

## October First week Current Affairs

### National News

#### Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches the Jal Jeevan Mission mobile application

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a newly designed **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)** mobile application that will enable anyone to fund the provision of tap water in rural parts of India.
- This mobile app aims to enhance the awareness among stakeholders and ensure greater transparency and accountability of schemes under the Jal Jeevan Mission.
- The Jal Jeevan Mission was launched in **2019** by the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti to ensure 100 per cent functional tap water supply in rural areas by 2024.

#### Union Minister of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

#### Union Health Ministry plans to observe the 'Mental Health Awareness Campaign Week' from 10 October

- The **Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** has planned to observe **the Mental Health Awareness Campaign Week** from **10 October**, which is observed as a World Mental Health Day to raise awareness on mental health issues and mobilise efforts to support mental health.
- The Mental Health Awareness Campaign Week is being observed to encourage people's participation to break the stigma surrounding mental disorders.

#### Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya

#### Union Government extends the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt upto 31 March 2022

- The **Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)** extended the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt (CGSSD) by another six months till **31 March 2022** from 30 September 2021.
- This scheme was approved by the Union Government on 1 June 2020 and launched on 24 June 2020 to provide credit facilities through lending institutions to the promoters of stressed MSMEs.

#### Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav launches a web portal 'indianwetlands.in'

- Union Environment Minister **Bhupender Yadav** has launched a web portal —**in**— on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti and the iconic week of 'AzadiKaAmritMahotsav' of the Ministry for processing information and making it available to the stakeholders in an efficient and accessible manner.
- This portal also hosts capacity-building material, data repository, videos and information for students.

#### World's largest khadi tricolour Indian flag was unveiled in Ladakh

- World's **largest khadi tricolour Indian national flag**, which is 225-feet long and 150-feet wide, weighing around 1,000 kg was installed at **Leh in Ladakh** on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti by Lieutenant Governor R. K. Mathur.
- This flag was created by Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC).

### **Union Government declares Chacha Chaudhary as the mascot for the Namami Gange Programme**

- Famous Indian comic book character **Chacha Chaudhary** was declared as the mascot of the Union Government's '**Namami Gange Programme**' at an executive committee meeting of the **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)**.

### **Manipur Government join hands with Tata Technologies to transform technical training and encourage innovation**

- Global engineering and product development digital services firm **Tata Technologies Limited (TTL)** has collaborated with the **Manipur Government** to transform technical training and **encourage entrepreneurship and innovation** in the state (Manipur) for a period of 3 years.
- Under this collaboration, a **center for invention, innovation, incubation and training (CIIT)** on industrial experiential learning and development will be established in Manipur.

### **Manipur**

- Capital: **Imphal**
- Chief Minister: **N. Biren Singh**
- Governor: **La. Ganesan**

### **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) celebrates its fifth annual day**

- The **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)** celebrated its **fifth annual day** on **01 October 2021**. Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Indian Prime Minister **Bibek Debroy** was the Chief Guest.
- He delivered the fifth annual day lecture keynote address on "**From No Exit to Easy Exit - A Case Study of IBC**".

### **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI):**

- Headquarters: **New Delhi**
- Chairperson: **M. S. Sahoo**

### **ECI launches inaugural edition of 'The ECI Annual National Essay Contest on Election & Democracy'**

- The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** has launched the inaugural edition of '**The Election Commission of India Annual National Essay Contest on Election & Democracy**'.

- This event was jointly conducted by **India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM)**, **Jindal Global Law School (JGLS)** and O.P. Jindal Global University, Haryana.

### **Union Government extends the validity of motor vehicle documents till 31 October 2021**

- The Union Government extended the validity of motor vehicle documents like driving licence, registration certificate and permits till **31 October 2021** from 30 September 2021 under the Motor Vehicles Act of 1988 and Central Motor Vehicle Rules of 1989 in view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Union Labour Minister Bhupender Yadav launches the DigiSaksham programme to enhance the employability of youth**

- The Union Minister of Labour and Employment **Bhupender Yadav** launched a digital skills programme, **DigiSaksham**, with Microsoft India for enhancing the employment opportunities for youth from rural and semi-urban areas.
- Under the DigiSaksham initiative, there will be basically three types of training, namely Digital skills: self paced learning, VILT mode training (Virtual Instructor-led) and ILT mode training (Instructor-led).

### **Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches the second phase of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)**

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** launched the second phase of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U 2.0) and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (**AMRUT**) to realise the aspiration to make all cities garbage-free and water secure.
- This will help contribute towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030.
- SBM-U 2.0 envisions to make all cities 'garbage free' and ensure grey and black water management in all cities other than those covered under AMRUT and aims to make all urban local bodies open defecation free.
- AMRUT 2.0 will adopt the principles of a circular economy and promote the conservation and rejuvenation of surface and groundwater bodies.

### **Union Finance Ministry extends the timeline of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme till 31 March 2022**

- Union Finance Ministry has extended the timeline of the **Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS)** to another six months till **31 March 2022** or till guarantees for an amount of Rs. 4.5 lakh crores are issued under the scheme to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) impacted by the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The last date of disbursement under this scheme has also been extended to **30 June 2022**.

### **Union Government approves a capital infusion of Rs. 4400 crores into ECGC to boost the export sector**

- The Union Government has approved a capital infusion investment of **4400 crores** in **ECGC Ltd.** (formerly known as Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited) in **five years** to provide support to exporters as well as banks.
- The capital infusion and planned **initial public offering (IPO)** will increase ECGC's underwriting capacity up to **88,000 crores** and propel additional exports of **Rs. 5.28 lakh crores** over five years from FY 2021–2022 to FY 2025–2026.

### Prime Minister Narendra Modi chairs the 38<sup>th</sup> PRAGATI meeting

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** chaired the **38<sup>th</sup> meeting** of the ICT -based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation (**PRAGATI**) and reviewed eight projects worth around **50,000 crores** in seven states, namely Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Haryana.
- Four of the projects were from the Union Ministry of Railways, two from the Union Ministry of Power and one each from the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation.

### Union Government launches India's first pan-India helpline for senior citizens

- The Union Government has started a pan-India helpline for the elderly population of India called '**Elder Line**' to handle their problems concerning pension, legal issues or even cases of abuse.
- The toll-free helpline **14567** will provide free information and guidance on various issues, extend emotional support and even take steps to rescue the homeless elderly.
- The Elder Line is supposed to provide all senior citizens or their well-wishers with one platform to connect and share their concerns and get guidance, without having to struggle for it.

### Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh launches Amrit Grand Challenge programme titled 'जनCARE'

- Union Minister **Jitendra Singh** launched the **Amrit Grand Challenge programme** titled '**जनCARE**', which aims to identify 75 start-up innovations in telemedicine, digital health, mHealth using bigdata, AI (Artificial Intelligence), Blockchain and other technologies.
- The 75 best-chosen start-ups are going to be an asset for India to lead the country in the next 25 years.

### Union Defence Ministry increases the income limit of disabled dependents for family pension

- Union **Defence Ministry** has increased the income limit for a grant of family pension to children and siblings suffering from mental or physical disability.
- At present, a disabled child or sibling of a deceased pensioner is currently eligible for family pension if his or her monthly income from sources apart from family pension, including the dearness allowance component doesn't exceed **9000**.

### Union Government launches the National Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination (NAPRE) by 2030 on World Rabies Day

- Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya and Union Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Minister Parshottam Rupala launched the **National Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination by 2030 (NAPRE)** on the occasion of World Rabies Day observed on 28 September.
- Both the union ministers also launched the **joint inter-ministerial declaration support statement for the elimination of dog-mediated rabies from India by 2030** through the one health approach.

### State News

#### Cochin International Airport Limited retains the third spot in handling international traffic in India

- The **Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL)** has retained the **third** position in India in terms of **international traffic** for the third consecutive month from July 2021, released by the Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- This airport facilitates flights to all the Middle East destinations, London, Male and Colombo.

#### Rajasthan's Sojat Mehndi and Assam's Judima rice wine receives Geographical Indication tag

- The colours of **Rajasthan's** renowned **Sojat Mehndi**, known for its medicinal values, received Geographical Indication tag (GI tag).
- The wine produced from rice and a herb brewed by the Dimasa community in **Assam** '**Judima** received Geographical Indication tag (GI tag).

#### Chennai's Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M. G. R Central Railway Station is fully powered by solar energy

- The **Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M. G. Ramachandran Central Railway Station in Chennai** gets its **100 percent** energy requirement during the day through **solar power**.
- The use of solar power will accelerate the Indian government's mission to achieve conversion of the Indian Railways network into 'net zero' carbon emission railway network.

#### Andhra Pradesh bags the Best Tourism Policy Award

- **Andhra Pradesh** has bagged an award for the 'Best Tourism Policy', which was presented by the Tour and Travels Association at a function organized virtually.
- The Andhra Pradesh Government was committed to the socio-economic development of the state and regarded the tourism sector as one of the key growth engines for the economy of the state and crucial for employment generation.

### Andhra Pradesh

- **Capital:** Amaravati
- **Chief Minister:** S. Jaganmohan Reddy
- **Governor:** Biswa Bhushan Harichandan

- **National Parks:** Sri Venkateswara National Park, Rajiv Gandhi National Park, Papikonda National Park

## International News

### Interpol launches an online cyber security awareness campaign

- **Interpol** has launched a three-week online **cyber security awareness campaign** from 4–22 October 2021 to apprise people of major cyber threats in order to help them protect their computer systems, networks and personal information from cybercriminals.
- This campaign will focus on ransomware, online scams and phishing, business email compromise and basic cyber hygiene.

## Interpol

- **Headquarters:** Lyon, France
- **Member Countries:** 194
- **President:** Kim Jong Yang

### Tax Inspectors Without Borders launched a programme in Seychelles in partnership with India

- **Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB)**, a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), launched its programme in **Seychelles** in partnership with **India**.
- The aim of this partnership is to aid Seychelles in strengthening its tax administration by transferring technical know-how and skills to its tax auditors through sharing of best audit practices and focus on transfer pricing cases of tourism and financial services sectors.

### Gandhi Museum was inaugurated at Noakhali in Bangladesh

- The **Gandhi Museum** was inaugurated at the historic Gandhi Ashram Trust in **Bangladesh's Noakhali**, on the occasion of the 152<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- A seminar on the theme of Ahimsa, Satyagraha and the Mahatma – Revisited was also organised to commemorate the International Day of Non-Violence.

## Bangladesh

- **Capital:** Dhaka
- **Currency:** Taka

### Union Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurates the India Pavilion at the Dubai Expo 2020

- Union Minister of Commerce and Industry **Piyush Goyal** has inaugurated the **India Pavilion** at the **Dubai Expo 2020**, featuring an innovative kinetic facade made up of 600 individual colourful blocks.
- Among the **192 participating countries**, **India** has the biggest pavilion in the expo.

### Najla Bouden Romdhane became the first woman Prime Minister of Tunisia

- President of Tunisia **Kais Saied** has appointed **Najla Bouden Romdhane** as the new Prime Minister of Tunisia. Tunisia became the first Arab country to appoint a **female Prime Minister**.
- She is a professor of geophysics at the **National School of Engineers** in the capital of Tunis. She was appointed as the Director-General in charge of quality at the **Tunisia's Ministry of Higher Education** in 2011.

### Tunisia

- Capital: **Tunis**
- Currency: **Tunisian Dinar**
- President: **Kais Saied**
- Prime Minister: **Najla Bouden Romdhane**

### India Navy and Australia Navy sign 'Terms of Reference' for navy-to-navy talks

- The **Indian Navy** and the **Australian Navy** have signed the '**Terms of Reference**' (ToR) for the conduct of the **navy-to-navy** talks under the framework of the '**Joint Guidance for the India - Australia Navy to Navy Relationship**'
- It was signed by the two navy chiefs of both the countries. This is the first such document signed by the **Indian Navy** with **any country**.

### Australia

- Capital: **Canberra**
- Currency: **Australian Dollar**
- Prime Minister: **Scott Morrison**
- Deputy Prime Minister: **Barnaby Joyce**

### India and Australia agree to conclude a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement by 2022

- **India** and **Australia** have agreed to conclude a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), which will conclude the negotiations on the **Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)** to liberalise and deepen bilateral trade in goods and services by the end of **2022**.

### India and the United States sign two MoUs for cooperation in health and biomedical sciences in the 4<sup>th</sup> Indo-US Health Dialogue

- **India** and the **United States** signed two MoUs at the **4<sup>th</sup> Indo-US Health Dialogue** addressed by the Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Mansukh Mandaviya for cooperation in health and biomedical sciences hosted by India in New Delhi.
- The first MoU was signed concerning cooperation in the field of health and biomedical sciences.
- The other MoU was signed for cooperation with International Centre for Excellence in Research (ICER).

### Banking & Economy

## **Kotak Mahindra Bank becomes the first scheduled private sector bank to collect direct and indirect taxes**

- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** has received approval from the Government of India and has become the first scheduled private sector bank for the collection of direct and indirect taxes such as Income Tax and Goods and Services Tax (GST) through its banking network.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank customers will be able to pay their direct and indirect taxes straight from its mobile banking or net banking platforms as well as through a branch banking network, resulting in immense ease and convenience for the customers of Kotak Mahindra Bank.

### **Kotak Mahindra Bank**

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **MD & CEO:** Uday Kotak

## **ESAF Small Finance Bank launches a current account product named 'Supreme' for Non-Resident Indians**

- **ESAF Small Finance Bank** has launched a current account product named '**Supreme**' for Non-Resident Indians in which the bank provides various features with this account, such as hassle-free banking, enhanced ATM cash withdrawal limit of Rs.50,000 per day in India, point of sale (POS) transaction limit of Rs.80,000 per day in India and an e-commerce transaction limit of Rs.20,000 per day in India.

### **ESAF Small Finance Bank**

- **Headquarters:** Thrissur, Kerala
- **MD & CEO:** Paul Thomas

## **Moody's upgrades India's rating outlook to 'stable' from 'negative'**

- Moody's Investors Service changed its outlook on India's sovereign ratings to '**stable**' from '**negative**' at Baa3.
- The lowest investment grade rating is 'Baa3.' The credit risk is moderate for obligations associated with this rating. It is considered medium-grade and may possess certain speculative characteristics. A 'stable' outlook indicates a low likelihood of a rating change over the medium term.

## **Asian Development Bank signs a \$400 million loan agreement with Bangladesh for highway development**

- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and the **Bangladesh Government** have signed a **\$400 million** loan agreement for constructing the Dhaka-Sylhet highway to improve mobility, road safety and regional trade in the northeast economic corridor in Bangladesh.
- It is the first installment of a \$1.78 billion finance facility issued by ADB for the Dhaka-Sylhet road investment project of the South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC).

### **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**



- **Founded:** 19 December 1966
- **Headquarters:** Mandaluyong, Philippines
- **President:** Masatsugu Asakawa

### Paytm acquires a 100% stake in lending startup Creditmate

- **Paytm** has now acquired a 100% stake in Urja Money Private Limited, which provides a loan management system through its proprietary solution, CreditMate.
- CreditMate has a technology-based credit engine that employs data-driven algorithms to analyse consumer creditworthiness for loans quickly than traditional lending alternatives.

### Paytm

- **Headquarters:** Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- **CEO:** Vijay Shekhar Sharma

### State Bank of India and Indian Navy launch NAV-eCash card for online and offline transactions

- State Bank of India (SBI) and Indian Navy launched the lender's (SBI's) **NAV-eCash card** onboard India's largest naval aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya.
- NAV-eCash card will facilitate both online as well as offline transactions with its dual-chip technology.
- The infrastructure at naval ships inhibits traditional payment solutions, particularly when the ship is on high seas where there is no connectivity.

### Reserve Bank of India (RBI) grants a license to National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL)

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted the license of the **National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL)** to register as an asset reconstruction company (ARC) under **Section 3** of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Securities Interest Act (**SARFAESI**) Act, 2002.

### Indel Money partners with IndusInd Bank for India's first conventional gold loan co-lending partnership

- **Indel Money** has tied up with **IndusInd Bank** for a gold loan co-lending partnership to offer gold loans at competitive rates. Under this co-lending partnership agreement, **Indel Money** will originate and process **gold loans** based on mutually formulated credit parameters and eligibility criteria.
- **IndusInd Bank** will be funded **80%** of **gold loans**, while the remaining **20%** will be funded by **Indel Money**.

### IndusInd Bank

- **Headquarters:** Pune, Maharashtra
- **MD & CEO:** Sumant Kathpalia
- **Tagline:** We Make You Feel Richer

## GST collection for September 2021 crosses Rs. 1.17 lakh crores

- The gross **GST** revenue collected in the month of **September** in **2021** was **1,17,010 crore rupees**, which included the **Central Goods and Service Tax (CGST)** component of Rs. 20,578 crores, **State Goods and Service Tax (SGST)** of Rs. 26,767 crore and **Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST)** component of Rs. 60,911 crore rupees.

## Indian Bank inks an MoU with NBFCs and HFCs for priority sector lending

- **Indian Bank** has entered into a memorandum of understanding with three leading **non-banking finance companies (NBFCs)** and **housing finance companies (HFCs)** for co-originate loans to the priority sectors.
- The Chennai-based lender **Indian bank** is partnering with **Indiabulls Housing Finance, Indiabulls Commercial Credit** and **IIFL Home Finance** on this co-lending arrangement.

## Indian Bank

- Headquarters: **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**
- MD and CEO: **Shanti Lal Jain**
- Establishment: **1907**
- Tagline: **Your Own Bank**
- **Allahabad Bank** was amalgamated with the **Indian Bank** on **1 April 2020**.

## UPI records 365 crore transactions worth Rs. 6.54 lakh crores in September 2021

- As per data released by the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**, the **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** has registered **365 crore** transactions worth **6.54 lakh crores** in **September 2021**.
- This was the **third straight month** with more than **300 crore** transactions on the UPI platform.

## NTPC REL signs first green term loan agreement of Rs. 500 crores with Bank of India

- **NTPC Renewable Energy Limited (REL)**, a 100 percent subsidiary of **NTPC Limited** has signed its **first green term loan agreement** of **500 crores** at a very competitive rate with a tenor of **15 years** with the **Bank of India**.
- The green term loan (GTL) will be used for NTPC's **470 MW** solar projects in **Rajasthan** and **200 MW** solar projects in **Gujarat**.

## International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) sets up a 10-member expert committee to develop sustainable finance hub

- The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) set up a 10-member expert committee headed by former Union Environment and Forest Secretary **C. K. Mishra** to suggest a framework to develop a world-class sustainable finance hub at IFSC.
- This panel would identify existing and emerging opportunities in sustainable finance for GIFT-IFSC to act as a gateway to meet India's requirements and recommend a short, medium and long-term vision/road map on sustainable finance.

## Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) approves a \$356.67 million loan for the expansion of the Chennai Metro Rail System

- The **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** approved a **\$356.67 million** loan to the Indian Government to support the expansion of the **Chennai Metro Rail System**.
- This metro project, being implemented by the Chennai Metro Rail Limited, will include the construction of a new corridor from Chennai's Lighthouse to Poonamallee Bypass as part of Phase 2 of the metro construction.
- With this loan, the AIIB has approved \$6.7 billion for 28 projects in India so far.

## Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

- **Headquarters:** Beijing, China
- **Formed:** 2016
- **MD & CEO:** Jin Liqun

## World Bank extends \$150 million to Chennai's Sustainable Urban Services Programme

- The World Bank approved **\$150 million** to support the Government of **Tamil Nadu's Chennai City Partnership: Sustainable Urban Services Programme** to help strengthen institutions, improve the financial health of service agencies and drive significant improvements in the quality of four key urban services, namely water supply and sewerage, mobility, health and solid waste management.

## World Bank

- **Headquarters:** Washington D. C., United States
- **President:** David Malpass
- **Founded:** 1944

## Union Government keeps the interest rates of small savings schemes unchanged

- The Union Government kept the interest rates of small savings schemes unchanged for the third quarter of FY 2021.

Name of the scheme	Interest rate
Public Provident Fund (PPF)	7.1%
Senior Citizen Saving Scheme (SCSS)	7.4%
National Savings Certificate (NSC)	6.8%
Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY)	7.6%
Kisan Vikas Patra (124 months)	6.9%
Post Office Monthly Income Scheme (POMIS)	6.6%

## RBI removes Indian Overseas Bank from the PCA framework

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has removed **Indian Overseas Bank** from the **PCA** (Prompt Corrective Action) restrictions framework subject to certain conditions and continuous monitoring from which the performance of the Indian Overseas Bank was reviewed by the Board for Financial Supervision.

- The Indian Overseas Bank was put under the PCA framework in 2015.

## Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Formation:** 1 April 1935
- **Governor:** Shaktikanta Das
- **Deputy Governors:** K. Jain, M. D. Patra, M. RajeshwarRao and T. RabiSankar
- **Subsidiaries:** Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran (BRBNM)

## Indian Overseas Bank

- **Headquarters:** Chennai
- **MD & CEO:** Partha Pratim Sengupta

## AU Small Finance Bank signs a pact with NABARD to boost rural development projects in Rajasthan

- **AU Small Finance Bank** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** to boost ongoing rural developmental initiatives in **Rajasthan**.
- It is a joint initiative to benefit farmers, farmer producer organisations (FPOs), self help groups (SHGs), rural artisans, agri-entrepreneurs and agri-startups in Rajasthan.
- This collaboration is a significant step towards empowering the rural segments with easy access to credit and will provide institutional credit support to the ongoing development schemes in Rajasthan.

## National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Formation:** 12 July 1982
- **Chairman:** Govinda Rajulu Chintala

## AU Small Finance Bank

- **Headquarters:** Jaipur, Rajasthan
- **MD & CEO:** Sanjay Agarwal

## SEBI introduces a swing pricing mechanism for debt mutual funds

- **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** introduced the concept of '**swing pricing**' for all open-ended debt mutual fund schemes except overnight funds, gilt funds and Gilt with 10-year maturity funds.
- This framework is aimed at discouraging large investors from sudden redemptions, which will be applicable from **1 March 2022**.

## Swing Pricing Mechanism

- It is like a manual adjustment made to a mutual fund's net asset value (NAV).

- Its objective is to pass on any additional transaction costs arising from large inflow or outflow to large investors.

### Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman:** Ajay Tyagi
- **Founded:** 12 April 1992

### S&P Global Ratings maintains India's GDP growth forecast for FY22 at 9.5%

- **S&P Global Ratings** maintained its FY22 GDP growth forecast for **India** at **5%**, stating that there were indications of a strong rebound in economic activity in India after the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### S&P Global Ratings

- **Headquarters:** New York, The United States

### Suryoday Small Finance Bank will shut down its ATM banking services from 1 October

- **Suryoday Small Finance Bank** will discontinue its ATM services from **1 October** due to operational reasons and has become the first lender to discontinue ATM services.
- Customers of the bank can use their Suryoday Small Finance Bank debit cards at ATMs of any other banks to withdraw cash and customers can use internet and mobile banking for other banking services.

### Suryoday Small Finance Bank

- **Headquarters:** Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra

### NPCI and YES Bank launch the contactless payments solutions named 'RuPay On-the-Go'

- The **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** partnered with **YES Bank** to launch the contactless payments solutions named '**RuPay On-the-Go**', which will allow customers to make small and large value transactions from the accessories they wear everyday.
- '**RuPay On-the-Go**' will allow customers to use at RuPay contactless-enabled PoS (Point of Sale) at retail outlets and pay up to Rs. 5000 without entering the PIN. For payments above Rs. 5000 customers need to tap followed by their PIN.

### National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Non-Executive Chairman:** Biswamohan Mahapatra
- **MD & CEO:** Dilip Asbe
- **Founded:** 2008

### Muthoot Finance launches an AI-powered virtual assistant named 'Mattu'

- **Muthoot Finance** has joined hands with a leader in conversational AI technology 'Senseforth.ai' to launch an AI-powered virtual assistant named '**Mattu**' that allows users to apply for various types of loans, address concerns and perform transactions such as checking account balances, paying gold loan interest, obtaining loan top-ups and making part payments.

### Ways and Means Advances Limit for the second half of FY22 fixed at Rs. 50,000 crores

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set the limit for **Ways and Means Advances (WMA)** for the second half of the financial year 2021-22 (October 2021 to March 2022) **50,000 crores**
- When the Government of India uses 75% of the WMA limit, the Reserve Bank of India may initiate a new flotation of market loans.

**Ways and Means Advances (WMA)**- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) gives temporary loan facilities to the union and state governments called Ways and Means Advances (WMA).

### Paytm Payments Bank becomes India's first platform to accept international remittances into the digital wallet

- **Paytm Payments Bank** tied up with a cross-border money transfer firm **Ria Money Transfer** to accept international remittances directly into a digital wallet.
- Ria Money became the first money transfer company to connect with Paytm Payments Bank wallet users.
- Every money transfer will be made in real-time and will have security features such as account validation and name matching.

### Appointments

#### Alok Sahay was appointed as the Secretary-General and Executive Head of the Indian Steel Association

- Indian Steel Association appointed **Alok Sahay** as its new Secretary-General and Executive head.
- He succeeded **Bhaskar Chatterjee**.
- He was the former Executive Director of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).

#### Kangana Ranaut becomes the brand ambassador of One District – One Product programme of the Uttar Pradesh Government

- The **Uttar Pradesh** Government named actor **Kangana Ranaut** as the brand ambassador of the '**One District – One Product**'
- The aim of the 'One District -One Product' programme is to create product-specific traditional industrial hubs across 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh.

### Uttar Pradesh

- **Capital:** Lucknow
- **Chief Minister:** Yogi Adityanath
- **Governor:** Anandiben Patel

- **National Park:**Dudhwa National Park (Tiger Reserve)

### Abiy Ahmed was sworn in as the Ethiopian Prime Minister for a second term

- Ethiopian Prime Minister **Abiy Ahmed** has been sworn in for a second five-year term.
- Abiy Ahmed won the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize for restoring ties with neighbouring Eritrea and for pursuing sweeping political reforms.

### Ethiopia

- **Capital:**Addis Ababa
- **Currency:**Birr

### Colonel Mamady Doumbouya was sworn in as the interim President of Guinea

- Colonel **Mamady Doumbouya** was sworn in as the interim President of the coastal West African country of Guinea.
- He succeeded Alpha Conde.

### Guinea

- **Capital:** Conakry
- **Currency:** Guinean Franc

### Coin DCX appoints Amitabh Bachchan as its brand ambassador

- **Amitabh Bachchan** was appointed as the first-ever brand ambassador of cryptocurrency exchange **CoinDCX** to increase crypto awareness and popularise cryptocurrencies as an emerging asset class.
- CoinDCX also recently launched an awareness campaign and 'Happy Day Rewards' campaign.

### Air Marshal Sandeep Singh takes charge as the Vice-Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force

- Air Marshal **Sandeep Singh** took over as Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS) of the Indian Air Force (IAF). Air Marshal **R. Krishna** also took over as the Chief of the Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman of the **Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC)**. He was commissioned as a fighter pilot in **1983** and is a qualified flying instructor and an experimental test pilot.

### Amish Mehta takes over as the MD & CEO of CRISIL

- CRISIL's President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) **Amish Mehta** will take over as the Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of CRISIL.
- He will replace **Ashu Suyash**.

### CRISIL

- **Headquarters:**Mumbai
- **Formed:**1987

## **B. C. Patnaik takes charge as the Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)**

- **B. C. Patnaik** took charge as the **Managing Director**(MD) of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) in place of Mukesh Gupta.
- He will be serving as MD along with Mini Ipe.
- Prior to this appointment, he was the Secretary-General for the Council of Insurance Ombudsman (CIO).

## **Fumio Kishida is set to become the next Prime Minister of Japan**

- Japan's former Foreign Minister, **Fumio Kishida**, has won the governing party leadership election and is set to be the next Prime Minister of Japan.
- He will replace **Yoshihide Suga**.

## **Japan**

- **Capital:** Tokyo
- **Currency:** Japanese Yen

## **Padmaja Chundururu was appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of the National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL)**

- Former MD & CEO of Indian Bank **Padmaja Chundururu** was appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of **the National Securities Depositories Limited (NSDL)**.
- She will succeed G. V. Nageswara Rao.

## **Ranveer Singh was appointed as the brand ambassador of the National Basketball Association (NBA) of India**

- The **National Basketball Association (NBA)** appointed Bollywood actor **Ranveer Singh** as its brand ambassador for India to assist in developing the basketball league profile in India all through its landmark of 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary season in 2021-22.

## **Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh takes over as the 34<sup>th</sup> Director-General of the National Cadet Corps (NCC)**

- Lieutenant General **Gurbirpal Singh** took over as the 34<sup>th</sup> Director-General of **the National Cadet Corps (NCC)**.
- He was commissioned into the Parachute Regiment in 1987 and as a Company Commander in a counter-insurgency environment in Nagaland and the Siachen Glacier.

## **Defence News**

## **The fifth edition of the India-Japan maritime bilateral exercise 'JIMEX' is set to be held in the Arabian Sea**



- The **fifth** edition of the India–Japan Maritime bilateral exercise '**JIMEX**' will be held between the Indian Navy and the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) in the **Arabian Sea** from 6–8 October 2021.
- This exercise aims to build a common understanding of operational procedures and improve interoperability across the whole spectrum of maritime operations by conducting various advanced exercises.

### Japan

- **Capital:** Tokyo
- **Currency:** Yen
- **Prime Minister:** Fumio Kishida

### India and Srilanka begin the eighth edition of the joint military exercise 'Mitra Shakti' in Srilanka

- **India and Sri Lanka** began the eighth edition of the 12-day mega military exercise '**Mitra Shakti**' from 4–15 October 2021 with a focus on enhancing counter-terror cooperation at the Combat Training School in the Sri Lanka's eastern district of **Ampara**.
- The joint military exercise aims to improve awareness of transnational terrorism, interoperability abilities, joint tactical operations and sharing of best practices and experiences among participants.

### Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) ties up with the Department of Posts for print to post solution

- **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** tied up with the Government of India's **Department of Posts (DoP)** for '**Print to Post**' solutions to print and dispatch the policy booklet issued under a life insurance policy.
- This collaboration would provide the much-needed fillip in the issue of policy documents with a reduced turnaround time to enhance customer experience.
- "Delivery on the day of receipt" is the working theme of India Post.

### Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Founded:** 1 September 1956
- **Chairman:** R.Kumar
- **Managing Director:** Mini Ipe

### Infosys is about to enter into 3 MoUs with the Karnataka Government to attain the target of the National Education Policy

- **Karnataka's Department of Higher Education** and **Infosys** would enter into three memorandums of understanding (MoU) for prioritising skill development among students as per the National Education Policy (NEP2020).
- The MoUs would enable the Karnataka Government to utilise '**Infosys Springboard**,' which has over 3000 skill development courses for college students, 'Campus Connect' that provides digital learning for college faculty and professional guidance for college students and a donation of 15,000 de-bonded computers from Infosys to colleges.

## Infosys

- **Headquarters:** Bengaluru

## Karnataka

- **Capital:**Bengaluru
- **Chief Minister:**BasavarajBommai
- **Governor:**ThawarchandGehlot
- **National Park:**Anshi National Park, KudremukhNational Park,BandipurNational Park, BannerghattaNational Park, Rajiv Gandhi (Nagarhole) National Park

## Airtel Payments Bank collaborates with Stellapps for cashless payment transfer to small dairy farmers

- Dairy-tech start-up **Stellapps** has collaborated with **Airtel Payments Bank** to enable cashless payment transfers to small dairy farmers.
- Stellapps has observed that a significant challenge for farmers has been the long travel to the nearest ATM or bank branch for withdrawing cash.
- In view of this, Airtel Payments Bank will onboard Stellapps new **partner milk collection centres** as banking points.
- These banking points will enable farmers to open a bank account, withdraw and deposit cash, earn interest on savings, access Aadhaar-enabled payments,get government pension schemes and makebill payments.

## Airtel Payments Bank

- **Headquarters:**New Delhi

## Western Naval Command Sailing Championships 2021 was conducted at the Indian Naval Watermanship Training Centre in Mumbai

- The **Western Naval Command Sailing Championships 2021** was conducted at the **Indian Naval Watermanship Training Centre (INWTC)** in Mumbai.
- The concept of team racing in the Enterprise Class and match racing in the J24 class of boats was reintroduced to facilitate wider participation and strengthen team spirit.
- The overall champions were the Mumbai Area team,while the runners-up were the Fleet B team.

## Ranks and Indices

### Mukesh Ambani tops the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021

- Reliance Industries Limited Chairman **Mukesh Ambani** continued to be the richest man for the tenth consecutive year,according to the **IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021**.
- **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)** has become the 57<sup>th</sup> most valuable firm in the world according to the Hurun Global 500 Most Valuable Companies 2021.
- Adani Chairman Gautam Adani has occupied the second spot in the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021.

## Awards and Recognitions

### USIBC presents the 2021 Global Leadership Humanitarian Awards to CEOs of Microsoft, IBM and Accenture

- The **US-India Business Council (USIBC)** has presented the 2021 Global Leadership Humanitarian Awards to the CEO of Accenture **Julie Sweet**, CEO of IBM **Arvind Krishna** and President of Microsoft **Brad Smith**, in recognition of their strong leadership and contributions towards the Global Task Force (GTF) on pandemic response.
- This Global Task Force highlighted the power of purpose-driven public-private partnerships to have a real impact on people's lives.

### Wada Kolam rice from Maharashtra gets Geographical Indication (GI) tag

- **Wada Kolam rice** or **Zini** or **Jhini rice** widely grown in **Maharashtra's Palghar** district has got the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Wada Kolam rice is priced between **60-70** per kilogram in domestic markets and has a sizable demand overseas as well.

### Benjamin List and David W. C. Macmillan receive the Nobel Prize for Chemistry 2021

- The 2021 Nobel Prize for Chemistry from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has been awarded to German scientist **Benjamin List** of the Max Planck Institute and Scotland-born scientist **David W.C. MacMillan** of Princeton University for the development of asymmetric organocatalysis.
- Benjamin List and David MacMillan have developed a new and ingenious tool for molecule building —organocatalysis, which is used to include research into new pharmaceuticals and it has also helped make chemistry greener.
- Organocatalysis has developed at an astounding speed. Using these reactions, researchers can now more efficiently construct anything from new pharmaceuticals to molecules that can capture light in solar cells.

### Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) bags two PFRDA awards

- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has awarded Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) with two national awards, '**APY Big Believers**' and '**Leadership Capital**' for considerable enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY).
- KVGB is playing a pivotal role in implementing all three social security schemes (Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY),
- Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY)) launched by the Union Government.

### Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann and Giorgio Parisi received the Nobel Prize for Physics 2021

- The Nobel Prize in Physics 2021 was awarded to **Syukuro Manabe** from Japan, **Klaus Hasselmann** from Germany for their work in "the physical modeling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming" and **Giorgio Parisi** from

Italy for “the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales”.

### **David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian wins the NoblePrize for Physiology or Medicine 2021**

- American scientists **David Julius** and **Ardem Patapoutian** won the **2021 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine** for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch.
- This discovery has allowed us to understand how heat, cold and mechanical forces can initiate the nerve impulses that allow us to perceive and adapt to the world around us.

### **Edayur Chilli and Kuttiattoor Mango receive Geographical Indication tag**

- **Edayur Chilli** and **Kuttiattoor Mango** are the latest to receive the Geographical Indication tag through a joint effort by the IPR Cell of the Kerala Agricultural University, State Department of Agriculture Development and Farmers’ Welfare and farmers in Edayur Chilli and Kuttiattoor Mango.

### **USIBC is set to present Global Leadership Award to Shiv Nadar and Mallika Srinivasan**

- Prominent Indian industrialists **Shiv Nadar** and **Mallika Srinivasan** have been chosen by top India-centric business advocacy group US–India Business Council (USIBC) as the recipients of its **2021 Global Leadership Award**.
- The **US-India Business Council (USIBC)** announced the selection of **Shiv Nadar**, founder and Chairman Emeritus of the HCL Technologies and **Mallika Srinivasan**, Chair and Managing Director of the Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited (TAFE), for the award.

### **IIM Kozhikode was awarded with the globally renowned EQUIS accreditation**

- The **Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K)** was awarded the EFMD Quality Improvement System (**EQUIS**) accreditation, which is awarded by the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD).
- IIM Kozhikode joins the ‘Double Crown’ accreditation status with the acquisition of EQUIS accreditation.

### **NITI Aayog ties up with Amazon Web Services and Intel to accelerate digital innovation in India**

- This studio will help showcase the application potential of technologies such as machine learning, artificial intelligence, Internet of Things (IoT), blockchain, augmented reality, virtual reality and robotics for use in the public sector.

### **Assam scientist Binoy Kumar Saikia bagsthe Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology 2021**

- A scientist from Assam **Binoy Kumar Saikia** has bagged the prestigious **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology 2021** by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for his pioneering research on coal and energy.
- The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award is given every year for outstanding contributions to science and technology.

## Right Livelihood Award for 2021 was announced

- India's Delhi-based environmental organisation **Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE)** has received the **Right Livelihood Award 2021**, which is also known as 'Alternative Nobel' for empowering vulnerable communities to protect their livelihoods and claim their right to a clean environment.
- Other awardees of 2021 are the women rights activist Marthe Wandou from Cameroon, Russian environmental activist Vladimir Slivyak and an indigenous rights defender Freda Huson from Canada.

## Books & Authors

### Indra Nooyi releases her new book titled 'My Life in Full: Work, Family and our Future'

- **Former PepsiCo CEO Indra Nooyi** released her new book titled '**My Life in Full: Work, Family and our Future**', which focuses on the importance that organisational support plays in working women's lives.
- The publisher of this book is **Hachette India**.

### Wole Soyinka released a new book titled 'Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth'

- A new novel '**Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth**' authored by Africa's first Nobel laureate in Literature, **Wole Soyinka**, released after almost 50 years.
- The publisher of the book is Bloomsbury India.

## Sports News

### Two-time National Basketball Association (NBA) champion Pau Gasol announces retirement from basketball

- Spanish basketball player **Pau Gasol** has announced his retirement from his 23-year basketball career.
- He lasted more than two decades and earned two National Basketball Association (NBA) titles and the World Championship gold medal with Spain's national team.
- He won a World Championship title with Spain in 2006, in addition to European titles in 2009, 2011 and 2015.

### FC Goa clinches the 130<sup>th</sup> edition of the Durand Cup

- Indian Super League (ISL) side **FC Goa** clinched the **130<sup>th</sup> edition of the Durand Cup** as they beat Kolkata-based Mohammedan Sporting Club at the Vivekananda Yuvabharati Krirangan, Kolkata, West Bengal. This is FC Goa's maiden Durand Cup title.
- This was FC Goa's second-ever domestic victory, having won the Indian Super Cup back in 2019.

### Cristiano Ronaldo was named Manchester United's Player of September 2021

- **Cristiano Ronaldo** has been voted **Manchester United's Player of the Month for September 2021** by the supporters of Manchester United football club.

## SALEM INSTITUTE OF BANKING

- In six seasons with Manchester United, Ronaldo recorded 118 goals in 292 games while collecting three Premier League titles, one Champions League trophy and a Ballon d'Or in 2008.

### ISSF Junior World Championships 2021 (Lima, Peru) - Indian Winners

- The ISSF Junior World Championships 2021 is currently being held in **Peru's Lima** for rifle, pistol and shotgun from 27 September 2021 to 10 October 2021.
- India stands **top** with **8 gold medals, 6 silver medals and 3 bronze medals** so far.

The Indian winners of the ISSF Junior World Championships 2021 are:

Name of the Winners	Event	Medal
Manu Bhaker	Air Pistol	Gold
Ganemat Sekhon, Areeba Khan, Raiza Dhillon	Women's Skeet Team	Gold
Manu Bhaker, Sarabjot Singh	Pistol Mixed Team	Gold
Manu Bhaker, Rhythm Sangwan, Shikha Narwal	10m Air Pistol Women's Team	Gold
Srikanth Dhanush, Rajpreet Singh, Paarth Makhija	Air Rifle Team Men Junior	Gold
Sarabjot Singh, Naveen, Shiva Narwal	10m Air Pistol Men's Team	Gold
Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar	Men's 50m Rifle	Gold
Naamya Kapoor	Women's 25m Pistol	Gold
Esha Singh	Air Pistol	Silver
Ganemat Sekhon	Women Skeet	Silver
Rudranksh Patil	Men's 10m Air Rifle	Silver
Nisha Kanwar, Zeena Khitta, Atmika Gupta	10m Air Rifle Team Women Junior	Silver
Atmita Gupta, Rajpreet Singh	10m Air Rifle Mixed Team	Silver
Shikha Narwal, Naveen	10 m Air Pistol Mixed Team	Silver
Manu Bhaker	Women's 25m Pistol Event	Bronze
Ramita	Women's 10m Air Rifle	Bronze
Rajveer Gill, Ayush Rudraraju, Abhay Singh Sekhon	Men Skeet Team	Bronze

### New Zealand all-rounder Anna Peterson retires from international cricket

- **New Zealand** women's team all-rounder **Anna Peterson** announced her retirement from international cricket.

- She played 65 international matches of 33 T20 Internationals (T20I) and 32 One Day Internationals (ODIs) for the White Ferns (New Zealand) in her career that spanned for eight years.

### Former Indian hockey striker S. V. Sunil announces retirement

- The veteran forward and star striker of India men's field hockey team **V. Sunil** announced his retirement from international hockey.
- He is an Arjuna awardee from Somwarpet in Coorg. He made a memorable international debut in 2007 at the Asia Cup in 2007 and was a part of the Indian team that won the gold medal in the 2011 Asian Champions Trophy and the silver medal in the same event in 2012.

### Smriti Mandhana becomes the first Indian woman to score a Test hundred on Australian soil

- Indian women's cricket team opener **Smriti Mandhana** became the **first Indian woman** to score a century in a **pink-ball** Test match.
- She scored 127 runs off 216 balls (22 boundaries and 1 six). This is also the **first century** by an **Indian woman** on Australian soil.

### Important Days

#### World Teachers' Day – 5 October

- **World Teachers' Day** is observed on **5 October** every year to highlight the responsibilities, rights and value of teachers.
- Theme for 2021: **'Teachers at the Heart of Education Recovery'**.
- In 1994, UNESCO established World Teachers' Day to recognise teachers' efforts and accomplishments, as well as teachers' concerns and educational goals.

#### International Coffee Day – 1 October

- The **International Coffee Day** is observed on **1 October** annually to promote and celebrate the utilisation of coffee. This day is also used to create awareness about the history, benefits and popularity of the much-loved beverage, i.e. coffee.

#### 67<sup>th</sup> National Wildlife Week – 2 October to 8 October

- The **67<sup>th</sup> National Wildlife Week** is observed from **2–8 October 2021**. National Wildlife Week is observed every year to protect and preserve flora and fauna of India.
- Theme for 2021: **'Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet'**.

#### World Animal Welfare Day – 4 October

- **World Animal Welfare Day** is observed on **4 October** every year to raise the status of animals and help improve welfare standards across the world.
- World Animal Welfare Day aims at ensuring rescue shelters for the animals, launching animal welfare, raising funds and conducting activities to spread awareness and better conditions of animal living.

## World Habitat Day – 4 October

- **World Habitat Day** is observed on **4 October** (the first Monday of October) to remind all the citizens of the world of their duty towards shaping the future of cities and towns.
- Theme of 2021: '**Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world**'.

## World Space Week – 4 October to 10 October

- **World Space Week** is observed from **4 October to 10 October** and dedicated to the celebration of scientific and technological advancement.
- World Space Week aims at acknowledging the great accomplishments of thousands of people in the space sector and how it has catalysed the economic and overall growth of our world.
- Theme for 2021: '**Women in Space**'.

## International Day of Non-Violence – 02 October

- **International Day of Non-Violence** is celebrated every year on **02 October** to mark the birth anniversary of **Mahatma Gandhi**.
- He was born on **02 October 1869** in Porbandar, **Gujarat**. His full name was **Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi**, but he was popularly known as Gandhiji and also the '**Father of Nation**'.
- This day was established on **15 June 2007** by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

## International Day of Older Persons – 1 October

- **International Day of Older Persons** is observed on **1 October** every year to spread awareness about the need for health provisions and social care for the elderly.
- Theme for 2021: '**Digital Equity for All Ages**'.

## World Vegetarian Day – 1 October

- **World Vegetarian Day** is observed on **1 October** annually to create awareness of the humanitarian benefits of a vegetarian diet and its ensuing health benefits.

## International Translation Day – 30 September

- **International Translation Day** is observed on **30 September** to increase awareness about the translation industry and various languages that play an essential part in society's growth.
- Theme for 2021: '**United in translation**'.

## World Maritime Day – 30 September

- The International Maritime Organization (IMO) observes **World Maritime Day** on **30 September** every year to celebrate the contribution of maritime towards the global economy.
- The Theme for 2021: '**Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future**'.



## World Rabies Day – 28 September

- **World Rabies Day** is observed on **28 September** every year to boost awareness about the impact of the viral disease (rabies) and the various ways to prevent it.
- This 15<sup>th</sup> World Rabies Day was observed around the world in 2021 to commemorate the death anniversary of Louis Pasteur, a French biologist, microbiologist and chemist who produced the first rabies vaccine.
- Theme for 2021: '**Rabies: Facts, not Fear**'.

## World Heart Day – 29 September

- **World Heart Day** is observed on **29 September** to increase public awareness about cardiovascular diseases, their prevention and their global impact.
- World Heart Day was first founded in 1999 by the World Heart Federation (WHF) in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- Theme for 2021: '**Use Heart to Connect**'.

## Obituary

### Former Chief Secretary of Andaman & Nicobar Islands Shakti Sinha passed away

- Retired bureaucrat **Shakti Sinha**, who served as the private secretary to former Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, passed away.
- He also served as the Chief Secretary of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and also as the Education Secretary of Goa.

### Veteran actor Arvind Trivedi passed away

- Veteran actor **Arvind Trivedi**, who played the role of Ravan in Ramanand Sagar's 1987 iconic TV series Ramayan, passed away at the age of 82.
- He acted in nearly 300 Hindi and Gujarati movies and found immense popularity on the TV series Ramayan.
- In 1991, he was elected as a Member of Parliament from Sabarkatha constituency and was in the office till 1996.

### Gujarati actor Ghanshyam Nayak passed away

- Veteran **Gujarati actor Ghanshyam Nayak** popularly known for his role of Natukaka in the television serial 'Tarak Mehta Ka Ulta Chashma' passed away at the age of 77.
- He belonged to the Mehsana district of North Gujarat and later settled in Mumbai.

### Former Chief Secretary of Kerala C. P. Nair passed away

- Former Kerala Chief Secretary and writer **Chellappan Parameswaran Nair** passed away at the age of 81.
- He was a member of the Administrative Reforms Commission during 2016–21.
- He is the son of the renowned playwright and short story writer N. P. Chellappan Nair.