

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS



SEP 2023

Date: 11.09.23 - 17.09.23



National News

Launch of the Global Biofuel Alliance.

- **Indian Prime Minister Modi** launched the **Global Biofuels Alliance** at the G20 Leaders Summit in the national capital **New Delhi** on **September 9, 2023**.
- The Global Biofuels Alliance aims to be an important part of our quest towards **sustainability and clean and reliable energy** and soon the alliance will **create environment-friendly global sustainability initiatives**, the Prime Minister of India said at the conference and the Alliance is unique in that it is a major India-led initiative to build a **coalition of governments, international organizations and industry to facilitate the adoption of biofuels**.

REC has entered into an MoU with PFC for two financial years of development.

- **PFC** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **REC organization** under the **DPE Performance Evaluation Initiative – Development of Central Public Enterprises** for the **financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25**.
- These agreements were signed in the presence of **Vivek Kumar Devangan**, Chairman (CMD) of **REC**. According to this in the financial year **2023-24** nearly **Rs. 469.35 billion** and in **FY 2024-25** around **Rs. 563.22 billion** worth of **operations**, REC has entered into this agreement with the **objective of generating corporate revenue**. It is significant that REC belongs to the **Maharatna** division. Both **PFC** and **REC** are under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Power, Government of India**.

ONDC has entered into an MoU with the Kerala Transport Department.

- **The Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry** has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Department of**

Transport, Government of Kerala as a major initiative of the Department of Industry and Domestic Trade and Economic Development (**DPIIT**), Open Network for Digital Commerce (**ONDC**).

- The MoU was signed in the presence of the **Transport Minister on behalf of Kerala Government** and **Joshi (CBO)** on behalf of **ONDC**. The collaboration is said to be an **expansion of the one launched with KOMN in 2019**.
- It is significant that the agreement is aimed at creating an **integrated and accessible mobility ecosystem in the state** without any barriers.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the NextG Alliance and the Bharat 6G Alliance to explore opportunities for web collaboration.

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been entered into between **NextG Organization** and **Bharat 6G Organization** to explore and promote all-enterprise collaboration opportunities in **6G wireless technologies in India** and its dependent **regions** and rest of the **world**.
- It is significant that this MoU was signed in the presence of **ATIS NextG Alliance** President and CEO **Susan Miller** and **Bharat 6G Alliance** President **NG Subramaniam**. It is aimed at aligning research and development priorities that support the **country's common 6G vision** and building **secure and reliable telecommunications and supply chains**.

World's tallest fighter jet base to be set up in Ladakh

- **The Border Roads Organization (BRO)** said in a statement issued on **September 10** that the **world's highest combat airfield or base** is to be set up at **Nyoma** in India's Union Territory of **Ladakh**.



- **Union Defense Minister Rajnath Singh** is scheduled to lay the **foundation stone** for this important and historic development project on **September 12** and the airport, which will be built at a cost of around **₹218 crore**, is set up with the aim of **greatly improving aviation infrastructure in Ladakh**, BRO said.

Various development MoUs have been signed between the Governments of India and Saudi Arabia to explore research in industries.

- In a recent notification issued by the central government, more than **twenty MoUs** have been signed between **India** and **Saudi Arabia** to explore the development of **agriculture, education, information technology, pharmaceuticals, petrochemicals and human resource sectors**.
- It is significant that the Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between private companies of the two countries including **HP Company, Serum India Company, VFS Global and ICICI Bank**.

The Union Minister lays foundation stone for various development projects of school education and higher education sector in Dehradun.

- **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** inaugurated the **Vidya Samiksha Kendra** in **Dehradun**, the capital of **Uttarakhand** on **September 12**. In the same work he has laid the foundation stone of **141 PM-Shri Schools** and **3 Netaji Subhash Chandra Residential Schools** in the state.
- It is significant that **Uttarakhand** is the **second state** after **Gujarat** to start the **Vidya Samiksha Kendra system**. Also, it has been set up with the aim of providing information about the **education department** in the state easily to those who need it on the **Portal**.

DoT launches a scheme to expand FTTH network cables in rural areas.

- The **Union Department of Telecom** has launched a program to recognize **Internet Service Providers** for their **exceptional efforts** in expanding and improving **fiber-to-home fiber-to-home connectivity in small and marginal rural areas**.
- According to the **Ministry of Information and Communications**, the scheme aims to recognize three categories of **internet service providers - A, B and C** - that have provided the maximum number of connections in rural areas in a year.
- It is also said that in this recognition, the **name of the internet service providers along with the certificate will be displayed on the Portal of the Central Department of Communication** and this will be a **major initiative** to improve digital access and connectivity in rural areas.

First Global Symposium on Farmers' Rights Begins

- **Droupadi Murmu**, the President of India, inaugurated the **first global conference to study and promote farmers' rights** in the national capital **New Delhi** on **September 12**.
- In this program he mentioned farmers and agricultural workers as **ANNDATA**. Notably, India was the **first country in the world to include farmers' rights in the context of plant variety registration** through the **Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001**.

The 12th India-UK Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD) meeting was held in New Delhi.

- The **12th round of the India-UK Economic and Financial Forum** was held on **September 11** in the national capital, **New Delhi**.
- The two countries are aiming to strengthen their commitment to deepen and **enhance cooperative cooperation** in their **financial services** and to **support mutual mechanisms** for financial inclusion and **sustainable**



development. In this, it is considered very important that the two countries discuss macroeconomic development.

The Indian Navy and Uber have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Safe Travel.

- **The Indian Navy and Uber** have signed an MoU with the aim of **providing reliable, convenient, economical and secure mobility solutions** for personal and government travel of **naval personnel and their families across the country.**
- Under the initiative '**Ships First**', it is in line with CNS's vision of '**Happy Employees**' and is a **first of its kind in the tri-service armed forces.** It is seen as a **special part** of the central government's '**Digital India**' initiative to adopt technology for a **visionary transformation.**

NTPC Green Energy has entered into an MoU with Nayara Energy for production of green hydrogen.

- **NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL)**, a subsidiary of India's leading integrated power company **NTPC**, and **Nayara Energy**, a global new age international downstream energy company, have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) on **September 11, 2023.**
- These MoUs are aimed at exploring opportunities in the **green energy and green hydrogen space and producing green hydrogen** for captive use by **Nayara Energy**, accelerating decarbonisation activities and **promoting reduction of carbon footprint.**

An MoU has been entered into between NIT-C and IMHANS to study mental health issues among students.

- **National Institute of Technology, Kozhikode (NIT-C)** and **Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology (IMHANS), Kozhikode** have entered into an MoU on **11th September 2023**

to ensure and promote improved **mental health access** for school and college **students and teachers.**

- **Prasad Krishna, Director of NIT-C**, said that this MoU is aimed at improving the **mental health and well-being of students and teachers in Central and Higher Education Institutions.**

India is set to launch its first seagoing submersible 'Matsya 6000' in the Bay of Bengal.

- The Union government has mentioned in a recent notification that the submarine called "**Matsya 6000**" which means the **first incarnation of Vishnu** or the **giant fish**, will be launched in the **Bay of Bengal** off the coast of **Chennai in early 2024.**
- The indigenously-built ship will dive almost **6000 meters** underwater to search for **precious metals and minerals** like **manganese, cobalt and nickel**, the announcement said.

India's first C-295 MW transport aircraft launched.

- **The country's first C-295 MW transport aircraft** was formally handed over in **Seville, Spain** in the presence of the **Chief of the Indian Air Force, Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhary.** It is reported that this aircraft will be delivered to India by a **giant Airbus aircraft.**
- India has formalized the purchase of **56 Airbus C-295 aircraft** for the **Indian Air Force** to replace **AVRO** and as part of the deal, **Airbus** is ready to deliver the **first 16 aircraft to Seville.** Notably, all **C-295 aircraft** will be equipped with an indigenous "**Electronic Warfare Suite**" in the transport configuration.

Prime Minister Modi is going to lay the foundation stone for various development projects worth Rs 50,700 crore in Madhya Pradesh.

- **Prime Minister Modi** is scheduled to visit **Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh** on **September 14** to lay the **foundation stone** for



various development projects worth nearly **50,700 crore** rupees in the state of **Madhya Pradesh**.

- Accordingly, Prime Minister Modi is going to dedicate to the country important **railway sector projects** worth about **6 thousand 350 crores** in the state of **Chhattisgarh**. The central government announced that these projects include nearly ten new industrial projects across the state, including a **petrochemical complex** at the **Pina Refinery of Bharat Petroleum Corporation**, and will be a stepping stone for **economic growth and job creation**.

The Union Ministry of Labor and Employment has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with various private employment portals.

- **The Ministry of Labor and Employment** has on **September 12** entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with India's leading private **placement portals, companies, employers and skill providers** to integrate with the **National Career Service (NCS)** website of the **Ministry of Labor and Employment** to promote job opportunities and related services to **youth and job seekers** in the country.
- It is to be noted that this **MoU** has been entered into with the aim of ensuring that **youths and job seekers registered on the NCS Portal** can apply for such vacancies without any hindrance.

The Union Minister has launched 90 - border infrastructure projects.

- **Union Defense Minister Rajnath Singh** is laying the **foundation stones** for various **developmental projects** aimed at providing **all-weather connectivity** to the **strategic Tawang area** of **Arunachal Pradesh** state and improving the roads from the **Nechipu tunnel** to a major **military airport at Neoma in eastern Ladakh**.

- Notably, these projects, launched on **September 12**, include **90 border infrastructure** developments across **11 states and union territories**.
- It is significant that these plans are designed to improve connectivity for **rapid movement of troops and equipment across the Line of Actual Control**.

MoU signed between Bokaro plant and NBCC India.

- An **MoU** has been entered into with **Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL)** and **Jharkhand Group of Mines** to provide project **management services** for **NBCC city area** and undertake **repair and maintenance services of city infrastructure**.
- It is significant that the **MoU** was signed in the presence of **Rourkela Plant Director Atanu Bhowmick**.

President of India Ayushman Bhav campaign is set to launch.

- **President of India Draupadi Murmu** is scheduled to launch a major promotion campaign, **Ayushman Bhav**, in the national capital **New Delhi on September 13**.
- **Union Health Minister Dr. Mandavia** mentioned that this initiative is a **comprehensive health initiative** of a nationwide scale. It is notable that **health services** are designed to reach **every village and town in the country**.

The Union Minister has launched a Portal to monitor Special Campaign 3.0.

- **Union Minister of State for Personnel and Pensions Dr. Jitendra Singh** launched a dedicated **Portal (<https://scdpm.nic.in>)** to monitor **Special Campaign 3.0** on **14th September 2023**.
- It is significant that the central government has announced a **special campaign 3.0** from **2nd October to 31st October this year** with a focus



on reducing arrears in **all government offices** with a modern approach to **Swachhata and Enrichment**.

Haryana Chief Minister has launched the Portal for Mukhyamantri Shehri Awas Scheme.

- **Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal on September 13 2023** launched the Portal for Mukhyamantri Shehri Awas Scheme. The Chief Minister said that this is a visionary initiative aimed at devising a government mechanism for **every economically weaker section** and people in the state.
- It is also notable that it is designed to reflect the state government's commitment to modern and efficient housing solutions and to incorporate **state-of-the-art technologies** in **all construction processes**.

Visakhapatnam Port Authority has got the third position in cargo transportation of the country.

- In a recent review conducted by the **Union Ministry of Shipping and Waterways, Ports, the Visakhapatnam Port Authority(VPA)** has been **ranked third in the country's cargo transport rankings**, according to a recent Union government order.
- The list has been compiled by the Union Ministry of Shipping and Waterways, Ports recently after conducting a survey on the performance of ports from **April to July 2023**.

The Union Cabinet has approved Rs 9589 crore worth of foreign investment in Seven Pharmaceuticals.

- **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** chaired by Prime Minister Mr. Modi on **September 13, 2023** approved the proposal of foreign investment worth nearly **Rs.9589 crore in Seven Pharmaceuticals in Cyprus region**.
- The Central government has stated that the scheme has been evaluated by **CCI, SEBI, RBI**

and other **business related institutions** and the approval has been given after examining the proposal of the concerned departments, **RBI** and subject to compliance of **all applicable rules and regulations in this regard**.

DIVYA KALAMELA 2023 is scheduled to be held on September 15.

- **The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)** has organized 'Divya Kala Mela 2023' with the aim of showcasing the products and **craftsmanship of Divyang artisan/entrepreneurs across India**.
- The event is scheduled to be held from **September 15 to September 24** in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**. Also, the show promises to provide an **exhilarating experience to the visitors** as vibrant products from various parts of the country including **Jammu and Kashmir, North Eastern states, handicrafts, embroidery work, handlooms and packaged food** will be seen together.

Union Minister Shri Pradhan has launched Skill India Digital Portal.

- To ensure that every Indian has easy access to **entrepreneurship support, quality skill development and relevant opportunities**, **Union Education and Skill Development Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan** on **September 13** launched a comprehensive digital platform called **Skill India Digital (SID)**.
- The platform is designed to expand and improve the country's **employment, skills, education and entrepreneurship landscape, industry-specific skill courses** and entrepreneurship support, the Union Minister said.



India and Japan Plan to Enhance Bilateral Internet Cooperation

- The Governments of **India** and **Japan** on **September 14** discussed key areas of **bilateral Internet cooperation development**. It was presided over by **Muanpuii Saiawi**, Joint Secretary, **Ministry of External Affairs**, on behalf of the **Government of India**.
- The purpose of this meeting is to review and improve the progress achieved in the field of communication technologies including **cyber security** and **5G technology**. It is also notable that the **Sixth India-Japan Cyber Summit** is scheduled to be held in **New Delhi in 2024**.

DMRC and BEL have entered into an MoU to develop a communication-based train control system in the country.

- **The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)** has entered into a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **Bharat Electronics Company (BEL)** to develop an **indigenous communication-based train control system in India**.
- This will foster an era of self-reliance, development and innovation in the **field of domestic train control signaling systems**, said a **September 2023 report** issued by **BEL**.

Union Minister hangs up second edition of ICAR-CIBA Shrimp Farmers Conference for 2023

- Union Minister of Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Dairying **Shri Parshotham Rupala** inaugurated the **second edition** of **ICAR-CIBA Prawn Farmers Conference 2023** in **Gujarat State** on **14th September 2023**.
- The conference is being held at **Navsari Agricultural University** campus in the state. It is also significant that about **410 aquatic farmers** are participating in the coastal districts of the state.

The 2023 Indo-Pacific Chiefs of Staff Conference (IPAC) is set to begin in New Delhi.

- **The 2023 Indo-Pacific Chiefs of Staff Conference (IPAC)** is scheduled to begin on **September 25** in India's national capital, **New Delhi**. The conference is a **two-day conference** that will be held from **September 25 to September 27**.
- Indian Army Chief **Manoj Pandey** has invited Bangladesh Army Chief **SM Shafiuddin** to attend the conference on **September 14**.
- With this invitation, the existing relationship between the Bangladesh and Indian armies is expected to be strengthened in the future. It is also significant that this conference is being held with the aim of **ensuring regional multilateral security partnership**.

Prime Minister Modi will dedicate 'YashoBhoomi' at Dwarka on September 17.

- According to a recent notification issued by the **Gujarat State Government**, Prime Minister Modi is going to dedicate the '**YashoBhoomi**' in **Dwarka**, the main city of **Gujarat**, to the country on **September 17**.
- It is notable that **Phase 1** of the **India Exhibition and International Convention Center** called '**YashoBhoomi**' is in operation. Also, in that special event, he is scheduled to inaugurate the project to extend the **Delhi Airport Metro Express route from Dwarka Sector 21 to Dwarka Sector 25 to the new metro station**, according to the notification.

PM Modi to launch PM Vishwakarma Scheme

- **Indian Prime Minister Modi** is scheduled to launch the "**PM Vishwakarma Scheme**" on the occasion of **Vishwakarma Jayanti** on **September 17, 2023** at the **India International Convention and Exhibition Center** complex in the national capital, **New Delhi**.



- The scheme aims to not only **financially support artisans** in **urban** and **rural areas** across the country, but also to keep alive the culture, age-old tradition and variety of **heritage**, and to make progress through **arts and crafts** including **local products**.

Vande Bharat Sleeper System Train Introduction Project.

- **The Indian Railways** will soon introduce the **first version of Vande Bharat Bed System (Sleeper)** trains.
- According to a recent notification issued by the **Central Railway Department**, the Vande Bharat train of this type will be manufactured in the **current financial year** and rolled out in **March 2024**. It will be a **12-coach train** of Vande Metro and will be used for **short distance travel**, the notification said.

A Sambhota fair and Exhibition are organized.

- **The Embassy of India in Nepal** along with **Nepal Buddhist Federation** and **India-Nepal Foundation** have jointly organized a **two-day exhibition and conference** on "**Sambhota or Bodhi Script**" at the **Nepal Arts Forum in Kathmandu**, the capital of Nepal.
- It is notable that the "**Sambhota script**" was mainly developed by **Acharya Sambhota** after the **sixth century** in **Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet** and **India** to transmit the sermons of the **Great Buddha**.

Infosys is the only Indian company in the top 100 list of world's best companies.

- **Infosys** has recently secured the status of being the **only Indian company to feature in the World's Top 100 Companies for 2023 ranking** jointly published by **online data platform Statista** and renowned **Time magazine**.
- It is notable that India's IT company **Infosys** is **ranked 64th** with a score of almost **88.38 out of**

100 in this ranking list. In this list, **Apple, Microsoft** and **Alphabet** lead the rankings and are seen as special.

CSIR-NIScPR is planning to organize a conference on 'Scientific Knowledge Convention Event'.

- **CSIR-NIScPR** has organized a conference titled '**Scientific Knowledge Convention Event**' on **15th September 2023** in the national capital **New Delhi**.
- **Dr. Ranjana Aggarwal, Director, CSIR-NIScPR**, organized the event. It is notable that the conference is organized under the flagship initiative of **CSIR organization One Week One Lab**. The initiative is running on the theme that "**Research initiatives always create a social impact**".

International news

Olympic champion Mudras has been chosen as Qatar's Tourism Brand Ambassador.

- The country has mentioned in its latest announcement that the **world and Olympic champion Mutaz Barshim** has been selected as the **New advertising or Brand ambassador** on behalf of the **country's tourism sector**.
- Notably, he recently became the **only high jumper to win five World Series Championship medals**. He will be the **new face of Qatar Tourism's campaigns** from **September 2023 to September 2024**, the announcement said.

The US and Vietnam have signed a memorandum of understanding to expand the country's industry.

- **The United States and Vietnam** have recently entered into a memorandum of understanding on **semiconductor supply chains** to expand and improve the capacity of the **semiconductor ecosystem in regional areas** based in the **Hanoi region** to support the **two countries**, and particularly the **U.S. industry**.



- In a **White House statement** released on **September 11**, the MoU aims to **build and improve Vietnam's strong semiconductor supply chains**.

The documentary "Touch Me Not" was released at the **23rd Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology**.

- A **documentary** produced by the **Jindal Institute of Behavioral Sciences**, which examines the widespread problem of indecent touching in public places in **India** and includes solutions, has been released at the **23rd annual conference of the European Society of Criminology**.
- It is notable that the documentary was released by **Professor Stephan Parmentier, Secretary General of the International Criminology Association in Florence, Italy** at the **three-day conference**. The **30-minute documentary** explores the **widespread problem of sexually inappropriate touching in public spaces across India**.

The **Indian High Commission in Dhaka** has launched an initiative called "**Musical Soiree**".

- The **Indira Gandhi Cultural Center (IGCC)** in **Dhaka**, the capital of **Bangladesh** and the **Indian High Commission in Dhaka** have organized a **musical extravaganza** called '**Musical Soiree**' on **September 11, 2023** at **Chhayanat Maidan Complex, Dhaka**.
- The initiative was taken in the presence of renowned **classical singer Pandit Alope Sen**. This is an expression of the cultural traditions of the two countries and the friendship between the two countries has been mentioned in a recent notification issued by the **Indian Supreme Council**.

Dhaka and Paris have entered into MoU for various sectoral developments.

- **Dhaka and Paris** signed two MoUs on **September 12, 2023** to enhance cooperation in various sectors including the country's economic infrastructure and satellite.
- It is notable that this MoU was signed in **Dhaka**, the capital of **Bangladesh**, in the presence of **Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina** and **French President Emmanuel Macron**.
- After **33 years**, **Macron** became the **first French president to visit Bangladesh**. The two countries agreed to work together in various fields such as **economic development and climate change**.

Intelsat and Aalyria have entered into agreements to develop optical technology for advanced space connectivity.

- **Satellite technology (satcom)** company **Intelsat** and **California-based Aalyria** have recently signed a commercial agreement to **develop new optical technology** to exchange data between **ground and space**.
- Notably, the MoU is aimed at taking the technology to the next level through **software-defined algorithms, 5G and multi-layer operations enabling cellular and optical technology connections**.

Introducing the Portal PM DAKSH.

- On **September 11, 2023**, the central government launched a **Portal called PM DAKSH-DEPwD**. It aims to act as a "**One-Stop Digital Destination**" where all differently-abled people across the country can access jobs offered by various companies.
- It is significant that it aims to initially add **nearly 25,000 jobs** to the **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) Portal** under the **Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**.



Tharman Shanmugaratnam takes charge as the President of Singapore.

- **Tharman Shanmugaratnam**, a prominent Singaporean-born economist of Indian origin, has been elected as the country's president days after being overwhelmingly elected as the head of state. It is also reported that he will take charge as the **Ninth President of the country on September 14, 2023.**
- The 66-year-old was elected president in the recent elections. It is notable that he has won almost **70.4 percent of the 2.48 million votes cast by local voters in the country.** It is seen as special that **Singapore's overwhelmingly Chinese community** has supported him.

China has become the first country to appoint an ambassador to the new country of Afghanistan under Taliban rule.

- It has appointed **Zhao Sheng** as its official diplomatic envoy to the country in a ceremony held in **Kabul**, the capital of **Afghanistan**. With this, **China became the first country** to formally and officially announce a **new ambassador to Afghanistan** after the **Taliban takeover.**
- **China's foreign ministry** said in a statement that it was a "**Regular Rotation**" of the Chinese ambassador to Afghanistan after the event recently became controversial. It is significant that no foreign government has yet officially recognized the Taliban.

Hygenco has signed a memorandum of understanding for green hydrogen projects in the Middle East region.

- **Hygenco Green Energies**, a green hydrogen capabilities company, recently announced that it has entered into a memorandum of understanding with **Al Jomaih Energy and Water (AEW)** to explore and develop **green hydrogen projects** in the **Middle East region.**

- It is to be noted that this agreement was made at the recently held **India-Saudi Investment Forum meeting for 2023.**

State news

Mahatma Gandhi statue unveiled in Assam.

- **Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sharma** on **September 11** unveiled a **statue of honorable Mahatma Gandhi** at the state new assembly complex in Assam's main city **Guwahati.**
- The **five-day autumn session of the Assam State Legislative Assembly** began on **September 11.** It is also significant that this is the **first time** that the meeting will be held in the **newly constructed Assam Assembly building** in **Guwahati.**

The Gujarat government has entered into nearly 7 MoUs worth Rs 4,000 crore.

- **The Gujarat state government** on **September 12** signed nearly seven Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to create over **25,000 jobs** worth an investment of **Rs 4,000 crore** in the state.
- In this especially **Shyam Fashion India Company** Projects worth **Rs 103.25 crore** have been earmarked in **Gangad village of Bavla taluk of Ahmedabad district** which is considered special. Because the state government has said that it will start functioning by **March 2024** and as a result nearly **150 people will get jobs.**

An exhibition titled 'Bharat: Mother of Democracy' has been set up.

- **The Union Ministry of Culture**, Government of India has organized a **historic exhibition** titled '**Bharat: Mother of Democracy**' on the premises of the **G20 Summit** held from **September 8 to 10.**



- It best brings the **history of democracy in India** through **26 interactive panels** on one side of the channel where the audience can easily read the content in more than **12 languages** and listen to the **audio in 16 different languages**. It is also notable that it includes **photos & statues and cinematography of historic events in modern India** including **elections, group local self-government, Krishna Deva Raya, Jain Dharma**.

The fourth G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group meeting begins in Varanasi.

- **The 4th G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group meeting** is scheduled to begin on **September 14** in **Varanasi**, the important city of **Uttar Pradesh** state, to finalize the **G20 Sustainable Finance Report for 2023**.
- **SFWG** – The meeting mainly focused on outlining **three priority themes**.
 - 1. Mechanisms for climate finance
 - 2. Process financing for **sustainable development goals**
 - 3. To improve the capacity of the ecosystem to finance towards sustainable development of the country.

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann laid the foundation stone for Saragarhi Memorial Complex in Ferozepur.

- On **September 12**, tributes were paid to the soldiers who lost their lives in the **battle of Saragarhi** in **Amritsar, Ferozepur** and other parts of **Punjab**. Also at the memorial, **Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann** laid the **foundation stone** for a **Saragarhi memorial** at **Ferozepur** and announced that the project would be completed within the **next six months**.
- It is notable that almost **126 years ago**, on **September 12, 1897**, **21 brave soldiers** of the **36th Sikh Infantry Regiment** of the **British-Indian Army** died a heroic death fighting

against around **10,000 Afghani tribesmen**. The **36th Sikh Regiment** is currently known as the **4th Sikh Regiment of the Indian Army**.

Vice President Dhankhar to inaugurate International Conference on Dam Safety in Jaipur.

- According to a recent statement issued by the **Central Government**, **Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar** will inaugurate the **International Conference on Dam Safety** at **Jaipur** in the state of **Rajasthan** on **September 14, 2023**.
- The conference aims to provide a platform for experts from various countries to gather and discuss **cutting-edge topics related to dam safety and management**.
- India has almost more than **six thousand dams** and accordingly it **ranks third globally in terms of large dams** and it is significant that approximately **80 percent of these dams are more than 25 years old**.

A plan to set up 'Unity Campus' in Guwahati at a cost of Rs.226 crores.

- With the aim of establishing and promoting national integration and taking the theme of **'Make in India'** forward, it has been mentioned in the latest order issued by the state government that it has been planned to set up **'Unity Mall' (Ekta Mall)** which means unity custom in **Assam's main city Guwahati** at a cost of **Rs.200 crore**.
- It has announced that the project will be an important part of promoting the concept of **'One District One Product'** which was introduced in the **initial phase of this year**.

It has launched a scheme called 'Nandini Krishak Samridhhi Yojana' to increase milk production.

- **Uttar Pradesh Government** has recently launched a scheme called **Nandini Krishak Samridhhi Yojana** under **Nand Baba Mission**

to improve the breed of cattle and thereby increase milk production in the state.

- The scheme was launched by the Chief Minister of State, **Yogi Adityanath**, and the main objective of the scheme is to **improve the breed of cows to increase the income of dairy farmers and increase milk production.**

The fourth G20 Global Cooperation Summit on Financial Inclusion begins in Mumbai.

- **The fourth G20 Global Cooperation Summit on Financial Inclusion will begin on 14 September 2023 in Mumbai, the capital of the state of Maharashtra.**
- The meeting is planned to be held for 3 days. It is notable that the conference is planned to hold discussions on the ongoing work of the financial inclusion agenda under the leadership of G20 India in the areas of SME finance and digital financial inclusion.

The Governor of Nagaland has launched a major initiative, Ayushman Bhav, in Kohima.

- The Governor of Nagaland state **La Ganesan** has launched the country's flagship promotion campaign on **13th September 2023** called **Ayushman Bhav.**
- The initiative has been launched at the **Raj Bhavan** in the state capital **Kohima**. It is a revolutionary initiative aimed at **providing high-quality medical and healthcare facilities** to every citizen of the country.

The State GST Amendment Bill has been passed in the Gujarat State Assembly.

- **The Gujarat Goods and Services Tax Amendment Bill was unanimously passed** in the state assembly on **September 13, 2023**. This bill has been introduced by the state **finance minister Kanubhai Desai.**
- The finance minister said that this amendment has been made with the aim of **regulating**

online gaming and preventing the ill effects of it on the youth. It said that **GST would be levied at 28 percent** on claims made for horse racing, lottery and casinos and that an **Appellate Authority** would be set up at the **state level** to deal with appeals in this regard.

The Prime Minister has launched railway sector projects worth nearly six thousand crore rupees in the state of Chhattisgarh.

- **Indian Prime Minister Modi** will dedicate to the nation on **September 14, 2023**, various major railway sector projects worth nearly **Rs.6,000 crore** at **Raigarh** in **Chhattisgarh** to inspire the Prime Minister's commitment to the **nation in improving connectivity across the country.**
- Among these projects, the 3rd rail line between Chamba to Jamka, Chhattisgarh East Rail Project Phase-I, **the 3rd rail line from Pendra Road to Paddur** and the projects to connect the **Thalipalli coal mine to NTPC Laura super thermal power station** are seen as important.

The Maharashtra Governor is set to inaugurate the 4th edition of the World Trade Fair in 2023.

- **Maharashtra State Governor Ramesh Bais** has inaugurated the **4th edition of World Trade Fair 2023** for global business linkages for **MSMEs.**
- The expo is scheduled to take place from **October 3 to October 4** at **Cuffe Parade** in **Mumbai**. It is also notable that the **All India Industry Association (AIAI)** and **World Trade Center Mumbai** have jointly organized this event with an aim to highlight technology as a key driver of tourism.



The Uttarakhand state government has entered into an MoU with an investment worth Rs.2,600 crore.

- The Uttarakhand Global Investors Summit kicked off on **September 14** in the national capital, **New Delhi**. The Uttarakhand state government signed MoUs with **Resorts India** and **Mahindra Holidays** for various **development projects worth nearly Rs 1,000 crore at the event**.
- It is significant that these MoUs have been entered into with the aim of providing various facilities for the **youth and job seekers** in the **state, rural and urban management, construction of hostels and water stations**.

The historic Sankri Devta Mela has begun in Udhampur.

- **Sankri Devta Mela**, a major festival of historical significance in **Jammu and Kashmir**, started on **September 15, 2023** at Meer, a **village in Block Panjari area of Udhampur district**.
- This mela can be held for **three days**. On the first day of this, a "**Dangal**" is held very well and it is considered special. Also, during this year's festival, the central government has announced that various **sector-specific arenas** will be set up in this mela to **create awareness among the people about the welfare schemes of the central government**.

The West Bengal government and La Liga have signed an MoU to promote football in the state.

- The **Spanish Football League** said in a statement on **September 15** that the **West Bengal state government and La Liga** have signed a memorandum of understanding for **mutual cooperation to promote the state's football**.
- It is notable that the MoU was signed in **Madrid** in the presence of **La Liga president Javier**

Debas and **Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee** representing the Indian state.

Chief Minister Stalin has launched **Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam** in **Kanchipuram**.

- On **September 15, 2023**, on the occasion of the birthday of former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and founder of **Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam(DMK) CN Annadurai**, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister **M.K. Stalin's** major initiative was the launch of the "**Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam**".
- It is seen as special that the scheme is aimed at providing entitlement subsidies of around **₹1,000 per month** to nearly **1.06 crore household heads in Tamil Nadu**.

Madhya Pradesh government has decided to provide **LPG cylinders at Rs.450**.

- In the state of **Madhya Pradesh**, under the **Pradhanmantri Ujjawala** scheme and **Mukhyamantri Laadli Behna Yojana**, the state government has announced that all women registered in the state will get "**household gas cylinders**" worth **Rs 450**.
- **Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** has launched the registration process for this flagship program on **September 15, 2023** and the state government and other concerned agencies and departments will **re-deposit this additional amount** in the bank account of the eligible women of the state and they will start getting a **household cylinder for almost just 450 rupees per month**, the chief minister said.

The **Prime Minister of India** has launched various **development projects worth around ₹ 3,055 crore in Chhattisgarh**.

- According to a recent official statement issued by **SECL**, Prime Minister Modi dedicated **Phase-I of South East Coal Company (SECL) Eastern Railway Project**, constructed at a cost



of ₹ 3,055 crore at Raigarh in Chhattisgarh, to the nation on **September 15**.

- It is notable that this **124 km stretch between Dharamjaygarh and Kharsia** is aimed at transporting all materials including coal and other raw materials from **SECL's coal mines and Mand-Raigat coal mines** spread across the district around **Raigarh region** to various end-use projects including **power generation projects**.

Appointments

NAILEA was appointed as REVLON's global Brand Ambassador.

- Globally renowned consumer products services provider **Revlon** has announced in its latest that it has appointed **Nylia Devora** as its **Global Brand Ambassador**.
- It has been mentioned that he has worked as the **face of Revlon until 2024**.



Appointment of Jingyuan as director of Lithium Universe.

- In its latest announcement, it has appointed **Dr Jingyuan Liu**, a technologist, as the **sole or Independent managing director of Australia-based Lithium Universe (LU7)**, a lithium exploration company.
- It is notable that before this appointment, he worked as the **General Manager of the Company's Management and Technology Division at Galaxy Resources**. It is reported that he has more than **30 years of technical experience** and will strive for organizational excellence through his consistent activities.



LRN Corporation has appointed Dean Rogers as Senior Vice President.

- **LRN Corporation**, a leader in ethics and procedural compliance solutions, announced in a recent announcement that it has appointed **Dean Rogers** as **senior vice president** of the **Asia-Pacific region** to drive and improve the company's ethical performance.
- Based in the **Tokyo office**, he will lead LRN's business development and client team across the **Asia-Pacific region**, overseeing teams in **Singapore, Japan, Hong Kong and Australia**.

Rojansky was appointed as Mobileye's CFO.

- **Mobileye Global**, a global technology maker for self-driving technology, has announced in its latest announcement that it has appointed **Moran Rojansky** as its **Chief Financial Officer** effective **September 12, 2023**.
- It is significant that this appointment has been made after he stepped down from this position **last June**. The **43-year-old** has been working with the **Israel-based company** since **2016** and is expected to improve the company through his **serious actions**, the company said in the announcement.

Subhash Chandra Jose has been appointed as the New Managing Director of the EBRD.

- The **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)** in its latest announcement has appointed **Subhash Chandra Jose** as its **New Managing Director for Information Technology**.
- He assumed this responsibility on **September 12**, it is mentioned in the notification. He will also be responsible for all aspects of the **Bank's**





Information Technology (IT) operations and modern digital initiatives.

Mita Vashisth was appointed as Chairman of Haryana Film and Entertainment Policy Organisation.

- **The State Government** has appointed renowned **film actress Mita Vashisth** as the **Chairperson** of the Governing Body constituted for the implementation and supervision of the **Haryana State Film and Entertainment Policy Organisation.**



- Notably, this appointment comes after the demise of previous actor **Satish Kaushik**. The state government has announced that he is expected to **improve the company with his extensive experience.**

Gangadharan appointed as Vice-Chairman of Nasscom.

- **Sindhu Gangadharan** has been appointed as the **Vice-Chairman** of the **National Corporation for Software and Services Corporation (NASCOM)**, according to a recent notification issued by the corporation.
- It is to be noted that prior to this appointment he served as **Managing Director** and **Senior Vice President of SAP Labs India**. In his new role, he is expected to leverage his experience in **technology** and **corporate leadership** to help shape **TechAde India**, the announcement said.



Shafali Verma has been appointed as the advertising ambassador of CEAT .

- India's leading tire manufacturer **CEAT** recently announced **legendary Indian cricketer Shafali Verma** as its **brand ambassador** in a major move to strengthen its **association with cricket.**

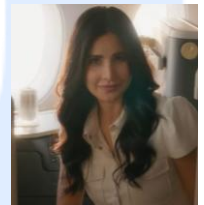
- Notably, at the **age of 15, Shafali** made history as the **youngest**



cricketer to represent India. It is significant that through this appointment **she will improve for the betterment of the organization.**

Katrina Kaif appointed as Etihad Airways' advertising ambassador.

- **Etihad Airways**, the national airline of the UAE, has appointed **Bollywood star Katrina Kaif** as its **new brand ambassador**, the company said in an announcement in **September 2023.**
- With this appointment, he will improve the company according to his **major initiatives.**



Santosh Jha appointed as India's new High Commissioner to Sri Lanka.

- In a recent notification issued on **September 14**, the **Union Ministry of External Affairs** mentioned that **Santosh Jha** has been appointed as the next and new **High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka.**
- It is notable that he is a **1993 batch IFS officer** and currently serving as Indian Ambassador to Belgium. It is notable that he has previously served as Ambassador of the Government of India to Luxembourg, Belgium and the European Union.



Rajnish Appointed as Chairman of Mastercard India

- **MasterCard**, a global technology services provider in the payments and disbursements sector, has announced the appointment of **Rajnish Kumar**, former chairman of the



renowned **State Bank of India (SBI)**, as the head of **MasterCard India** in **September 2023**.



- One of India's most renowned players in the banking industry, he is expected to enhance the company through his consistent actions, the company said.

Alkem Laboratories appoints Vikas Gupta as CEO

- Globally renowned **Alkem Laboratories** has appointed **Dr. Vikas Gupta** as its CEO, the company said in a statement on **September 15**.
- He will take charge of this post on **September 22**, the notification said. He has been selected for this post on the recommendation of the **Nomination and Remuneration Committee** of the company and will enhance the company through his key activities, the statement said.

Appointment of Rahul Navin as Director-in-Charge of ED.

- **Rahul Navin**, the country's **top IRS officer**, has been appointed as the **Director-in-Charge** of the **Enforcement Directorate (ED)**, according to a recent notification issued by the central government.
- The post was appointed on **September 15, 2023**, following the expiry of the tenure of **Sanjay Kumar Mishra**, the current incumbent, the notification said. It is reported that he will remain in **charge until further orders**.



Awards

Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Awards 2022 Selection List Released

- The list of **Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Awards**, the country's **best annual science**

award for nearly **two years**, was released on **September 11, 2023**.

- The announcement mentioned that **12 scientists** will receive the awards in **seven categories** this year. It is notable that these awards are presented in **seven scientific disciplines: Biology, Physics, Engineering, Mathematics, Chemistry, Medicine, and Earth Sciences**. It is considered special that these awards are presented **annually in the name of Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar, the first Director of CSIR**.

SJVN director Akhileshwar has bagged the best CFO award for 2023.

- **Akhileshwar Singh**, Director, SJVN has been awarded under the category of **Best CFO in Power Industry for the year 2023** by **Dalal Street Investment Journal (DSIJ)** on **September 14, 2023** in the national capital, **New Delhi**.
- It is notable that under his financial expertise, the market capitalization of SJVN **increased by 54.41%** and the **company's profit after tax increased by 32.67%**. It is also reported that he will improve the company through his regular activities.

Technology provider ISG-L&T and CNBC TV-18 jointly launched the second Digital Engineering Awards.

- **L&T Technology**, a leading global digital engineering and R&D services provider, announced on **September 15, 2023** that India-based research and consultancy **CNBC TV-18 and Information Services Group (ISG)** are planning to announce the **second annual Global Digital Engineering Awards**.
- The awards recognize business and technical excellence that shapes a better and more sustainable world through **transformative ideas that leverage digital engineering**.



The "Plasma Arc" photo has won the "Best Astronomy Photographer" award for 2023.

- A photograph of a giant "Plasma Arc" next to the **Andromeda galaxy**, the closest "Massive Spiral-like System" to our Milky Way, has won the September 2023 "Best Astronomy Photographer of the Year" award for the **Amateur Astronomers Group**.
- Titled "Andromeda, the Unexpected", the photo depicts a **giant plasma arc next to the Andromeda plume**. It is notable that the photograph was taken by **Yann Sainty, Marcel Drechsler and Xavier Strottner**.
 - **Andromeda - The closest "Spiral Galaxy" to our Milky Way.**

Science and Technology

The world's first dog-fox hybrid "Dogxim" has been discovered.

- **The world's first dog-fox hybrid**, dubbed "Dogxim", has recently been discovered in **Brazil**.
- A study on this was published in **September 2023**, and according to the notification, **Dogxim** was an over-sized creature with large, thick, pointed ears, wire fur and a long, thin muzzle, and was unlikely to cause any harm to the general public.

Economic news

Indian Bank has launched an initiative called 'IB SAATHI'.

- Central Public Sector Institution **Indian Bank** on **September 16 2023** announced the country's flagship initiative 'IB SAATHI' to provide an **integrated ecosystem to all stakeholders** in the financial sector through business and economists.
- It is significant that this initiative has been initiated by the **Chief Executive Officer of the bank, SL Jain. (IB-Sustainable Access and Aligning Technology for Holistic Inclusion**

(SAATHI)) - It aims to provide **enhanced user experience** to customers by providing **basic services and value-added offerings**.

Sports news

India has won the silver medal in the 2023 Archery World Cup.

- **Archery World Cup 2023** finals Indian archer **Prathamesh Jawkar** retained his **Silver Medal** after a tough fight.
- It is significant that **India's World No. 14 Jawkar** retained the **gold medal** by competing against **Denmark's Mathias Fullerton**, who is ranked **No. 10**.

Important day

National Forest Martyrs Day 2023

- **National Forest Martyrs Day** is observed on **11th September** every year to honor and respect those who sacrificed their lives to protect all the **forests and its wildlife in the country**.
- It is also commonly observed as the anniversary of the **1730 Khejarli Massacre**. It is significant because in this massacre, **nearly 363 Bishnoi villagers were killed while protecting the trees**. This day is observed with the general concept of **Honoring Sacrifice**.

Hindi Diwas (or) Hindi Day

- **National Hindi Diwas or National Hindi Day** is observed on **14th September** every year to commemorate the **constitutional adoption of Hindi** as one of **India's official languages**.
- It is significant that on **14th September 1949 Hindi** was accepted as the **official language** of the country under the Constitution of the country. The day recognizes the role of **Hindi in preserving the country's cultural heritage and promoting national unity**.



International day of democracy 2023

- **The United Nations General Assembly** has announced that every year **September 15th** is declared as the **International Day of Democracy** with the aim of **promoting the principles of universal democracy** to all countries and establishing its superiority worldwide.
- **Empowering the next generation** is the theme for this year. It is significant that this day is based on the **Declaration for Universal Democracy** adopted by the **Inter-Parliamentary Union** on **15 September 1997**.

India Engineer's Day 2023

- The birthdate of **Dr. Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya**, who is known as **India's first civil engineer**, is observed as National Engineers Day across the country.
- **Engineering for a Sustainable Future** is the theme for this year. The birth anniversary of **Bharat Ratna awardee Dr. M Visvesvaraya** in **1955** was declared as **Engineers Day in 1968** by the Government of India and it is significant that apart from India, Engineers Day is also celebrated on the same day in **Sri Lanka and Tanzania**.

World Ozone Day 2023

- **World Ozone Day** is observed on **16th September** every year to raise awareness about the depletion of the **ozone layer** and to identify and **develop solutions to protect it**.
- It is significant that this commemorates the key declaration date of the signing of the **Montreal Protocol** on Substances that **Deplete the Ozone Layer in 1987**. The **ozone layer (O3)** blocks much of the sun's **highly harmful ultraviolet radiation** and **protects the world's population from cataracts and skin cancer**.

World Patient Safety Day 2023

- Every year **September 17th** is observed as "**World Patient Safety Day**" to raise awareness of **global patient safety, reduce harm to patients in hospitals** and increase **global understanding** of their safety.
- It is notable that this day has been established by the **World Health Organization (WHO)** in **2019**. "**Engaging patients for patient safety**" is the theme for this year.