends near Kherki Daula Toll Plaza, through Dwarka Sector 21, Gurugram border and Basai.
- It will have four multi-level interchanges, including India's longest and widest road tunnel which will be 3.6 km in length and have eight lanes.

14. The Government of India (GoI) has nominated **29 non-official members** from large and small enterprises and different sectors in the **Board of Trade (BoT)**. The BoT is chaired by the **Union Commerce & Industry Minister** (presently, Piyush Goyal).

- The board, which includes participants from states, union territories, senior officials from public and private sectors, provides a platform to discuss ways on boosting manufacturing and exports.
- GoI had merged the Council of Trade Development and Promotion with the Board of Trade in **2019**.
- The new non-official members include Tata Consultancy Services Chief Executive officer and Managing Director Rajesh Gopinathan, KKR India Chairman Sanjay Nayyar, Laghu Udyog Bharati Executive Member Om Prakash Mittal, India Cellular and Electronics Association Chairman Pankaj Mahindroo, GCMF (Amul) Managing Director RS Sodhi, and Arun Mandal, Chief Executive Officer, Bidhannagar Pineapple Development Trust, West Bengal, etc.

15. Agnikul Cosmos, Indian space-tech start-up, has launched '**Rocket Factory - 1**', India's first-ever rocket facility for 3D printed space engines at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras Research Park.

- Rocket Factory - 1 consists of EOS M400 metal 3D printer, including other equipment for the end-to-end production of a rocket engine.
- The factory is capable of producing 2 rocket engines per week.

Additional Information:

Recently, the Technology Business Incubator (TBI) at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad has announced to provide lending support to '**Abyom**', a start-up looking to develop 'Reignition Liquid Engine' for building India's first reusable sounding rocket.

16. The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved '**Cervavac**', India's first Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (qHPV), to treat **cervical cancer** in women in an affordable and accessible manner. Cervical cancer, a malignant tumour of the cervix, is the second most common cancer among women in India, especially in the rural areas. It is caused by human papillomavirus (HPV).
- Recently, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras researchers have developed an artificial intelligence-based tool, called '**PIVOT**', that can predict cancer-causing genes in an individual. This tool aims to help in predicting and analysing personalised cancer treatment strategies.
17. Union Minister of State (MoS) Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions Jitendra Singh has chaired the 320th meeting of the Executive Council of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) in New Delhi. During the meeting, he has announced to set up **Dr. Rajendra Prasad Memorial Award** in **public administration** in the field of academic excellence, in memory of the first President of India, Rajendra Prasad.
18. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has granted AOC (Air Operator Certificate) to Rakesh Jhunjhunwala-backed **Akasa Air**. It will begin flying by late July 2022.
19. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has launched '**Connecting through Culture**', an anthology of essays on various aspects of India's soft power strengths, at Sushma Swaraj Bhavan in New Delhi, India. The anthology in many ways is a very notable contribution to understanding India, appreciating India, and in many ways valuing India.
20. The **National Rail and Transport Institute (NRTI)** in Vadodara, which is a deemed university, will be upgraded to a central university and will be known as the **Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya**. The Gati Shakti University will become the second central university in the state following the Central University of Gujarat. The objective is to support the vision and goals of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and provide the best possible education and training to the people of Gujarat and the country.

**RRB CLERK
2022 PRELIMS**

Take a FREE Mock Test
Get Your All India Rank

PRACTICE MOCK

STATES AFFAIRS

- 21.** The **Delhi Government** has launched '**Mission Kushal Karmi**' to upgrade the skills of construction workers. This programme has been launched in collaboration with Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU) and Delhi Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board. Under this 15 days special training programme, workers will undergo upskilling which will boost their incomes in future.
- 22.** **Delhi** will host the 30-day **Mega Shopping Festival** from January 28 to February 26, 2023. This will be the biggest shopping festival in India. This festival is a part of the announcement in the 'Rozgaar Budget' of the Delhi government. The festival will have 200 concerts for entertainment, food walks and will also offer huge discounts on products. It will also have exhibitions on spirituality, games, and wellness.
- 23.** **Karnataka** will become the first state in India to have an exclusive Research and Development (R&D) Policy. The policy aims to allocate at least 0.1% of the state's Gross State Domestic Product towards R&D and innovation that would benefit the state in bringing more development. A state-level R&D council and foundation will be established to support the implementation of the proposed policy.
- 24.** **Uttar Pradesh** has become the first state in India to have **13** expressways. Of these 13 expressways having a total length of 3,200 kilometers, work is going on, on seven while six expressways are operational.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the **296-km-long Bundelkhand Expressway** on 16th July 2022 and with its inauguration Bundelkhand will be directly connected to Delhi.
 - This will benefit the people of Chitrakoot, Banda, Mahoba, Hamirpur, Jalaun, Auraiya and Etawah districts.
 - Apart from this, Lucknow-Kanpur Expressway, Gorakhpur Link Expressway, Ghazipur-Ballia-Manjhihat Expressway and Delhi-Dehradun Expressway are being constructed.
- 25.** **Kharchi Festival**, also known as the 'Festival of 14 Gods', is observed annually in **Tripura**. It is a tribal festival. This festival occurs after 15 days of Ambubachi mela (Assam).
- **Kharchi:** "Khar" or Kharta meaning sin and "Chi" or si meaning cleaning.
 - Kharchi Puja is performed during the months July-August on the eight day of the new moon.
 - It occurs during the month of 'Ashad' on the 'Shukla Ashtami' day.

26. Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has announced that the **36th National Games** will be held for the first time in **Gujarat** from 27 September to 10 October 2022. The event will be held in six cities: Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot and Bhavnagar. The last edition of the National Games was organised in Kerala in 2015.
27. The **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT)** in Mumbai has become the first railway station in India to be equipped with Augmented Reality (AR) screens. This technology will allow passengers at the station to get real-time digitised time table with a dedicated scrolling screen and railway information for an engaging experience.
- Augmented reality magic mirrors create a virtual world around the person standing in front of the screen.
 - The passengers will also be able to meet animals, witness magic tricks and snowfall, and visit any place in the world virtually.
28. Delhi Government has partnered with whatsapp to launch **whatsapp chatbot** for customer management on queries regarding Electric Vehicles (e-vehicles).
29. **Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU)** has collaborated with **YuWaah** at United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to enable access to employment opportunities for students of the DESU.
30. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has officially inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various development projects worth more than **Rs.16,800 crore** at Deoghar in **Jharkhand**.
- He has inaugurated the **Deoghar Airport** to provide direct connectivity to Baba Baidyanath Dham, which is an important religious destination for devotees from all over the country. It has been constructed at an estimated cost of around **Rs.400 crore**. It is the second airport in Jharkhand.
 - He has also inaugurated the **AIIMS** Deoghar.
31. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated '**Shatabdi Smriti Stambh**' which has been built to commemorate 100 years of **Bihar Vidhan Sabha**. It has been built at a cost of about Rs.3 crore. The 40-foot structure has been built by the Building Construction Department (BCD) of the **Bihar** government.
- He has also laid the foundation stone of the **Vidhan Sabha museum**. The different galleries in the museum will demonstrate the history of democracy in Bihar and the evolution of the current civic structure. It will also have a Conference Hall with more than 250 people capacity.

32. Bengaluru-based **Ola Electric** has launched India's first indigenously developed lithium-ion cell '**NMC 2170**' and the mass production of its cell will begin at its upcoming Chennai-based Gigafactory by 2023.

- Ola Electric launched its first electric vehicle in August 2021 and set up the world's largest 2W manufacturing facility in India. The Ola Electric is currently developing its first electric 4W.

Lithium-ion battery:

- It refers to rechargeable lithium batteries. It consist of single or multiple lithium-ion cells, along with a protective circuit board. China and Hong Kong are the biggest lithium battery suppliers to India.

33. The Chief Minister of **Uttarakand**, Pushkar Singh Dhami, has inaugurated '**Bal Vatikas**' at anganwadi kendras across the state to strengthen the pre-primary education system. The 'Bal Vatikas' will function at 4,457 anganwadi kendras in the state and will be equivalent to the nursery classes at a private school.

- With this, **Uttarakhand** has become the first state to implement the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 at pre-primary levels. The NEP 2020 will be fully implemented in Uttarakhand by 2030.

34. Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai has announced the development of India's first e-waste eco-park in **Holambi Kalan** in North-West Delhi, Delhi, in an area of around 21 acres.

- An 11-member steering committee has been formed for the development of the park.
- Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (DSIIDC) will be the implementing agency.
- Delhi is the fifth-largest producer of e-waste in India, after Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.
- The Delhi transport department has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT-D)** to conduct research and develop technologies that can improve urban transportation in Delhi.

35. The **Leh airport** in Ladakh is being constructed as India's first carbon-neutral airport. A "Geothermal system" in hybridization with Solar PV Plant will be provided in the New airport Terminal Building for heating and cooling purposes. It is estimated that 900 tons of carbon emissions per year will be reduced after adopting the geothermal system.

36. **Sikkim** and **West Bengal** have signed a new **Reciprocal Transport Agreement (2022)** to boost the tourism industry after 15 years (2007). Under this agreement, 'All Bengal' permits and 'All Sikkim' permits (except for restricted and protected areas) will be issued to facilitate vehicular movement along both states.
37. Jammu and Kashmir Sikkim government and Sikkim University have signed a tripartite agreement to collaborate on training, technology, capacity building and other activities to boost cultivation of saffron and other temperate crops. This will strengthen "Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat" initiative, which was launched on 31st October 2015.
38. The **University of Hyderabad (UoH)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB)**, Hyderabad, Telangana, in fundamental areas of biological sciences. Under the agreement, Faculty/ Researchers and Scientists/Visiting Faculties from both the institutions will collaborate on Animal Biotechnology or allied areas.

**RRB CLERK
2022 PRELIMS**

Take a **FREE** Mock Test
Get Your All India Rank

PRACTICE MOCK

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

39. The **10th edition** of the **World Peace Forum 2022** has been organised by Tsinghua University, in **Beijing, China**. It has been organised under the theme "Preserving International Stability: Commonality, Comprehensiveness and Cooperation". The forum comprises of topics including preservation of world peace, United Nations, European security order, and world order.
- India's Ambassador to China, Pradeep Kumar Rawat has attended the forum.
40. The **Madagascar** government and **Telecommunications Consultants India Limited** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for participation in the Pan African e-network project named **e-VBAB** (e-VidyaBharti and e-AarogyaBharti).
- The Minister of Higher Education of Madagascar Elia Beatrice Assoumacou has signed the MoU at the premises of the Ministry of Higher Education in Antananarivo, Madagascar in presence of the Ambassador of India to Comoros and Madagascar Abhay Kumar.

- A total of 26 major Indian universities (including Andhra University, Chandigarh University, Amity University Indira Gandhi National Open University) will be a part of this project.
- Under this MOU, various online degree/diploma courses will be offered to Malagasy citizens free of cost.

41. A joint **Indo-US Counter Narcotics Working Group (CNWG) meeting** has been held to deliberate on drug law enforcement and increase in seizures of heroin from Afghanistan. The Indian delegation has been headed by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) director general **SN Pradhan**.

- An **Amended Letter of Agreement** in the field of cooperation for drug related matters between India and the US has been signed during the event. It has been signed on behalf of India by revenue secretary **Tarun Bajaj** and on behalf of the US by **Patricia Lacina**, Charge d'Affaires.
- Both nations has decided to establish a **CNWG Executive Group** and **three steering groups** on multilateral policy and regulatory coordination, law enforcement cooperation and drug demand.

42. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has tested a new waste disposal technology by releasing about **78 kg** of garbage from the International Space Station (ISS). The first-of-its-kind technology has been developed in collaboration with NASA's **Johnson Space Centre** and **Nanoracks**. The garbage bag was removed from the Nanoracks's commercial **Bishop Airlock** in ISS.

43. **Croatia** will become the **20th country** to join the **Eurozone** on **1st January 2023**. European Union finance ministers have given the final approval to adopt the euro single currency, replacing the Croatian Kuna.

- Lithuania joined the European single-currency regime in 2015.

44. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has introduced the **Paper Import Monitoring System (PIMS)** by amending the import policy of major paper products from 'free' to 'free subject to compulsory registration under PIMS'. The new policy will come into effect on **1st October 2022**.

- The PIMS shall be applicable on import by a Domestic Territory Area unit on a wide range of paper products covering **201 tariff lines**, such as newsprint, handmade paper, coated paper, uncoated paper, Litho and offset paper, tissue paper, toilet paper, cartons, labels, etc.
- Whereas, paper products like currency paper, bank bond and Cheque paper, security printing paper, etc. have been excluded from mandatory registration.

- As per PIMS, an importer will be required to obtain an automatic registration number through online system by paying a registration fee of **Rs 500** only, not earlier than 75th day and not later than 5th day before the expected date of arrival of import consignment.
- The automatic registration Number will remain valid for **75 days** and multiple consignments Bill of Entry (BoEs) shall be allowed in the same registration number within the validity period of registration, for the permitted quantity.

45. The Bangladesh Government has appointed **Mustafizur Rahman** as the next High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India. He is currently serving as Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations Offices in Geneva and the Ambassador to Switzerland. He will succeed Muhammad Imran as the new High Commissioner.

46. The United States has successfully tested two **Lockheed Martin hypersonic missiles** amidst the test carried out by China and Russia of their own hypersonic missiles.

Missile: 1- The Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has successfully carried out the first test of its Operational Fires hypersonic weapon. The test has been conducted at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico.

Missile: 2 – The US Air Force has successfully tested an Air-Launched Rapid Response Weapon (ARRW) booster off the California coast.

Hypersonic weapons travel in the upper atmosphere at more than five times the speed of sound (Mach 5), or about 6,200 km per hour. Presently, only US, Russia and China have hypersonic technology.

REPORTS & INDICES

47. The National Monuments Authority (NMA) in a report called for the **Mangarh Hillock** in **Rajasthan** to be designated as a national monument in honour of 1500 Bhil tribal freedom fighters.

Mangarh Hillock:

It is situated at the **Gujarat-Rajasthan border**, and is a site of a tribal uprising where a massacre of over 1500 Bhil tribal freedom fighters took place in 1913. It is also known as the **Adivasi Jallianwala**. On 17th November, 1913, British forces opened fire on tribals gathered at the site who were holding a meeting in protest, led by a leader from the community Govind Guru.

48. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which is India's nodal agency for Interpol matters, has joined Interpol's **international child sexual exploitation (ICSE)** database. With this, India has become the **68th** country to join the ICSE database.

- The ICSE database uses video & image comparison to analyse child sexual abuse material and make connections between victims, abusers and places.
- Detectives in all 68 countries can exchange information and notes with their colleagues across the world.

49. The United Nations has released a report titled **"Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022"**. The report tracks the global and regional progress toward the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with in-depth analysis of selected indicators for each Goal.

Key highlights:

- The COVID-19 pandemic has put the SDGs in jeopardy means they are at risk of harm.
- About one in every 10 persons worldwide is suffering from hunger.
- Immunization coverage dropped for the first time in 10 years.
- Nearly 1 in 3 people lack regular access to adequate food.
- Deaths from TB and Malaria increased.
- More than 24 million learners, from pre-primary to university level, are at risk of never returning to school.
- Number of internet users surged by 782 million to reach 4.9 billion people in 2021 and 4.1 billion in 2019.
- In 2021, an estimated 17 million metric tonne of plastic entered the world's ocean.
- Around 91% of the world population gained access to electricity, leaving 733 million people in the dark in 2020 compared to 1.2 billion in 2010.
- The proportion of the global population using safely managed drinking water services increased from 70% in 2015 to 74% in 2020.
- The population practising open defecation decreased by a third, from 739 million people to 494 million.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

Goal 1: No Poverty; **Goal 2:** Zero Hunger; **Goal 3:** Good Health and Well-being; **Goal 4:** Quality Education; **Goal 5:** Gender Equality; **Goal 6:** Clean Water and Sanitation; **Goal 7:** Affordable and Clean Energy; **Goal 8:** Decent Work and Economic Growth; **Goal 9:** Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; **Goal 10:** Reduced Inequalities; **Goal 11:** Sustainable cities and communities; **Goal 12:** Responsible Consumption and Production; **Goal 13:** Climate Action; **Goal 14:** Life Below Water; **Goal 15:** Life on Land; **Goal 16:** Peace, Justice and Strong institutions; **Goal 17:** Partnerships for the Goals.

- 50.** Mumbai-based Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) in its latest data states that India's Unemployment rate has increased to **7.8%** of the total workforce in June 2022 from 7.12% in May 2022.
- Unemployment in rural areas: 8.03% (earlier 6.62%)
 - Unemployment in urban areas: 7.30% (earlier 8.21%)
 - **Haryana** has the highest unemployment rate in June (30.6%) among all states, followed by Rajasthan (29.8%) and Jammu and Kashmir (17.2%).
 - **Madhya Pradesh** has the lowest unemployment rate (0.5%), followed by Puducherry (0.8%), Chhattisgarh and Odisha (1.2% each).
- 51.** As per the latest data released by the Ministry of Rural Development, **Jharkhand** has secured the first position in the Delta Ranking with a composite score of 76.19 for the month of June 2022 under the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission (SPMRM) scheme. It is followed by Puducherry and Assam. Jharkhand has also improved in overall performance and has earned 8th place in the country.
- 52.** According to the 27th edition of the United Nations' **World Population Prospects, 2022**, the global population will reach **8 billion** on **15th November 2022**, more than three times the population of 2.5 billion in 1950. The global population could grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030, 9.7 billion in 2050, and 10.4 billion in 2100.
- The world's two most populous regions in 2022 were **Eastern** and **South-Eastern Asia**, with 2.3 billion people, representing 29 percent of the global population, and Central and Southern Asia, with 2.1 billion (26 percent).
 - Central and Southern Asia is expected to become the most populous region in the world by 2037.
 - **India** is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country during **2023**. In 2022, India's population will only be slightly lower (at **1.412 billion**) than China's (1.426 billion) and in 2050, India is projected to have a population of **1.668 billion**, way ahead of China's 1.317 billion.
 - Pakistan will be the fifth most populous country in 2022, while Nigeria will be the fourth most populous country in 2050.
 - More than half of the projected increase in global population up to 2050 will be concentrated in just eight countries, including India. The other seven countries are the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines and Tanzania.

Note: India's population was 1.21 billion in the 2011 Census.

- 53.** As per the data released by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), India has consistently improved its position in the ranking of **International Economic Resilience (IER) 2022** of the top 10 countries, over the last 4 years.
- Indian economy has improved from 6th position in 2019 to 4th position in 2020, 3rd in 2021 and **2nd** in 2022 among the top ten leading economies.
 - Germany** and **Canada** both have gained the 1st Rank in the IER 2022.
 - China has been ranked 3rd, followed by Italy (4th), Japan (5th), UK (5th), USA (6th), France (6th), and Brazil (7th).
- 54.** The **World Bank** has released the 4th edition of '**The Global Findex Database 2021: Financial Inclusion, Digital Payments, and Resilience in the Age of COVID-19**'. The report surveys over 125,000 adults in 123 economies during Covid-19 to better understand how people use formal and informal financial services and digital payment.
- As per the report, **India** is among 7 countries home to half the world's **1.4 billion adults** without access to formal banking.
 - Sub-Saharan Africa, young adults (ages 15–24) make up almost 40% of those without access to banking.
 - India, China, Pakistan, Indonesia together with Bangladesh, Egypt and Nigeria, have **54 percent** or **740 million** people of the global unbanked population.
 - Mobile money has become an important enabler of financial inclusion in Sub-Saharan Africa.
 - Distance is a barrier for 31 percent of unbanked adults.
 - Globally, 30 percent of unbanked adults do not have an account because a family member already has one.
 - Globally, 64 percent of unbanked adults have primary education or less.
 - In Sub-Saharan Africa, 74 percent of the unbanked have only primary education or less.

**RRB CLERK
2022 PRELIMS**

Take a **FREE** Mock Test
Get Your All India Rank

PRACTICE MOCK

- 55.** The **World Economic Forum (WEF)** has released the 16th edition of the **Global Gender Gap (GGG) Index 2022**.

Global Gender Gap Report 2022

The Global Gender Gap Index was first introduced by the **World Economic Forum** in 2006.

The report this year covers **146 countries**, including for the first time *Comoros*.

The global gender gap Index framework consists of four main components (subindexes) of the index:

- *Economic Participation and Opportunity*
- *Educational Attainment*
- *Health and Survival*
- *Political Empowerment*

The Global Gender Gap Index Framework



Global performance:

- **Iceland** has retained its position as the world's most gender-equal country with a score of **0.908**.
- Iceland is followed by Finland (0.860), and Norway (0.845).
- **Afghanistan** is the worst-performing country in the report.
- The report states that it will now take 132 years to reach gender parity, with the gap reducing only by four years since 2021 and the gender gap closed by **68.1%**.

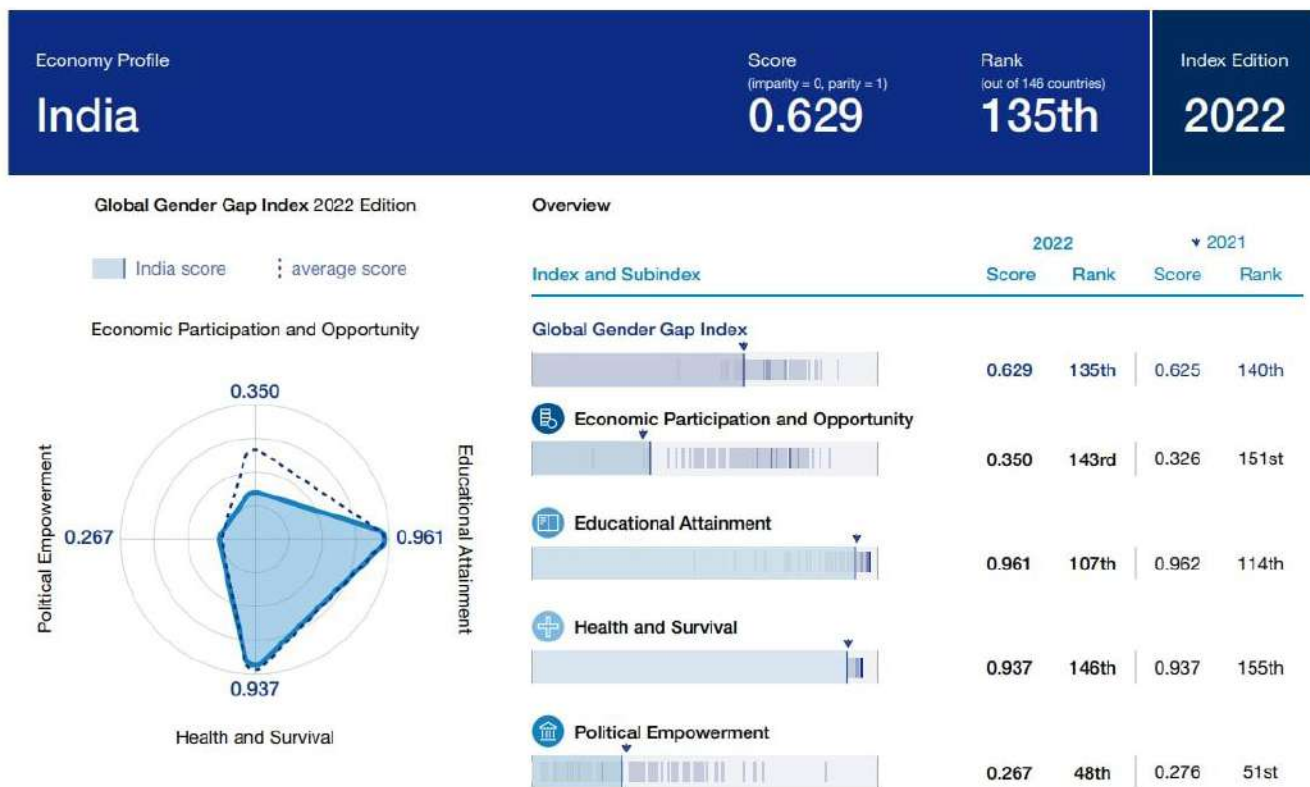
Top 10 Countries in Index:

- 1) Iceland
- 2) Finland
- 3) Norway
- 4) New Zealand
- 5) Sweden
- 6) Rwanda
- 7) Nicaragua
- 8) Namibia
- 9) Ireland

10) Germany

India's rank in Global Gender Gap Index 2022

- India has been ranked **135** among a total of 146 countries. In 2021, India ranked **140** out of a total 156 countries on the index.
- India ranks:
 - **146** in health and survival,
 - **143** in economic participation and opportunity,
 - **107** in educational attainment and
 - **48th** in political empowerment.



- India also ranks poorly among its neighbours and is behind Bangladesh (71), Nepal (96), Sri Lanka (110), Maldives (117) and Bhutan (126). Only Iran (143), Pakistan (145) and Afghanistan (146) perform worse than India in south Asia.

56. The United Nations has released the 2022 edition of **"The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World" (SOFI)**. The report is jointly presented by the Food and Agriculture

Organization (FAO), World Food Program (WFP), U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

- The report states that **2.3 billion** people, an estimated 29.3% of the global population were moderately or severely "food insecure" in 2021, and 11.7% faced severe food insecurity.
- The number of people globally affected by hunger went up to 828 million in 2021, an increase of about 46 million since 2020.
- Nearly 670 million people, or **8 percent** of the world population, will still be facing hunger in **2030**.
- The gender gap in food insecurity has continued to rise in 2021, **31.9 percent** of women in the world were moderately or severely food insecure, compared with 27.6 percent of men.
- India has high undernourishment (about 16% of the population), wasting (about 17%), stunting (about 31%) and low exclusive breastfeeding practice (only 58%).

Note: Sustainable Development Goal 2 aims to achieve "zero hunger".

57. According to the latest data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, **India's Retail inflation**, based on the consumer price index (CPI), has declined to **7.01%** in **June 2022** against 7.04% in May 2022. This happened due to easing prices in the "Food & Beverages" section. In June 2022, inflation in the food basket came at 7.56 percent, compared to 7.84 percent in May 2022. The inflation figure in vegetables has eased to 17.37 percent in June 2022 from 18.26 percent in May 2022.

Whereas, the annual rate of inflation based on all-India **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)** has declined marginally at **15.18 percent** in June 2022 against 15.88 percent in May 2022. The index for manufactured products for June 2022 has decreased to 143.7 from 144.8 in May 2022. However, the index for 'Manufacture of Textiles' sub-group has increased to 148.6 from 147.6 in May 2022, while the index for 'Manufacture of Wearing Apparel' has increased to 146.7 from 146.6 in May 2022.

The index for primary articles has increased to 182.4 in June 2022 from 179.8 in May 2022. The index for fuel and power has increased to 155.5 from 154.4 in May 2022.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES & PROGRAMMES

58. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated '**Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam**' on the implementation of the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020** in **Varanasi**, Uttar Pradesh. During the three-day Shiksha Samagam, panel discussions on nine themes identified for Higher Education under NEP 2020 has been conducted.

- He has also inaugurated the Akshay Patra Mid-Day Meal Kitchen at LT College.

59. Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri has launched 'SVANidhi Mahotsav', a cultural festival for celebrating the success of PM SVANidhi Scheme.

- It is being organized from **9th to 31st July 2022**.
- It is being held in 75 cities across 33 States and Union Territories.
- It will showcase a series of activities like Cultural activities, Digital transaction training, Loan mela, felicitation ceremony for distinguished street vendors, and experience sharing Nukkad natak to propagate the features and benefits of the Scheme.

PM SVANidhi:

- Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) scheme was launched on **1st June 2020** to facilitate working capital loans up to **Rs.10,000** at subsidized rate of interest to street vendors to help them restart their businesses which were adversely impacted due to the lockdown imposed during COVID-19 pandemic.
- It is a Central Sector Scheme.
- It is administered by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- SIDBI is the implementing agency.

60. Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM): It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). It was launched in 2016. It is being administered by the **Ministry of Rural Development**. The aim is to deliver integrated project based infrastructure in the rural areas, which also include development of economic activities and skill development.

Note: The year 2022 marks the 121st birth anniversary of **Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee**, who served as India's First Minister of Industry.

61. The state government of **Tripura** has decided to revive the 'Vidyalaya Chalo Abhiyan' after 8,850 school students were found to have dropped out from schools across Tripura during the covid-19 pandemic. The government has launched a new scheme '**Earn with Learn**'. Under the scheme, the college students will be given a remuneration for identifying and convincing students to rejoin schools. They will get Rs.500 for each admission.

62. Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena has launched **SAH-BHAGITA**, a scheme making Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) partners in optimal tax collection and waste management ecosystem. Under the scheme, the RWAs will receive 15% of the total collection of property tax for development works in their areas.

63. The **Ministry of Women & Child Development (MoWCD)** has issued guidelines to states about the **Mission Vatsalya** child protection scheme.

Key guidelines:

- As per the guidelines, states cannot change the original name of the scheme in order to gain access to funding granted by the central government.
- Funds to states will be approved through the **Mission Vatsalya Project Approval Board (PAB)**, which will be chaired by the WCD Secretary, who will scrutinise and approve annual plans and financial proposals received from states and UTs for release of grants.
- It will be implemented as a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** in partnership with state governments and UT administrations, with a fund-sharing pattern in a **60:40** ratio.
- However, for the eight states in the Northeast as well as Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, the Centre and state/UT's share will be **90:10**.
- The Mission plans to establish cradle baby reception centres in at least one specialized adoption agency in each area for receiving abandoned and trafficked children.
- It will support **State Adoption Resource Agencies (SARA)**, which will further support the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) in promoting in-country adoption and regulating inter-country adoption.

Mission Vatsalya:

Prior to 2009, the MoWCD implemented three schemes for children in need of protection:

- Juvenile justice programme for children in need of care and protection as well as children in conflict with the law
- Integrated programme for street children
- Scheme for assistance to children's homes

These were merged into a single plan known as the Integrated Child Protection Scheme in 2010. In 2017, it was renamed "**Child Protection Services** scheme," and again in 2021-22 as Mission Vatsalya.

The aim is to secure a healthy and happy childhood for each and every child in the country. The nodal ministry of the scheme is the Ministry of Women & Child Development (MoWCD).

**RRB CLERK
2022 PRELIMS**

Take a FREE Mock Test
Get Your All India Rank

PRACTICE MOCK

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

64. Salesforce, a US-based tech major, has announced **USD 2 million** in grants to over 22 Non-Profit Organisations (NPO) across India. These grants are expected to impact 40,000 individuals across India. Salesforce has partnered with institutions such as Meghshala Trust, Inquilab Foundation, and Learning Curve Foundation, and others for giving quality education to children.
- Mortgage lender **HDFC Limited** has also partnered with Salesforce to support the company's growth priorities.
65. Bangalore-based neobank **Fi Money** has launched '**The Ally Annexure**' initiative to empower **LGBTQ** (Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) community have better access to financial services.
- **Objective:** To educate institutions about being more accessible to the financial needs of LGBTQ customers.
 - The initiative has been launched in partnership with Pride Circle, a diversity and inclusion firm.
 - It will be supported by Fi Money's banking partner – Kochi-based Federal Bank.
66. **Google** has launched the '**Startup School India**' initiative, which aims to gather relevant information on startup building into a systematic curriculum to help 10,000 startups in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. It is a nine-week virtual programme that will involve fireside chats between Google leaders and collaborators from across the startup ecosystem.
- Note:** India is the third-largest startup hub in the world with close to 70,000 firms, after USA & China.
67. Power Finance Corporation (**PFC**), a state-owned and a leading NBFC, has inked a loan pact for **Japanese Yen (JPY) 30 billion** with Japan Bank for International Cooperation (**JBIC**). JBIC has provided this long-term facility to PFC under its initiative 'Global action for Reconciling Economic growth and Environmental preservation' (GREEN).
68. **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)** and **France-based Safran Helicopter Engines** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to create a new joint venture (JV) to manufacture helicopter engines.
- Both the companies will establish a new aero-engine company in India, dedicated to the development, production, sales and support of helicopter engines.

- The main objective will be to meet the requirements of HAL and Ministry of Defence's future helicopters, including the 13-ton **Indian multi-role helicopter (IMRH)**.

HAL and Safran Helicopter Engines will also provide MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul) services for TM333 and Shakti engines in service with Indian Armed Forces through **Helicopter Engines MRO Pvt Limited (HE-MRO)** joint venture in Goa. It will be operational by the end of the year 2023.

69. The **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** has collaborated with **Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management Studies (JBIMS)** to co-create a Master's in Management Studies (MMS) programme in digital payments for its employees.

- The course is launched under NPCI's "**Learn while you Earn**" higher education programme.
- The programme aims to integrate aspects of technology, finance, BFSI, and information system and management studies into a single Master's specialisation in digital payments.
- NPCI employees have the opportunity to pursue super-specialization and further studies (Ph.D.) after the completion of the Master's program.

70. **Nokia** has tied up with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) to set up the **Nokia Centre of Excellence (CoE)** in networked robotics at **IISc Bengaluru**. The CoE will promote interdisciplinary research involving robotics and advanced communication technologies in 5G and Artificial Intelligence (AI). It will also develop use cases across industrial automation, agriculture and disaster management.

71. Japanese brokerage Nomura has lowered India's GDP forecast for 2023 to **4.7 percent** from its earlier projection of 5.4 percent amid recession fears and rising interest rates. Nomura expects headline inflation in India to average 6.9 percent in 2022, and 5.9 percent in 2023.

72. ReNew Power, India's leading renewable energy company, has successfully refinanced its 2024 maturity dollar-denominated bonds with amortising project debt from an Indian non-bank financial company.

- With this, ReNew has become the first Indian renewable energy company to refinance dollar-denominated bonds.
- ReNew Power issued bonds worth **USD 525 million** in 2019, which were set to mature in 2024.

- 73.** The **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** has approved the establishment of an **'Interim Operational Hub'** in **Abu Dhabi**, UAE. The lender's first overseas office in Abu Dhabi will enable effective supervision of its growing investment portfolio, strengthen its project monitoring and implementation services across the globe.
- 74.** South Korea-based **Samsung** has developed a new graphics **Dynamic Random-Access Memory (DRAM) chip** with a faster speed and improved power efficiency.
- The 24-gigabit Graphics Double Data Rate 6 (GDDR6) adopts third-generation, 10-nanometer technology and boasts a data processing speed that is over 30 percent faster than existing products.
 - The new DRAM chip can process graphic images at a rate of up to **1.1 terabytes per second**, which Samsung claims is the **fastest** in the world and equivalent to processing 275 full HD movies in a second.
 - Graphics DRAMs are widely used in high-powered 3D games, personal computers, notebooks or devices that play videos with a high resolution.
- 75.** US-based GE Healthcare, a global medical technology, diagnostics, and digital solutions innovator, has launched its first **"5G Innovation Lab"** in India. The lab is situated at the John F. Welch Technology Centre (JFWTC) **Bengaluru**, GE Healthcare's largest R&D centre outside of the USA. It is also claimed as world's first 5G Innovation Lab in India.
- Note:** 5G in Healthcare was valued at an estimated \$215 million in 2021 and is projected to reach \$3,667 million by 2026.
- 76.** **Deutsche Bahn (DB)** will become the world's first intermodal partner of the **Star Alliance** from 1st August 2022 which allows customers and passengers of Star Alliance member airlines to connect the airline with rail, bus, ferry, and other modes of transport. Germany is the first market and DB is the world's first partner in the new Star Alliance program.
- 77.** **NTPC Renewable Energy Limited (NTPC REL)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Limited (GACL)** in New Delhi to set up India's first commercial-scale Green Ammonia and Green Methanol projects.
- The MoU envisages collaborating in the field of Renewable Energy, Green Methanol & Green Ammonia and mutually exploring the opportunities for the supply of 100 MW RE-RTC (Round The Clock) power and synthesizing 75 TPD Green Methanol and 35 TPD Green

Ammonia for captive use for the production of various chemicals by GACL at its Vadodara and Dahej complex in Gujarat.

78. REC Limited has signed an agreement with **Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)** to improve the operational and financial sustainability of discoms through holistic deployment of smart meters, strengthening of power distribution networks and improved quality of service for electricity consumers.

79. Tata Power has planned to invest over **Rs.75,000 crore** in renewables in the next five years and aims to have an electricity generation capacity of **30 GW** by **FY27** with more than half coming from clean energy sources. Currently, Tata Power has a generation capacity of 13.5 GW with 34 percent contributed by renewable energy sources. Tata Power has added renewable energy capacity of 707 MW in FY22.

80. The **National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM)** has collaborated with New South Wales government agency **Investment NSW** to organise a series of roadshows for Indian technology companies to highlight business and investment opportunities that exist in Australia.

- The roadshows, which will start from Delhi, will position New South Wales as a gateway for serving the broader Australian market.
- The road show in six cities, aimed primarily towards the Indian Technology Small & Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs).

81. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of **Solenergi Power Private Ltd** (Target) by **Shell Overseas Investments B.V.'s** (Acquirer) from Actis Solenergi Limited under Section 31 (1) of the Competition Act, 2002. CCI has also approved the acquisition by **Shrem InvIT** of equity in 10 road infrastructure projects (Target SPVs) from **Dilip Buildcon Limited (DBL)** and its associates.

82. Arohan Financial Services has launched a digital lending app '**ApnaArohan**' for its existing customers having good repayment track record to provide them an experience equivalent to that of privilege banking and to raise collection efficiency ratio.

83. The **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Development and Authority (APEDA)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Assam Agriculture University, Jorhat** to conduct various training programs on pre-harvest and post-harvest management and other research activities for the promotion of export from the region.

- 84.** The **Department of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare (DA&FW)** and **International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)** have signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on commencement of Phase -2 activities of IRRI South Asia Regional Centre (ISARC) to scale up the existing partnership for food and nutrition security in the South Asian region.
- In 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the establishment of ISARC at the campus of the National Seed Research and Training Center (NSRTC) in Varanasi.
 - The Phase-1 of MoA was signed on 2nd August 2017 between the DA&FW and IRRI for 5 years from 2017-22 with a provision to extend for another 5 years.
- 85.** **Infosys**, a global leader in next-generation digital services and consulting, has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Denmark-based **BASE life science**, a leading technology and consulting firm in the life sciences industry, for up to **€110 million** (about \$111 million). The acquisition is expected to close during the second quarter of FY23.
- 86.** The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi** has inaugurated a new **Census Workstation** at the Economics Lab of Department of Humanities and Social Sciences. The Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India, Dr Vivek Joshi has inaugurated the Census Data Workstation. The new workstation seeks to facilitate access to census microdata for academicians and researchers.
- Note:** Recently, Registrar General of India (RGI) has extended the deadline for freezing administrative boundaries to **31st December 2022**. The **Census 2021 or 16th National Census survey** has now been postponed again to **2023-24**. It is noteworthy that 16th Census of India will be digital census.

**RRB CLERK
2022 PRELIMS**

Take a **FREE** Mock Test
Get Your All India Rank

PRACTICE MOCK

BANKING & FINANCE

- 87.** Agri finance company **Samunnati** has tied up with **State Bank of India (SBI)** for financing farmer producer organisations (FPOs). The initial outlay is **Rs.100 crore**. This helps in mainstreaming FPOs as an asset class and increase the awareness of farmer-owned institutions in the banking sector.

88. The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has approved three private sector banks to provide financial services to it for overseas procurement of military hardware. The banks are **HDFC Bank Ltd, ICICI Bank, and Axis Bank.**

- The selected banks may be allocated with a Letter of Credit (LC) business of Rs.2,000 crore, each on the capital and revenue side, for a period of one year on concurrent basis (Rs 666 crore for each bank under both capital as well as Revenue).
- The performance of these banks will be monitored regularly so as to take necessary further action as required

Till now, only authorised public sector banks were utilised to provide services like issuance of letters of credit and direct bank transfers to the ministry for overseas procurement.

89. US-based IT services firm Cognizant has been selected as a strategic technology provider by **National Insurance Company Limited (NICL)** to accelerate and manage its digital transformation.

- NICL has awarded the multi-year mandate to Cognizant to elevate its technology roadmap, help manage its centralised web-based core insurance solution comprising multiple applications, underlying technology infrastructure and security, and provide consulting services, among others.

90. SBI General Insurance has announced the appointment of **Paritosh Tripathi** as its new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He has succeeded PC Kandpal, who has been posted as DMD (P&RE) at the Corporate Centre, SBI.

91. Max Life Insurance Company Limited has launched '**Smart Capital Guarantee Solution**', a life insurance product solution that merges the benefits of 'Max Life Smart Wealth Plan' and 'Max Life Flexi Wealth Advantage Plan'. The product will offer wealth creation through market-linked returns along with a guarantee on premiums paid at maturity with additional financial protection.

92. Bank of Baroda (BoB) has partnered with **Women's World Banking (WWB)**, a global Non-Profit Organization (NPO), to launch the third and broader phase of the '**Baroda Jan Dhan Plus**' programme across 25 districts of **Uttar Pradesh** and all 13 districts of **Uttarakhand**.

- **Objective:** To enhance and promote the participation of low-income women with formal financial services.

- The Phase 3 will cover the existing BoB Jan Dhan clients via financial literacy camps and business correspondents.
- The programme will train and work with over **2000** business correspondents (BC) and **1000** BC Sakhis (women business correspondents) to empower them to help women customers in their regions.
- 'Baroda Jan Dhan Plus' model has 3 core pillars:
- Making the bank ecosystem a welcoming one for low-income women;
- Making savings relatable and rewarding for women; and
- Training and capacity building of business correspondent (BC) agents on soft skills with a gender focus to make them better understand and fulfil the needs of women customers.

Note: The initial two pilot projects of 'Baroda Jan Dhan Plus' were conducted with 170 Bank of Baroda branches (with over 650 BCs and over 100 BC Sakhis) across Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Shahjahanpur in Uttar Pradesh between Jan 2020 to Jan 2022.

93. City Union Bank has collaborated with **Shriram General Insurance** to distribute insurance products. Under this collaboration, Shriram General Insurance will offer personal lines of insurance products such as motor, accident, home and travel insurance along with commercial lines of insurance products such as property, marine and engineering insurance to the lender's customers.

- **TATA AIA Life Insurance** has also joined hands with City Union Bank (CUB) to offer life and health insurance solutions to the lender's consumers.

94. Axis Bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Indian Air Force** to offer a defence service salary package with best-in-class benefits and features under its 'Power Salute' initiative.

- The lender will offer benefits to all ranks of Indian Air Force personnel including the veterans, cadets/recruits.
- It includes a personal accident cover of up to Rs.56 lakhs, total permanent disability cover benefit up to Rs.46 lakhs, air accident cover of Rs.1 crore among others.

95. The Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **State Bank of India (SBI)** to open India's first branch for startups named '**SBI Startup Hub branch**' in Koramangala. The collaboration will enable startups across the state to access banking facilities, funding, and credit facilities.

- The branch will be inaugurated in August 2022.
- **Rs 2 crore** collateral-free financial assistance will be given to startup entrepreneurs.

- SBI will open a start-up desk in the Innovation Tower at HSR layout, Bangalore, Karnataka to offer services to start-ups.
- SBI will start similar branches in Mysuru, Mangaluru, and Hubballi-Dharwad clusters in the next six months.
- KDEM will also establish a **Fintech Innovation Hub** at Mangaluru focusing on the Fintech area and SBI has agreed to be one of the partner organisations for the planned innovation hub.

96. The **Union Bank of India (UBI)** has launched a Metaverse Virtual Lounge & Open Banking Sandbox environment. This initiative has been launched in partnership with Tech Mahindra.

'Uni-verse': Metaverse Virtual Lounge:

- It will host product information and videos in the initial phase.
- It will deliver a unique banking experience to customers by providing them information on the bank's deposits, loans, government welfare schemes, digital initiatives etc. in a way as if they are in the real world.

Open Banking Sandbox environment:

- It will collaborate with fin-techs and start-up partners for developing and launching innovative banking products.

Note: 'nxt is the mobile banking app of UBI.

97. **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Indian Air Force (IAF)** to provide specially designed products to the defence personnel under the bank's flagship scheme of '**PNB Rakshak Plus**'. The scheme also covers BSF, CRPF, CISF, ITBP, RAW, IB, CBI, Indian Coast Guard Personnel & Para Military Personnel, Gentlemen cadets and Special Forces at Central and State level.

Salient features of "PNB Rakshak Plus" include:

- Zero balance salary/pension account for serving & non-serving defence personnel.
- Personal Accidental (Death) cover of **Rs 50 lakh**.
- Air Accidental (Death) Insurance cover of **Rs 100 lakh**.
- Personal Accidental (Permanent Total Disability) cover of **Rs 50 lakh**.
- No 'Cash Handling Charges' are levied for the transaction(s).
- Overdraft up to last 3 months Net Salary/Pension amounting from **Rs 75000 to Rs 3 lakh**.
- Concession in rate of interest and service charges under Housing, Car, Education and Personal Loan Schemes.

- Education loan under **"PNB Pratibha"** is available for wards of a Primary Account holder who takes admission in premier institutes and the Army Educational institutions.
- Concession in locker rent: **25 percent** Annual Maintenance Charges (AMC) waived off for three years from date of issue.
- Financial assistance of **Rs. 1 lakh** per year for 4 years or the actual expenditure whichever is less, for education of two surviving and dependent child (Male/Female) of a PAI (Death).

98. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has constituted the two task forces to resolve issues between insurers and re-insurers. These task forces will have to submit reports in three weeks.

- **First task force (Life-Insurance sector):** It has seven members and it will be headed by **Naveen Tahilyani**, MD & CEO, Tata AIA Life Insurance.
- **Second task force (Non-life insurers and re-insurers):** It has nine-members and it will be headed by **Bhargav Dasgupta**, MD & CEO, ICICI Lombard General Insurance.

99. **Tata Mutual Fund** has tied up with **CAMSPay** to introduce Unified Payments Interface (UPI) Autopay for immediate Systematic Investment Plan (SIPs).

- Using this, investors in mutual funds can use their virtual payment address (VPA)/UPI handle to mandate an Autopay facility for their SIP contributions.
- CAMSPay's UPI AutoPay offers real time Third Party Payment validation (TPV) and same-day settlement hence investors receive NAV benefits.

100. **SBICAP Ventures Limited (SVL)**, a subsidiary of the State Bank of India (SBI), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** for establishing the Trilateral Development Cooperation Fund (TDC Fund). Through the TDC Fund, India will contribute approx. **Rs.175 crore** to the Global Innovation Development Fund (GIP Fund). The TDC Fund will operate as a '*Fund of Funds*' under the SEBI AIF (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations.

TDC fund:

It has been recently launched by India to involve private sectors with the support of the state for investments in the Indo-Pacific region. This region comprises the Indian Ocean, the central and western Pacific Ocean, and the seas that connect the two around Indonesia and beyond.

101. The **Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)** has launched a mutual fund (MF) distributor recruitment campaign, "**Karein Shuru?**" (Can we start?). The campaign includes commercial films to reinforce the need and attractiveness of MF distribution as a career option with long-term earning potential for individuals with entrepreneurial aspirations.

102. Agri-tech startup **nurture.farm** has partnered with **SBI General Insurance** and **Future Generali India Insurance Company** to expand its insurance solutions for 1.9 million farmers. With this partnership, the nurture.farm aims to offer its insurance solutions to nearly 2 million farmers in 2022-23.

Recently, the nurture.farm received a corporate agency licence from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA).

103. **NIIT Institute of Finance, Banking and Insurance (NIIT IFBI)**, a subsidiary of NIIT Limited, has collaborated with **HDFC Bank** to build new-age Digital Talent for the banking industry. It aims to nurture talent in the new-age tech field of data science and empower them to leverage data meaningfully and deliver useful business insights.

- The first learning program to be launched is the HDFC Bank Data Digits-Post Graduate Program in Data Engineering.
- This program is the first of planned initiatives to raise digital skills in the BFSI industry.
- The program will make learners job ready in 12 weeks.

104. **Razorpay, Pine Labs, Stripe, and 1Pay** have received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for payment aggregator licences.

Payment aggregators (PA's):

RBI introduced the payment aggregator framework in March 2020. The framework mandates that only firms approved by the regulator can acquire and offer payment services to the merchants.

According to RBI guidelines, payment aggregators need to have a net worth of **Rs 15 crore** as on March 2021, and a net worth of **Rs 25 crore** by on or before March 2023.

PA's are entities that enable e-commerce sites and merchants to accept various payment instruments from customers for completion of their payment obligations, without the need for merchants to create a separate payment integration system of their own.

105. Star Health and Allied Insurance Co. Ltd. and Common Services Centres (CSC), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, have partnered to take health insurance to rural India. This partnership provides around **5 lakh** CSCs access to a select range of Star Health insurance products. These products have been designed to meet the needs of rural customers across the tier-II, tier-III cities, and rural markets pan India.

106. Jubilant Pharma Holdings has signed an agreement with **Standard Chartered Bank** for a five-year loan of **USD 400 million**, about Rs 3,186 crore, for the repayment of existing term loans and debt bonds aggregating USD 350 million and an additional tranche of USD 50 million.

**RRB CLERK
2022 PRELIMS**

Take a **FREE** Mock Test
Get Your All India Rank

PRACTICE MOCK

RBI IN NEWS

107. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released a report titled '**Benchmarking India's Payment Systems – Follow-on exercise**'. The report states that India has shown a significant progress, and emerged as leader in large-value digital payment systems i.e. Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS).

Key points:

- The benchmarking exercise undertaken with respect to the position in 2020 revealed that there is a need to enhance the spread of ATMs and point of sale (PoS) terminals.
- The number of PoS terminals in India increased to 4.59 million in 2020 from 3.08 million in 2017, and has grown at a compound annual growth rate of 14%.
- India's performance in terms of currency in circulation (CIC) per capita has raised to \$288 in 2020 from \$218 in 2017.
- Out of the 40 indicators used in the exercise, India was categorised as a 'leader' or 'strong' in respect of 25, up from 21 in the previous round of the exercise, and 'weak' in respect of eight indicators, down from 12 earlier.

108. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced a series of measures to prevent a Rupee fall, and support foreign reserves.

Key measures:

- RBI has decided to temporarily permit banks to raise fresh **Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) (FCNR (B))** and **Non-Resident (External) Rupee (NRE)** deposits without reference to the extant regulations on interest rates, with effect from 7th July 2022. This relaxation will be available for the period up to **31st October 2022**.
- It has been decided that with effect from the reporting fortnight beginning 30th July 2022 incremental FCNR (B) and NRE deposits with reference base date of 1st July 2022 will be exempt from the maintenance of Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR). This relaxation will be available for deposits mobilised up to **4th November 2022**.
- Investments by **Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs)** in government securities and corporate debt made till 31st October 2022 will be exempted from this short term limit till maturity.
- FPIs will be provided with a limited window till 31st October 2022 during which they can invest in corporate money market instruments viz., commercial paper and non-convertible debentures with an original maturity of up to one year. FPIs can continue to stay invested in these instruments till their maturity / sale.
- RBI has increased the maximum limit under the automatic route for **External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs)** from USD 750 million per financial year to **USD 1.5 billion**. The all-in cost ceiling under the ECB framework is also being raised by 100 basis points.
- **Authorised Dealer Category I (AD Cat-I) banks** can utilise overseas foreign currency borrowing (OFCBs) for lending in foreign currency to entities for a wider set of end-use purposes, subject to the negative list set out for external commercial borrowings (ECBs). This is available till **31st October 2022**.

109. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of former RBI executive **Meena Hemchandra** as part-time chairman of Karur Vysya Bank for a period of 3 years with effect from the date of taking charge.

110. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up a mechanism to settle international trade payments in **Indian rupee**. The aim is to promote growth of global trade with emphasis on exports from India and to support the increasing interest of global trading community in Indian rupee.

- Under the new guidelines, all exports and imports under this arrangement may be denominated and invoiced in Rupee (INR).
- The exchange rate between the currencies of the two trading partner countries may be market determined.
- Rupee surplus balance may be used for capital and current account transactions.
- Balance in Special Vostro Accounts can be invested in govt. securities.

- Authorized Dealer (AD) banks in India have been permitted to open rupee Vostro accounts. Accordingly, for settlement of trade transactions with any country, AD bank in India may open special rupee Vostro accounts of correspondent banks of the partner trading country.
- Letter of Credit (LC) and other trade-related documentation may be decided mutually between banks of the partner trading countries under the overall framework of Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits (UCPDC) and incoterms.

111. Recently, RBI has allowed all eligible current account transactions including trade transactions with **Sri Lanka** may be settled in any permitted currency outside the **Asian Clearing Union (ACU)** mechanism until further notice. The new system will come into force with immediate effect.

- The ACU was established on **9th December 1974** at the initiative of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP), for promoting regional cooperation.
- Central banks and monetary authorities of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are currently members of the ACU.
- **Asian Monetary Unit (AMU)** is the common unit of account of ACU and is denominated as 'ACU dollar', 'ACU euro' and 'ACU yen', which is equivalent in value to one US dollar, one euro and one Japanese yen respectively.
- Settlement of such instruments is made by **Category-I banks** through the ACU dollar accounts, ACU euro accounts and ACU yen accounts.
- It is headquartered in **Tehran, Iran**.

112. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the license of **Shri Anand Co-operative Bank**, Chinchwad, Pune as the lender does not have adequate capital and cannot pay its present depositors in full. The bank ceases to carry on banking business, with effect from 7th July 2022.

RBI, in exercise of powers conferred on it under Section 45-IA (6) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, has also cancelled the **Certificate of Registration** of four non-banking financial companies (NBFCs). They are:

- **Kanva Shree Credit Private Limited (formerly known as MCI Leasing Private Limited)**
- **Williamson Magor & Co. Ltd**
- **Galaxy Capital Finance Limited**
- **SRS Finance Limited**

113. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed various restrictions on **four cooperative banks**. The restrictions have been imposed for six months and it includes cap on withdrawals for the depositors. These restrictions have been put under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. The four banks are:

- **Ramgarhia Co-operative Bank**, New Delhi; (Cap is Rs.50,000 per depositor)
- **Sahebrao Deshmukh Co-operative Bank**, Mumbai; (Cap is Rs.50,000 per depositor)
- **Sangli Sahakari Bank**, Mumbai; (Cap is Rs.45,000 per depositor)
- **Sharada Mahila Co-operative Bank Limited**, Tumkur, Karnataka (Cap is Rs.7,000 per depositor)

RBI has also imposed a penalty of **Rs.5.72 crore** on **Federal Bank** for deficiencies in regulatory compliance. A penalty of **Rs 70 lakh** has also been imposed on **Bank of India** for non-compliance with certain provisions of Know Your Customer (KYC) norms and instructions on 'compliance function in banks'. A fine of **Rs 7.6 lakh** has been imposed on **Dhani Loans and Services Limited**, Gurugram for non-compliance with KYC norms.

RBI has also imposed a fine of **Rs.1.67 crore** on **Ola Financial Services Pvt Ltd** for non-compliance with know your customer (KYC) guidelines.

114. The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty on three cooperatives banks. They are:

- **Nasik Merchant's Co-operative Bank Ltd** in Nashik (Penalty: Rs.50 lakh)
- **Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank Ltd** in Mumbai (Penalty: Rs. 37,50,000)
- **National Central Cooperative Bank Limited** in Bettiah (Penalty: Rs.2 lakh)

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

115. The government of Japan has conferred the '**Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star**' award on **Sanmar Group** Vice Chairman **Narayanan Kumar** in recognition of his contribution towards strengthening economic relations between Japan and India.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

116. A new book titled '**Getting the Bread: The Gen-Z Way to Success**' has been authored by young YouTuber **Prarthna Batra**. The book has been launched by sporting icon Sakshi Malik. The book is published by Om Books International. She runs the YouTube channel 'Power People and Prarthna'.

- 117. 'Mind Master: Winning Lessons From A Champion's Life'** is the autobiography of chess legend **Viswanathan Anand** which is co-authored by sports journalist **Susan Ninan**. It is published by Hachette India. Its new edition has been released on 15th July 2022. The new edition features a bonus chapter on how to navigate uncertainty and rapidly changing realities in the wake of the pandemic.
- 118.** Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture Meenakshi Lekhi has launched a book '**Swadhinata Sangram Na Surviro**' in Gujarati commemorating the contributions of 75 freedom fighters and shares the stories of the sacrifices made by them for the country. The book has been prepared by the Hindu Spiritual & Service Foundation in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- 119.** The Governor of Himachal Pradesh, Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, has released a book titled "**The McMahon line: A century of discord**". The book has been authored by **General JJ Singh** (Retd), the former Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and former Chief of Army Staff (CoAS). The book is based on the experiences and research of General JJ Singh on the India-China border dispute.

PERSON IN NEWS

- 120. R Dinesh**, Executive Vice-Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions, has been chosen as the Confederation of Indian Industry's (CII) President Designate for the years 2022-2023. ITC chairman and managing director **Sanjiv Puri** has been elected the Vice President of CII for 2022-23.
- **Sanjiv Bajaj**, Chairman and Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Limited, continues to be the President of CII for the year 2022-23.
- 121.** The Central Government has appointed **Amitabh Kant**, former chief executive officer (CEO) of NITI Aayog, as India's Sherpa for the Group of Twenty (G20) grouping. He has replaced **Piyush Goyal**, Union Minister for Commerce & Industry.

Note: India's G20 Presidency will begin from 1st December 2022, to 30th November 2023. The current president of G20 is Indonesia.

G20: It is the premier forum for the world's largest industrialised and emerging economies for international economic cooperation and plays a pivotal role in global economic governance. It represent more than 80 percent of the world's gross domestic product, 75

percent of international trade, and 60 percent of the world population. India has been a member of the G20 since its inception in 1999.

122. India-born **Gita Gopinath** has become the first woman and **second Indian** to feature on the 'wall of former chief economists' of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). She was appointed as IMF Chief Economist in October 2018. She is currently serving as the IMF's First Deputy Managing Director.

- The first Indian to achieve the honour was **Raghuram Rajan** who was Chief Economist and Director of Research of IMF between 2003 and 2006.

123. **Yashpal Sharma**, MD, Skyways Group, has been appointed as the President of Air Cargo Forum India (ACFI). He has been appointed for a term of 2 consecutive years i.e. 2022-2024. He has succeeded Cyrus Katgara, the former President of ACFI and he will be part of the current board as an Ex officio member.

124. Senior bureaucrat **R K Gupta** has been appointed as the Deputy Election Commissioner. He will serve as Deputy Election Commissioner (Joint secretary level) till 28 February 2023. He has replaced T Sreekanth.

- Presently, Election Commission of India (ECI) consists of the CEC and two Election Commissioners.
- **Chief Election Commissioner of India:** Rajiv Kumar
- **Election Commissioner:** Anup Chandra Pandey

125. **Pallavi Singh** (India) has won the **Mrs Universe Divine Title** at the finals held at Yeosu City, South Korea. She hails from Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. Earlier, she won the title of Mrs India held in Jaipur in 2020. She then won the title of Mrs Indo-Asia Universe in the Asia-level competition held in Delhi in October 2021.

**RRB CLERK
2022 PRELIMS**

Take a FREE Mock Test
Get Your All India Rank

PRACTICE MOCK

126. Advent International has announced the appointment of former Jubilant Foodworks CEO **Pratik Pota** as the new MD & CEO of **Eureka Forbes** with effect from 16th August 2022. He has been appointed for a period of five years.

- 127.** The New India Assurance Company Ltd (NIACL) has appointed its General Manager **Madhulika Bhaskar** as the Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) for a period of three months with effect from the date of assumption of charge. She has succeeded Atul Sahai.
- 128.** The Government of **Punjab** has appointed **Vijay Kumar Janjua**, 1989-batch IAS officer, as the new chief secretary of the state. He has succeeded Anirudh Tewari.
- 129.** **Suranjan Das**, Vice-Chancellor of Jadavpur University, has been appointed as the President of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) for a period of 1 year.
- 130.** **Jahnvi Dangeti**, a 19-year old, has scripted history by becoming the youngest to complete the **Analog Astronaut programme** from the Analog Astronaut Training Centre (AATC) at Krakow in South Poland. She has completed the two-week training programme (June 14 to 25) at the AATC, a private agency set up by European Space professionals to carry out spaceflight scientific studies.

OBITUARIES

- 131.** Former Japanese Prime Minister **Shinzo Abe** has recently passed away after being shot in the city of Nara in Japan. He was assassinated while campaigning for the parliamentary election in Nara, Japan. He was born on 21st September 1954 in Shinjuku City, Tokyo, Japan.
- He was the longest-serving prime minister in Japanese history.
 - He was awarded **Padma Vibhushan** in **2021**.
 - He was awarded **Netaji Award 2022** by Netaji Research Bureau in January 2022.

Recently, the Government of Japan has honoured former Prime Minister **Shinzo Abe** with the **Collar of the Supreme Order of the Chrysanthemum**, the nation's highest decoration. He has been honoured posthumously. He has become the fourth former prime minister to receive the decoration under the post-war Constitution.

- 132.** **Brijendra K Syngal**, former Chairman of **Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd (VSNL)**, has recently passed away at the age of 82. He was known as the **Father of the Indian Internet**. He was unofficially known as the '*bulldozer*' for his ability to push through bureaucratic hurdles.
- **Books written by him:** 'Telecom Man: Leading From the Front in India's Digital Revolution' (co-authored by Sandipan Deb).

Note: VSNL first launched the internet in India on 15th August 1995.

133. Renowned archaeologist, and art expert **Dr Enamul Haque** has recently passed away in Dhaka, Bangladesh. He was born on 1st March 1937 in Bogra, Bengal Presidency. He served as the former Director-General of Bangladesh National Museum.

Awards:

- **Padma Shri:** 2020
- **Ekushey Padak:** 2016
- **Swadhinata Padak:** 2020

134. Former President of Angola **Jose Eduardo dos Santos** has recently passed away in Barcelona, Spain. He was born on 28 August 1942 in Luanda, Angola.

135. **Luis Echeverria Alvarez**, the former president of Mexico, has passed away recently in Cuernavaca, the capital city of Morelos state located in south central Mexico. He was born on 17th January 1922 in Mexico City, Mexico. He served as the **57th President of Mexico** from 1970 to 1976.

136. Renowned American actor **James Edmund Caan** has recently passed away in California, the USA. He is best known for playing the Sonny Corleone character in "The Godfather" film. He was born on 26th March 1940 in New York, USA.

- **Famous movies:** Thief (1981), Gardens of Stone (1987), Misery (1990), Honeymoon in Vegas (1992), Bottle Rocket (1996), Mickey Blue Eyes (1999), The Yards (2000), City of Ghosts (2002), Elf (2003), and Get Smart (2008).

137. Noted social worker and Padma Shri awardee **Avdhash Kaushal** has recently passed away due to prolonged illness. He was born in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. He served as an Associate Professor for 7 years in Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNNA). He was awarded **Padma Shri** in **1986** for social work.

138. **Barry Sinclair**, the former New Zealand cricketer, has passed away at the age of 85. He was the third player from the country to score 1000 runs after Bert Sutcliffe and John R Reid. He played 21 Tests between 1963 and 1968, scoring 1148 runs.

139. British composer **Monty Norman**, who was the man behind the iconic James Bond theme, has passed away at the age of 94. He was born on April 4, 1928 in east London, UK.

He was hired by producer Albert "Cubby" Broccoli to compose a theme for the first James Bond film, "Dr. No," released in 1962.

SPORTS

140. The first edition of the **Elorda Boxing Cup 2022** has been held in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan. The tournament has hosted boxers from India, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Cuba, China and Mongolia.

India has won a total of **14 medals (2 gold, 2 silver, and 10 bronze)**.

Indian medal winners:

Gold: Alfiya Pathan (+81kg), and Gitika (48kg).

Silver: Kalaivani Srinivasan (48kg), and Jamuna Boro (54kg)

Bronze: Jyoti Gulia (52kg), Sakshi (54kg), Sonia Lather (57kg), Neema (63kg), Lalita (70kg), Babita Bisht (81kg), Kuldeep Kumar (48kg), Ananta Chopade (54kg), Sachin (57kg), and Jugnoo (92kg).

141. England cricket team led by **Ben Stokes** has defeated the Indian cricket team led by **Jasprit Bumrah** in the 5th Test match (Rescheduled) and drawn the 5-match series 2021/2022 (2-2) and the Pataudi Trophy has been shared between two teams. The 5th test has been played in the Edgbaston Cricket Ground in Birmingham, England.

- **Player of the Series:** Joe Root
- **Player of the Match:** Jonny Bairstow

Records in the 5th Test:

- **Jasprit Bumrah** has scored 35 runs in an over against Stuart Brad and breaks Brian Lara's (West Indies) world record of 29 runs in an over.
- **Ravindra Jadeja** partnered with **Rishabh Pant** script history with 222-run partnership for the sixth wicket against England which was the highest partnership by an Indian team in England.

Note: India won the first Pataudi Trophy in England in 2007.

Additional Information:

The Pataudi Trophy, associated with cricket, is awarded to the winner of each Test cricket series between England and India. It was first awarded in 2007 to commemorate the 75 years since the first Test match between the two sides.

- 142.** The **2022 Malaysia Open**, a badminton tournament, has been held in the Axiata Arena, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It has a total prize of USD 675,000. It has been organized by the Badminton Association of Malaysia with sanction from the BWF.

Category	Winner
Men's singles title	Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
Women's singles title	Ratchanok Intanon (Thailand)
Men's doubles	Takuro Hoki / Yugo Kobayashi (Japan)
Women's doubles	Apriyani Rahayu and Siti Fadia Silva Ramadhanti (Indonesia)
Mixed doubles	Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong (China)

- 143.** Ukraine's Grandmaster **Vitaly Svyuk** has won the 2nd edition of La Plagne International Chess Festival – Masters Tournament 2022. It has been organized in La Plagne-Tarentaise in France. India's teenage Grandmaster P Iniyar has finished second while International Masters (IM) Sayantan Das has finished third in the tournament.

- 144.** The **U-20 Asian Wrestling Championship 2022** has been held at the Khalifa Sports City arena in Manama, Bahrain. India has won **22 medals** including 4 gold, 9 silver, and 9 bronze medals.

Indian medallist:

Gold: Priyanka (65kg), Aainrju (68kg), Antim (53kg), Sujeet (65kg)

Silver: Sweety (50kg), Reena (55kg), Bipasha (72kg), Priya (76kg), Mulaym Yadav (70kg), Ashish (97kg), Mohit Kumar (61kg), Jaideep (74kg), Mahendran Gaikwad (125kg)

Bronze: Sito (57kg), Tanu (59kg), Sarika (62kg), Aman (57kg), Deepak (79kg), Jointy Kumar (86kg), Akash (92kg), Rohit Dahiya (82kg), Ankit Gulia (67kg)

Additional Information:

The Indian freestyle wrestlers has won the **2022 U-15 Asian Wrestling Championship** title held in Bahrain. The Indian wrestling team has bagged **4 gold, 2 silver, and 1 bronze** medal in freestyle wrestling.

145. International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the ICC Player of the Month awards for June 2022. **England's** in-form batter **Jonny Bairstow** has been named the ICC Men's Player of the Month while **South Africa's** power-hitting batter **Marizanne Kapp** has been named the ICC Women's Player of the Month.

146. Bhagwani Devi Dagar, a 94-year-old Indian sprinter, has won the gold medal in the **100m sprint** event with a timing of 24.74 seconds at the World Masters Athletics Championships held in Tampere, Finland. She has also won a bronze medal in shot put.

- World Masters Athletics Championships is an event for athletics (track and field) for athletes aged 35 years and over.

147. The 135th edition of the **2022 Wimbledon Championships**, a Grand Slam tennis tournament, has been held in London, United Kingdom. It usually takes place in Grass Outdoor Courts.

Novak Djokovic (Serbia) has won the Gentlemen's Singles title by defeating Nick Kyrgios (Australia). This was his 7th Wimbledon title and his 4th straight Wimbledon men's singles title.

Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan) has won the Ladies Singles title by defeating Ons Jabeur (Tunisia). She is the first player representing Kazakhstan to win a Grand Slam singles title. She was born in Russia but switched nationalities in 2018.

Other winners:

- **Gentlemen's doubles:** Matthew Ebden and Max Purcell (Australia)
- **Ladies doubles:** Barbora Krejčíková and Kateřina Siniaková (Czech Republic)
- **Mixed doubles:** Neal Skupski (UK), and Desirae Krawczyk (USA)

148. Indian cricketer, **Shikhar Dhawan** has collaborated with **Web3 fintech startup, Bliv.Club**, and Web3 metaverse startup, **WIOM** to launch the first sports city in the metaverse. The launch is scheduled for September 2022. The Sports city will be home to cricket stadiums, a sportsplex for watching games, a sports cafe, a gym, an e-sports area, cottages, running tracks, a first-of-its-kind 3D immersive sports museum, a sports library, an arena for other sports, and more.

Note: The global sports market is anticipated to expand at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 41.3 percent, from USD 354.96 billion in 2021 to **USD 501.43 billion** in 2022. At a CAGR of 9%, the sports market is anticipated to reach **USD 707.84 billion** in 2026.

- 149.** Ferrari's **Charles Leclerc (Monaco)** has won the **2022 Austrian Grand Prix** held in Spielberg, Austria. Red Bull's Max Verstappen has finished second and Mercedes's Lewis Hamilton has finished third in the event.
- 150.** The NMDC Limited, formerly known as National Mineral Development Corporation, and Hyderabad Runners Society along with IDFC First Bank and the Government of Telangana have launched the logo and unveiled the race t-shirt for the **2022 edition** of the **NMDC Hyderabad Marathon**. The NMDC has taken up the Title Sponsorship of the Hyderabad Marathon to be held on 27th and 28th August 2022. The Face of NMDC Hyderabad Marathon 2022 is Indian boxer **Ms. Nikhat Zareen**, who won the gold medal at the 2022 IBS Women's World Champion Boxing Championships.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- 151. National Students Day** is observed annually on **9th July** to commemorate the foundation of **Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP)**, a student organization. The year 2022 marks the 74th foundation day of ABVP. The ABVP was formally established on 9th July 1949 on the ideals of Swami Vivekananda in the form of student organization.
- 152. National Fish Farmers Day** is observed annually on **10th July** to demonstrate solidarity with all fisher folk, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders throughout the country. The year 2022 marks the observance of **22nd** National Fish Farmers Day. The day was first observed in 2001.
- The day also commemorate Professor **Dr Hiralal Chaudhury** and his colleague **Alikunhi** for their contribution in achieving the successful induced breeding of major carps on 10th July 1957 at Angul in Odisha for the first time in the country through the administration of carp pituitary hormone extract in the breeding of major carps.
- 153. World Population Day** is observed annually on **11th July** to raise awareness about global population issues. The United Nations Development Programme's Governing Council had established the 'World Population Day' in 1989 after the global population crossed five billion in 1987. The day was first observed in 1990.

- **Theme 2022:** "A world of 8 billion: Towards a resilient future for all – Harnessing opportunities and ensuring rights and choices for all"

154. International Malala Day is observed annually on **12th July** to honour the Nobel Laureate Malala Yousafzai, who works for women's right to education across the globe. Since July 12 was her birthday, therefore the United Nations promptly declared that the day will be celebrated as 'Malala Day' to honour the young activist.

Malala Yousafzai:

She was born in Mingora, Pakistan in 1997. She began advocating for women's education in 2008. In 2012, she was attacked by the Taliban. She was awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize** in **2014** in recognition of her efforts for children's rights which had begun even before she was shot. In 2015, an asteroid '**316201 Malala**' was named in honour of Malala Yousufzai. She has also authored a book titled '**We Are Displaced**' which chronicles her experiences of travelling the world and visiting refugee camps.

155. World Paper Bag Day is observed annually on **12th July** to create awareness about using paper bags instead of plastic to help reduce plastic pollution.

- **Francis Wolle**, an American inventor, created the first paper bag machine in **1852**. Later in 1871, Margaret E. Knight introduced another machine to generate flat-bottom paper bags. She became famous and came to be known as "the mother of the grocery bag". Over the years, several inventors came and improve the production of paper bags.

156. World Youth Skills Day is observed annually on **15th July** to highlight the importance of equipping young people with skills for employment and entrepreneurship. The day was first observed in 2015.

Theme 2022: Transforming youth skills for the future

**RRB CLERK
2022 PRELIMS**

Take a FREE Mock Test
Get Your All India Rank

PRACTICE MOCK

Other Important Study Material to help you with your preparation

- [Highlights of the Union Budget 2022-23- Download Free PDF - PracticeMock](#)
- [Daily Quantitative Aptitude | Reasoning | English | Current Affairs Quizzes for Banking & Government Exams](#)
- [Weekly Current Affairs- Download Free PDF](#)
- [Static GK- Download Free PDFs- For All Government, Banking Exams](#)
- [Important Days/Dates 2020-21 with Themes for Banking/ SSC/ RRB NTPC/Govt. Exams](#)
- [The Hindu Editorial Vocabulary- Download Free PDF](#)
- [Seating Arrangement Tips & Questions for Practice- Download PDF](#)
- [600+ Synonyms asked in Previous Years' SSC Exams- Download PDF](#)
- [How to Prepare for Banking/Financial Awareness? Download PDFs](#)
- [Download PDF- Syllogism- Only & Few Concepts & Questions](#)
- [Alphanumeric Series Free PDF- Tips & New Type Questions](#)
- [Inequalities PDF- Concept, Examples, Tricks & Expected Questions](#)
- [175+ Important SSC GK Questions asked in Last 15 Years- Download PDF](#)
- [Reading Comprehension Guide PDF- Strategy, Tips & Questions for Practice](#)
- [Simple/Compound Interest Tricks & Model Questions- PDF](#)
- [500 GA Previous Years' Questions PDF- Very Important for SSC CGL](#)
- [Parajumbles Concept, Tips & Questions for Practice- Download PDF](#)
- [A Guide to Master Your Vocabulary- Download Free PDF](#)
- [Coding-Decoding Concept, Tips & Questions for Practice- Download PDF](#)
- [Direction Sense- Concept, Tips & Questions for Practice- Download PDF](#)
- [Most Probable Current Affairs PDF- Very Important for the Upcoming Exams](#)
- [Analogy- Concept, Tips, Examples & Questions for Practice- Download Free PDF](#)
- [Quadratic Equation- Concept, Tips, Examples & Questions for Practice- Download PDF](#)
- [\[Updated\] List of Countries, Capitals & Currencies- Download Free PDF](#)
- [List of Firsts in India- Download Free PDF](#)
- [Computer Awareness- Abbreviations & File Extensions- Download Free PDF](#)