

Current Affairs of February 2022

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National

Kiran Bedi Authored a New Book Titled “Fearless Governance”

Kiran Bedi, Former Lieutenant(Lt) Governor of Puducherry and retired IPS officer, authored a new book

titled “**Fearless Governance**” featuring her memories and ground realities as the Lt

Governor of Puducherry from **2016 and 2021** and her experience of 40 years in the Indian Police Service(IPS).

The book is published by **Diamond Books**.

- In the new book the author, Kiran Bedi, demonstrates the practices of responsible governance and leadership.

About Kiran Bedi:

- Kiran Bedi was the first woman to join the officer ranks of the Indian Police Service.
- She has served as the 24th Lt Governor of Puducherry.
- She is the founder of 2 foundations Navjyoti and India Vision Foundation.
- “Yes Madam, Sir” directed by Megan Doneman, is the biopic of Kiran Bedi.
- She was honoured with the Ramon Magsaysay Award and the Nehru Fellowship in 1994.

Other Books:

- Himmat Hai
- Galti Kiski Bhag 2
- I Dare: Kiran Bedi (Marathi Edition)



- Creating Leadership
- Mudde Aur Darshti Kone

IISc Commissions Param Pravega, India’s One of the Powerful Supercomputers

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has installed and commissioned ‘**Param**

Pravega’, one of the most **powerful supercomputers** in India, and the largest in an Indian academic institution under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).



- The system has a total supercomputing capacity of 3.3 petaflops (1 petaflop equals a quadrillion (one quadrillion = 10^{15} or 10^{24}) operations per second).
- A majority of the components have been manufactured and assembled within India, and also an indigenous software stack has been developed by C-DAC.

Note – In 2015, IISc procured and installed SahasraT, a cutting-edge supercomputing facility.

‘Tata Sky’ Rebrands Itself as ‘Tata Play’

Tata Sky, one of the largest Direct to Home (DTH) platforms, has rebranded itself as ‘Tata Play’ to expand its television-cum-OTT (Over-The-Top) offerings in combined packages. Tata Play has added Netflix to 13 OTT services, including Amazon Prime Video and Disney+Hotstar, as part of its ‘Binge packs’.

- Tata Play Limited is a joint venture(JV) between Tata Sons and TFCF Corporation (formerly known as Twenty-First Century

Fox, Inc.) and is now a part of the Walt Disney Company.

- Tata play was incorporated in 2001 and launched its services in 2006.
- The logo has been created by Venturethree, London, and the campaign has been designed by Ogilvy India.

Samsung Surpasses Intel As World's Top Semiconductor Company in 2021

According to the report released by **Counterpoint**

Technology

Market

Research, South

Korean

electronics

manufacturing

giant, **Samsung Electronics** replaced United States (U.S) chipmaker **Intel's first position** in World's Top Semiconductor Company in 2021



- Samsung took the lead for its solid growth momentum in both logic Integrated Circuit (IC) and memory chip segments with a strong **dynamic random access memory (DRAM)** and NAND flash market performance in 2021.

Top 3 Enterprises:

1.Samsung

2.Intel

3.SK Hynix

Highlights:

i.Major smartphone SoC (system on chip) and Graphics processing unit (GPU) vendors had strong growth in 2021 with over 50 percent (year-on-year (YoY)) revenue increase.

ii.The research holds that **27 percent** YoY revenue growth among the top 15 vendors, outperforming global semiconductor revenue growth and implying

another year of the centralised semiconductor industry.

About Semiconductor Industry:

i.The Semiconductor industry saw significant structural changes in 2021 after entity lists were announced by both China and the US.

ii.Intel Chief Operating Officer (CEO) Pat Gelsinger has suggested that the chip shortage would not end until at least 2023.

Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail: Surat to Become the 1st Station to be Ready for India's 1st Bullet Train

Surat (Gujarat) is set to become the first station to be ready between

Mumbai –

Ahmedabad Bullet

Train route for

India's first

futuristic High

Speed Rail project, Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Corridor.



- MAHSR corridor will cover 12 stations in total which includes, Surat, Vadodara, Anand, Ahmedabad, Sabarmati, Bilimora, Bharuch, Mumbai, Thane, Virar, Boisar, Vapi stations.
- National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd. (NHSRCL) is the implementing agency for the project.

About MAHSR Corridor:

i.The construction of the first Bullet train in India, which will connect Ahmedabad and Mumbai, has began in September 2017.

ii.The 508 Km long high speed rail corridor build with the support of Japan, is expected to be completed by 2022.

iii.The train will operate at a speed of 320kmph and 350 km per hour is the Maximum Design Speed- of the train.

Note:

- i. The bullet train will reduce the travel time between Mumbai and Ahmedabad from 7-8 hours to 2-3 hours.
- ii. India's first bullet train will operate between Surat and Bilimora in 2026.

Navdeep Singh Gill authors 'Golden Boy Neeraj Chopra', the Biography of Neeraj Chopra

A biography of Tokyo Olympics Gold medalist, Neeraj Chopra

titled 'Golden Boy

Neeraj

Chopra' authored

by Navdeep Singh

Gill released at Punjabi

Bhawan in Ludhiana, Punjab. It was published

by Lokgeet Prakashan and is from the genre of

Children's literature.



- Neeraj Chopra won a Gold medal in the Javelin Throw event at 2020 Tokyo Olympics, in Japan.
- The book was released by the Chairperson of Punjab Kala Parishad, Surjit Patar and president of Punjabi Sahit Akademi, Lakhwinder Singh Johal.

Note- Neeraj Chopra is India's first track-and-field Olympic gold medallist and the second Indian after **Abhinav Bindra** to win a gold medal in individual events.

Highlights of the Book:

- i. The 72 page biography covers the life history and achievements of Neeraj Chopra from his childhood to the Tokyo Olympics trumpet.
- ii. It also highlights sporting techniques of Neeraj Chopra, his numerous awards and contemporaries in different chapters with coloured photos in each chapter.
- iii. It is the seventh book written by Navdeep and the

sixth placing focus on the sports as well as the sportspersons.

Famous books on Athletes :

- Ace against Odds – Sania Mirza
- Faster Than Lightning – Usain Bolt
- Beneath the Surface: My Story – Michael Phelps
- A Shot at History – Abhinav Bindra

Malkangiri in Odisha named as Most Improved Aspirational District in NITI Aayog's Delta Rankings for December 2021

The NITI (National Institute of Transforming India) Aayog announced the five most improved aspirational districts in the field of Agriculture and Water Resources sector for Champions of Change Delta Ranking, December 2021.

- **Malkangiri (Odisha)** secured first rank in the list followed by **Chhatarpur (Madhya Pradesh)** held second rank in the list.

Top 5 Most Improved Aspiration Districts in Agriculture & Water Resources sector:

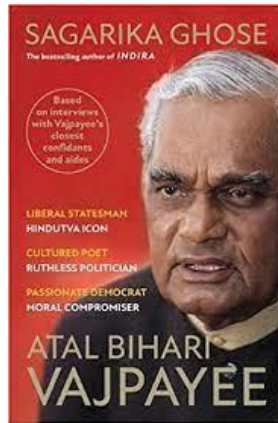
Ranking	District	State
1	Malkangiri	Odisha
2	Chhatarpur	Madhya Pradesh
3	Baramulla	Jammu and Kashmir

What is the Aspirational Districts programme?

- i. It was launched in January 2018, the programme is anchored by NITI Aayog.
- ii. The objective of the program is to monitor the real-time progress of **112 most under-developed districts** across the country.
- iii. The ranking is based on the incremental progress made across **49 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** under 5 broad socio-economic themes – Health & Nutrition, Education, Agriculture & Water Resources, Financial Inclusion & Skill Development and Infrastructure.

Sagarika Ghose Authored a New Book, a Biography Titled “Atal Bihari Vajpayee”

Senior journalist and columnist, **Sagarika Ghose**, launched her new book, a biography of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former Prime Minister (PM) of India, titled “**Atal Bihari Vajpayee**”.



- The launch event of the book was organised by The Duchess Club in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- Mukund Padmanabhan, the former editor of The Hindu, the guest of honour of the event received the 1st copy of the book.

The book was commissioned and published by **Juggernaut Books**.

Prime Ministers of India – Trilogy:

- i. This is the 2nd book of the trilogy on Prime Ministers of India by Sagarika Ghose.
- ii. The first book of the trilogy was on Indira Gandhi, titled “**Indira: India’s Most Powerful Prime Minister**” published in 2018.

About the book:

- i. The book has been prepared by referring to the Parliament speeches from the 1950s to 90s, speeches

and written works of Vajpayee and the number of bills he moved in the parliament.

- ii. The book is based on around 50 interviews with members of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and Vajpayee’s close aides.

About Sagarika Ghose:

- i. Sagarika Ghose is a senior journalist, broadcaster and columnist.
- ii. She has also worked with Time of India, Indian Express, Outlook, BBC, CNN- IBN.

Other books:

The Gin Drinkers, Blind Faith, Why I Am a Liberal: A Manifesto for Indians Who Believe in Individual Freedom (2018).

Union Cabinet approves setting up of Secretariat for India’s G20 Presidency

India is all set to hold the Presidency of the G20 (Group of Twenty) from **December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023**. In this regard, on February 15, 2022, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister (PM) of India Narendra Modi approved the setting up of a G20 Secretariat and its reporting structures.

- This Secretariat, functional till **February 2024**, will be responsible for the implementation of overall policy decisions and affairs needed for India’s G20 Presidency.
- India to host the 2023 G20 Summit in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

About Secretariat:

It will be guided by an **Apex Committee** headed by the PM, and comprising the Finance Minister, Home Minister, External Affairs Minister, and G20 Sherpa

(Union Minister Piyush Vedprakash Goyal, Ministry of Commerce & Industry; Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution). A **Coordination Committee** will also be set up to oversee all G20 preparations and report to the Apex Committee.

- The Secretariat will handle work relating to knowledge, content, technical, media, security and logistical aspects of India's G20 Presidency.
- It will include officers and staff from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Ministry of Finance, and other relevant line Ministries / Departments and domain knowledge experts.

Points to be noted:

i. G20 is the premier forum for international economic cooperation that plays an important role in global economic governance.

ii. India was originally expected to be President of the G20 in 2022, coinciding with the 75th year of the country's Independence. It had arranged a swap with **Italy**, which was to be the chair in 2022 but agreed to take on the presidency in 2021. During the G20 Summit in November 2020, India made another swap with **Indonesia**, which took on the presidency for 2022.

Goldhub: RBI Emerges 2nd Largest Buyer of Gold in 2021; Central Bank of Thailand Tops

According to **Goldhub**, an official website of the **World Gold Council** that maintains all the data regarding precious metal, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has emerged as the **2nd largest buyer of Gold** among the world's Central Banks in 2021. RBI bought 77.5 metric tonnes in 2021.

- As per Goldhub, India's official gold reserves is the **9th largest** in the world.

Highlights:

i. At the end of December 2021, RBI gold reserves stood at 754.1 tonnes, which amounts to 6.22 per cent of India's forex reserves. As per RBI data, India's total reserves at the end of December 31, 2021 stood at \$633.61 billion, including gold reserves worth \$39.405 billion.

ii. Among the world banks, the **Central Bank of Thailand** is the **largest buyer** in 2021 that bought 90 metric tonnes of gold, Hungary bought 63 tonnes, tripling its gold reserves.

Note- Goldhub is the official website of World Gold Council that maintains all the data regarding precious metal (Gold).

About World Gold Council:

Headquarters – London, United Kingdom

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – David Tait

Sarbananda Sonowal Virtually Inaugurated India's 1st Water Taxi Service in Maharashtra

Union Minister **Sarbananda Sonowal**, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, virtually inaugurated **India's 1st water taxi service** to enable faster connectivity between Mumbai and Navi

Mumbai in

Maharashtra.

While

the **Maharashtra**

Chief Minister

(CM) **Uddhav**

Thackeray inaugurated the newly constructed Belapur jetty.

About India's 1st water taxi service

i. The services will commence the **Domestic Cruise**



Terminal (DCT) and will connect the nearby locations at Nerul, Belapur, Elephanta island and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT).

ii. Apart from the water taxi, some more jetties are proposed in Mumbai Harbour area. The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is collaborating with the coastal states on various projects for port development, fisheries development, jetty construction, and skills development.

About Belapur jetty

i. It is built at a cost of **Rs. 8.37 crore**. It was funded in the 50-50 model under the Sagarmala scheme of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

ii. The jetty will enable movement of vessels to locations such as Bhaucha Dhakka, Mandwa, Elephanta and Karanja.

Key Points:

i. 131 projects worth **Rs 1.05 lakh crore** have been earmarked for Maharashtra. Of these, financial assistance of **Rs 2,078 crore** will be provided to 46 projects under Sagarmala scheme of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

- These projects will boost tourism and employment generation.

ii. Notably, the first railway service in the country was also started between Mumbai and Thane.

Indian Railway constructing India's first-ever Cable-Stayed Rail Bridge in J&K

India's **first cable-stayed railway bridge** called '**Anji Khad bridge**' (Rs 21,653-crore) is being



constructed in Reasi, Jammu and Kashmir (J&K).

- The **Anji Khad bridge**, situated over Anji river, will connect Katra and Reasi, a part of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla railway link (USBRL).

Highlights:

i. The height of the single pylon of Anji Khad bridge is around 331 meters above the river bed. It is a milestone project of Indian Railways of Udhampur - Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) in J&K.

ii. The under-construction rail bridge, once ready, will stand tall at a height of 331 meters above the river bed (higher than the Eiffel Tower in Paris). The total length of the bridge is 473.25 meters and it is supported by 96 cables.

Note- World's Highest Railway Bridge will be constructed over **Chenab river** in J&K.

Other linkage work:

Indian Railways also connected the main and the longest tunnel of T-49 between Sumber village and Arpinchala station of the Katra-Banihal section of the USBRL project.

- T-49 is the 12.758 Km long tunnel and it is going to be the longest tunnel of Indian Railway surpassing the Peer Panjal Tunnel of 11.2 Km.

Udhampur -Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL):

i. The rail-link project connects Baramulla in north Kashmir with Udhampur in Jammu.

ii. Under this project, the 11-km long **Pir Panjal railway tunnel** was constructed through the Pir Panjal range. It connects Kashmir to Srinagar through a rail grid. Trains will take 6.6 minutes to travel from Banihal to Qazigund through this tunnel.

India-UAE CEPA: India to set up 1st IIT Outside India in Dubai, UAE

The government of India (GoI) is set to establish the first Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) as a part of the India-UAE trade deal, the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), signed on 18th February 2022.

- IIT in UAE will be the first IIT and first-ever Institute of National Importance to be established outside India.

IITs in India:

- There are 23 IITs in India that offers a range of degrees and the IITs are governed by the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961.
- The top IITs in India include IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay, IIT Kharagpur, and IIT Madras.

India-UAE CEPA:

Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, signed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with the delegation from the UAE led by Abdulla bin Touq Al-Marri, Minister of Economy, and Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of State for Foreign Trade, at the bilateral meeting held on 18th February 2022.

International

GEM 2021/2022 Report :India Ranked 4th in Ease of Starting Business; Saudi Arabia Topped

In accordance with the “Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) 2021/2022 Global Report: Opportunity Amid Disruption”, unveiled at the Dubai Expo, India is among the top five easiest places to start a new business. The report has gathered data via a survey of at least 2,000 respondents across each of 47 high, medium and low-income economies.

India: Tops among Low-income economies:

India has topped amongst low-income economies (according to GDP per capita) on different Entrepreneurial Framework Conditions such as Entrepreneurial Finance, Ease of Access to Finance, Government Policy: Support and Relevance; and Government Support: Taxes and Bureaucracy; while Government Entrepreneurial Programmes was ranked second highest.

Survey of Indian respondents:

i. The survey of Indian respondents, who answered questions on their entrepreneurial activity, attitudes to enterprise and view of their local entrepreneurial ecosystem, found that 82% think it is easy to start a business.

- In this scenario, they had placed India **4th** globally. It was topped by Saudi Arabia and followed by Netherlands & Sweden.

ii. 83% believe that there are good opportunities to start a business in their area. As per this, India secured **2nd** place globally. Saudi Arabia Topped in this Category. Sweden Ranked 3rd.

iii. 86% believed they have the skills and knowledge to start a business, thereby, placing India **4th** globally. Saudi Arabia Topped in this

Category. It is Followed by Dominican Republic & Sudan.

iv. 54% cite fear of failure as a reason for not planning to start a new business in the next three years, placing India 2nd out of 47 in this list. Belarus Topped in the category.

v. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has the highest total score by a clear margin, having improved in 11 of the 13 framework conditions since 2020, and scoring highest of all 47 economies in four of them. The United Arab Emirates is the only economy to have scored as sufficient or better for all framework conditions.

vi. In 22 of the 47 economies, more than one in two adults agreed their household income had decreased.

Israel becomes 1st country to permit Drones in Civilian Airspace

Israel becomes the World's first country to allow drones to operate

in civilian

airspace. The Ministry of

Transport and

Road Safety of Israel announced the certification for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) to operate in civilian airspace.



- Hermes Starliner Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS), is the 1st UAV to receive such a certification.

Highlights:

i. The UAVs will be used for the benefit of agriculture, environment, public welfare, economic activity and against crime.

ii. The certification was issued to the Hermes Starliner UAS, which is manufactured and developed by Elbit Systems, an Israeli defense electronics company.

- The Hermes Starliner UAV can fly for up to 36 hours at an altitude of around 7600 m, and has capability to carry an additional 450 kg of thermal, electro-optical, radar and other payloads.
- The approval comes of 6-years of effective testing of radars in the UAV to avoid interference with civilian flights.

iii. This approval will allow Elbit's drone to fly in civilian airspace in a similar manner to civilian airliners. It will not be restricted to non segregated airspace.

About Israel:

Capital-Jerusalem

Prime minister- Naftali Bennett

Currency- Israeli Shekel

TomTom Traffic Index 2021: Mumbai Ranks 5th Most-Congested City in the World, Bangalore at 10th

India's Mumbai, Maharashtra and New Delhi, Delhi were ranked as **5th** and **11th** most congested cities in the world by TomTom Traffic Index global top 25 list 2021. While Bengaluru, Karnataka and Pune, Maharashtra positioned at **10th** and **21st** place respectively, are the other top congested Indian cities as per the ranking, among 404 cities across 58 countries surveyed in the index.

- The congestion level in Delhi during 2021 was 14% less than 2019.
- In Mumbai, Maharashtra; Bengaluru, Karnataka and Pune, Maharashtra, the level dropped by 18%, 32% and 29% respectively.

Solution for Reduction in Congestion

Development in infrastructure, projects such as coastal roads, metro lines, and harbour trans-harbour link road.

Towards the Development

i. India's congestion level in 2021 was 23% lower than pre-Covid times, with a decrease of 31%.

ii. Congestion level in Delhi came down to 48 points in 2021 from 53 points in 2019.

Top 5 Ranks of TomTom Traffic Index:

RANKING

Rank 1	Istanbul	Turkey
Rank 2	Moscow region (Oblast)	Russia
Rank 3	Kyiv	Ukraine
Rank 4	Bogota	Colombia
Rank 5	Mumbai	India

About TomTom:

TomTom is a multinational company providing geolocation technology for drivers, carmakers, and enterprises.

Established – 1991

Headquarters – Amsterdam, Netherlands

CEO – Harold Goddijn

EIU's Democracy Index 2021: India's Ranked 46th; Norway Topped

The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) released its report titled

'Democracy Index 2021' across 165 independent

countries and two territories (**totally**

167). **India** is



ranked **46** on the global index with an overall score of **6.91**.

- **Norway topped** the Democracy Index 2021 with an overall score of 9.75 and **Afghanistan** is the **least** democratic country with an overall score of 0.32.

Highlights:

The report is based on **five findings** – electoral process and pluralism, functioning of the government, political participation, political culture, and civil liberties.

- Based on the indicators, Countries have been classified into **four types of regime**, full democracy – 21 countries ; Flawed democracy – 53 countries (**India is under the 'Flawed Democracy'**); Hybrid democracy – 34 countries;, Authoritarian regimes – 59 countries.

About Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU):

Establishment – 1946

Headquarters – London, United Kingdom (UK)

Managing Director (MD) – Robin Bew

Microsoft Co-founder Bill Gates Authored a New Book "How To Prevent The Next Pandemic"

Bill Gates, the co-founder of Microsoft Corporation, has authored a new book titled "**How To Prevent The Next Pandemic**" which will be published in May 2022.

The book is being published by Knopf in the United States (US) and Penguin Random House internationally.



About the book:

i. The book features the specific steps to stop future pandemics and provide better health care for everyone around the world.

ii. The book outlines the lessons that can be learned

from the pandemic, the innovations needed to save lives, and the new tools needed to stop the pathogens early and equitably.

iii. The book also features conversations with public health leaders like Anthony Fauci and Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

About Bill Gates:

i. William Henry Gates III (Bill Gates) was born on 28th October 1955 in Seattle, Washington, US.

ii. In 1975, he co-founded Microsoft with Paul Allen in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

iii. He along with his then-wife Melinda French Gates established the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2000.

iii. He was honoured with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honour of US in 2016 for philanthropic efforts.

Other books:

- How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need
- Business @ the Speed of Thought: Succeeding in the Digital Economy
- The Road Ahead

USCC-GIPC's International IP Index 2022 – India Ranked 43rd; US Tops

Global Innovation Policy Centre (GIPC) of United States Chambers of Commerce (USCC) released the 10th edition of **International Intellectual Property (IIP) Index, 'Compete for Tomorrow' (IIP Index 2022)**. India has ranked **43 out of 55 countries** on the 2022 IIP Index.

- The Index is topped by the US with 95.48 percent followed by the United Kingdom (UK) with 94.14 percent and third position is occupied by Germany with 92.46

percent. 45 economies improved their overall score in this 10th edition.

Key Findings of the report:

India's Score:

i. India's overall score has increased from **38.40 percent** (19.20 out of 50) in the ninth edition to **38.64 percent** (19.32 out of 50) in the 10th edition.

ii. The Index is topped by the **US** with **95.48 percent** followed by the United Kingdom (**UK**) with 94.14 percent and third position is occupied by **Germany** with 92.46 percent.

About US Chamber of Commerce (USCC):

President and CEO – Suzanne Clark

Headquarters – Washington, D.C, United States (US)

Defence

Indian Navy's Multilateral Exercise MILAN-2022 Commences at Visakhapatnam, AP

On 25th February 2022, The 11th edition of Indian Navy's multilateral exercise 'MILAN



2022' commenced in **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**, the 'City of Destiny', commemorating India's **75th year** of independence in 2022. It is being hosted by the Eastern Naval Command.

- MILAN-2022, which is the biennial multilateral naval exercise, was inaugurated by Union minister of state for defence Ajay Bhatt.
- MILAN 22 was scheduled to be conducted for **9 days in two phases** with the **harbour phase from 25th to 28th February 2022** and **Sea Phase from 1st to 4th March 2022**.
- **Theme** – 'Camaraderie – Cohesion – Collaboration' which aims to project India as a responsible maritime power to the world at large.
- **Aim** – To smooth operational skills, imbibe best practices and procedures, and enable doctrinal learning in the maritime domain, through professional interaction between friendly navies.

About MILAN:

i. MILAN was introduced by the Indian Navy in **1995** at **Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC)**. Since its inception, the event has been held biennially except for 2001, 2005, 2016 and 2020.

ii. **Participation** – MILAN started with the participation of only **4** countries, viz Indonesia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand, in the **1995 edition** and expanded with the Government of India's (GOI's) '**Act East policy**' and Security And Growth for All in the Region (**SAGAR**) initiative, to include participation from island nations in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

MILAN 2022 Edition:

i. MILAN 22 witnesses participation of **more than 40 countries** with focus on exercises at sea including exercises in surface, sub-surface and air domains and weapon firings.

ii. Operational Conferences and Seminars are also being conducted for expressing views on maritime security by different navy's

Events:

i. On 27th – 28th February 2022 MILAN 22 will also host an **International Maritime Seminar** with the theme – 'Harnessing Collective Maritime Competence through Collaboration'.

About Indian Navy:

Chief of Naval Staff (CNS) – Admiral R. Hari Kumar
Integrated Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi.

India, Oman bilateral Air Force Exercise 'Eastern Bridge-VI' begins in Rajasthan

A 6th edition of 5-day bilateral air exercise between the **Indian Air**

Force (IAF) and the **Royal Air Force of**

Oman (RAFO) namely 'Eastern Bridge-VI'

commenced at Jodhpur Air Force Station in Rajasthan.



- Objective: This exercise is an opportunity to enhance operational capability and interoperability between the two Air Forces.

Participants:

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) has deployed a fleet of Sukhoi-30MKIs, Jaguar and Mirage-2000 fighter jets for the sixth edition of the exercise 'Eastern Bridge'.
- The Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO) has deployed its F-16 jets.

Key Points:

i. Eastern Bridge promotes professional interaction, exchange of experiences and enhancement of operational knowledge, and strengthening of bilateral relations.

ii. This exercise followed **Mohammed Nasser Al Zaabi**, Secretary-General of Oman's Ministry of Defence, visit to India from January 30 to February 4, 2022.

iii. Exercise Eastern Bridge V was held in October 2019 at the Air Force Base Masirah, Oman.

- The IAF contingent at that time (2019) comprised MiG-29 and C-17 aircraft. It was the first time that MiG-29 fighter aircraft participated in an International exercise outside India.

About Oman:

Capital– Muscat

Currency– Omani Rial

Sultan– Haitham bin Tariq Al Said

Appointments or Resign/Retired

Sergio Mattarella Re-elected as Italian President for a Second Term

Italy's current president **Sergio Mattarella**, whose 7-year term (from 2015) is ending on 3rd February 2022

has been **re-elected** for the second term in office.



- In **2013**, Giorgio Napolitano (Mattarella's predecessor) was the 1st to serve a second term since Italy became a republic in 1946, but he resigned after two years in 2015.

Presidentship of Italy:

i. The president is very **powerful** in position as he would be often called upon to resolve political crises in Italy, the euro zone's **third-largest** economy and appoints prime ministers.

ii. Unlike in the United States or France, where heads of state get elected by voting, in Italy, 1,009 parliamentarians and regional representatives choose via a secret ballot.

Portugal PM Antonio Costa Re-elected with Absolute Majority

The Socialists party led by **Antonio Costa**, the current **Prime Minister (PM) of Portugal**, has secured 117 seats out of 230 seats in the country's Parliament, to secure an absolute majority victory in the recently concluded snap elections.

- His Socialists Party has received 42 percent of the vote out of around 99 percent of the votes counted till now.

About Antonio Costa:

- i. António Luís Santos da Costa was born in 1961 in Lisbon, Portugal.
- ii. He is a Portuguese lawyer and politician serving as the Prime Minister of Portugal since 2015.
- iii. Previously, he was serving as the Secretary of State for Parliamentary Affairs (1995 to 1997), Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (1997 to 1999), Minister of Justice (1999 to 2002), Minister of Internal Administration (2005 to 2007),

About Portugal:

- i. In 1498 Portuguese traveler **Vasco da Gama** reached Calicut in the Malabar Coast.
- ii. In 1503, the **first Portuguese fort** was established at **Cochin** (now known as Kochi), Kerala.
- iii. Goa was captured from the Bijapur Sultanate **Adil Shah** by **Alfonso Albuquerque** and in 1530 Goa declared as the capital of Portuguese India.

Former Sports Secretary Ravi Mittal Appointed as new Chairperson of IBBI

Ravi Mittal, former secretary of the department of sports is appointed as the new Chairperson of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (**IBBI**) for a period of 5 years or till the age of 65, whichever is early.



- Following the retirement of M S Sahoo on 30th September 2021, Navrang Saini, a whole-time member of IBBI, has been serving as the Chairperson (additional charge) of IBBI.

- Ravi Mittal will take over from Navrang Saini after his term ends on 5th March 2022.

About Ravi Mittal:

- i. Ravi Mittal is a 1986 batch IAS officer from Bihar cadre who has previously served as the secretary of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (**MIB**).
- ii. In April 2020, he was appointed as the Secretary of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports replacing Radhey Shyam Julaniya.
- iii. He has also held the additional charge as secretary of the Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship (**MSDE**).

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

IBBI was established on 1st October 2016, under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code).

Chairperson– Navrang Saini

Headquarters– New Delhi, Delhi

ACC Approves to Extend LIC Chairman MR Kumar's Term by 1 year

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (**ACC**) has approved extending the tenure of MR Kumar as the Chairman of Life Insurance Corporation of India (**LIC**) by **1 year** till **March 2023**, for a further period beyond 13th March 2022.

- This is the 2nd extension for MR Kumar, whose term was to end on 30th June 2021.
- The term of the chairman has been extended to facilitate the launch of LIC's Initial Public Offer (**IPO**) which is expected in the 4th quarter of the financial year 2021-22.

Previous extension:

In June 2021, the government gave a 9-month extension to LIC Chairman MR Kumar, till **March 2022** in view of the ongoing preparation for the IPO.

Note: These extensions have been done as a one time measure and cannot be quoted as a precedent.

Term of LIC MD Raj Kumar Extended:

The government has also extended the tenure of LIC Managing Director, Raj Kumar by one year beyond the date of his superannuation on 31st January 2022 or until further orders.

About LIC IPO:

i. LIC IPO is expected to be the largest in the history of the Indian capital market.

ii. An IPO refers to the process of offering shares of a private corporation to the public in a new stock issuance.

About Life Insurance Corporation of India(LIC):

LIC was formed by an Act of Parliament, viz. LIC Act, 1956, with a capital contribution of Rs. 5 crores from the Government of India.

Chairman– MR Kumar

Headquarters– Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit Appointed as the 1st Woman Vice Chancellor of JNU

Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit, a political science professor at

Savitribai Phule Pune University in Maharashtra, was appointed as the



first woman Vice-Chancellor(VC) of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, Delhi, for a period of **5 years**.

- President Ram Nath Kovind, who is Visitor to JNU, has approved the appointment of Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit as the 13th VC of JNU.

She succeeds **M Jagadesh Kumar**, who was serving as the Acting VC of JNU after his 5-year term as VC ended in 2021. He was appointed as the chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC).

Professor Dinesh Prasad Saklani Appointed as New Director of NCERT

Dinesh Prasad Saklani, Professor of history at the Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna(HNB) Garhwal University, Srinagar,



Uttarakhand has been appointed as the new Director of the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Education (MoE), for 5 years or till he attains the age of 65 years, whichever is the earliest.

- He succeeds Hrushikesh Senapaty, who has served as the director of NCERT from 2015 to 2020.
- As the new Director of NCERT, Dinesh Prasad Saklani will oversee the drafting of the new National Curriculum Framework (NCF), which will formulate the guidelines for the changes in the curriculum.
- He has been honoured with the Distinguished Academy Award by Punjab Kala and Sahitya Academy, Jalandhar for Historical writing in 2005.

Tata Sons reappointed N Chandrasekaran as its Chairman for the Second 5-year Term

Tata Sons reappointed **Natarajan**

Chandrasekaran (N Chandrasekaran) as its Executive Chairman for the period of another five year term (2022-2027), starting from February 2022.

- **Ratan Tata**, who was also present in the meeting of the Board of Tata Trusts that recommended a renewed term for the Executive Chairman.

About N Chandrasekaran:

i. He joined the Tata Sons Board in October 2016 and started his first term as the Chairman in January 2017.
 ii. He also served as Chief operating officer (COO) and executive director of Tata Consultancy Services. He is also the Chairman of Tata Steel, Tata Motors, Tata Power and Tata Consultancy Services.

About Tata Sons:

Founded- 1868

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Chairman- Natarajan Chandrasekaran

Munishwar Nath Bhandari Appointed as the Chief Justice of Madras High Court

Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari (MN

Bhandari), Acting Chief

Justice (ACJ) of the Madras High Court (HC), has been appointed as

the Chief Justice (CJ) of the Madras HC.



- The appointment has been approved by the President of India, Ram Nath Kovind.

Following the transfer of Justice **Sanjib Banerjee**, CJ of the Madras High Court, to Meghalaya HC in November 2021, Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari was appointed as the ACJ of the Madras HC.

About Munishwar Nath Bhandari:

i. Munishwar Nath Bhandari, who hails from Rajasthan, was initially appointed as a judge in the Rajasthan High Court in 2007.

ii. Later he was transferred to the Allahabad HC in 2019.

iii. In 2021, he was transferred to the Madras High Court, where he assumed office as the ACJ on 22nd November 2021.

Ilker Ayci Appointed as the MD and CEO of Air India

Tata Sons have appointed **Ilker Ayci**, former Turkish Airlines Chairman as the new MD and CEO of Air India and he will resume his responsibilities on or before April 1, 2022.

About Ilker Ayci:

i. Born in Istanbul, Ilker Ayci studied at Bilkent University's Department of Political Science and Public Administration in 1994.

ii. Made a research stay on political science at the Leeds University in the UK in 1995, also completed International Relations Master's program at the Marmara University in Istanbul in 1997.

iii. Being assigned in several positions he served as a General Manager in Basak Sigorta A.S. between 2005-2006, and then in Gunes Sigorta A.S. between 2006 and 2011.

iv. In 2011, he was appointed as the Chairman of The Republic of Turkey Investment Support and Promotion Agency.

v. In 2013, he was appointed as the Vice President of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies.

vi. In 2015, he was appointed as the **Chairman of Turkish Airlines**.

Achievements

Ilker Ayci was awarded **the Order of the Rising Sun and Golden Rays with a Neck Ribbon** by The Emperor of Japan.

CBSE appoints IAS Vineet Joshi as new Chairman

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)

announced the appointment

of **Vineet Joshi**,

Additional Secretary

in the Ministry of

Education, as its

new **Chairman** with

effect from February 14, 2022 in addition to his

existing assignments.



- He will succeed former CBSE Chairman **Manoj Ahuja**, who was appointed as the Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

About Vineet Joshi:

i. Vineet Joshi is an Indian Administrative Services (IAS) of 1992 batch officer from Manipur cadre.

ii. Currently, he also serves as the **Director-General** of the National Testing Agency (NTA). About Central

Board of Secondary Education (CBSE):

It is a national level board of education in India for public and private schools, controlled and managed by the Government of India.

Parent organization–Ministry of Education

Founded- 1929 as Board of High School and Intermediate Education, later renamed as CBSE in 1952.

Headquarters- New Delhi

G Ashok Kumar Appointed as India's 1st National Maritime Security Coordinator

The government of India has appointed **Vice Admiral (retd) G Ashok Kumar**, the former Navy vice chief, as India's **first** National Maritime Security

Coordinator (NMSC) in the National Security Council Secretariat. The proposal for the creation of this post was cleared by the Cabinet Committee on Security in 2021.

- This is a part of India's efforts to enhance maritime security following the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack (2008).

Mandate:

The NMSC is mandated to ensure cohesion among the key stakeholders with the objective of strengthening India's maritime security.

Works of NMSC:

i. The NMSC will work in coordination with the

National Security Council Secretariat and report to National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Kumar Doval

ii. The NMSC will coordinate among the Indian Navy, the Coast Guard, security agencies involved in coastal and maritime security and 13 coastal states and Union Territories(UTs).

Note: The coastline of India stretches around 7500 kilometres(km) covering 9 states, 2 UTs and 2 island territories.

About G Ashok Kumar:

i. Vice Admiral G Ashok Kumar, a Flag Officer in the Indian Navy, retired from the service in July 2021.

ii. He served as the 35th Vice Chief of the Naval Staff from 2019 to 2021.

About National Security Council(NSC):

NSC is an executive government agency tasked with advising the Prime Minister's Office(PMO) on matters of national security and strategic interest.

National Security Advisor– Ajit Kumar Doval
Secretariat– New Delhi, Delhi.

Vice Chancellor of JNU – Jagadesh Kumar appointed as Chairman of UGC

The Vice-Chancellor (VC) of Jawaharlal Nehru University

(JNU), Mamidala

Jagadesh Kumar was appointed as the Chairperson of the University Grants Commission (UGC).



He is appointed for a period of five years (2022-2027), or until he turns 65, whichever is earlier.

- M. Jagadesh Kumar will succeed Prof **D P Singh**, the former UGC Chairman, who resigned in December 2021 after superannuation.

i. Jagadesh Kumar successfully completed his five-year term as VC of JNU, which ended in January 2021, but he was asked to stay on till a successor is picked.

ii. He is a graduate of IIT (Indian Institute of Technology) Madras (Chennai), Tamil Nadu.

iii. He also served as professor in IIT-Delhi's Department of Electrical Engineering.

About University Grants Commission (UGC):

i. In 1944, the **Sargeant Report**, for the first time proposed the formation of a National system of education in India.

ii. In 1948, the University Education Commission under the Chairmanship of Dr. S Radhakrishnan recommended the formation of UGC.

iii. The Commission provides recognition to universities in India and disburses funds for development of such recognised universities and colleges.

IndiGo Appointed Co-founder Rahul Bhatia as Managing Director

IndiGo (InterGlobe Aviation Ltd), an Indian low-cost airline, has appointed its co-founder and promoter **Rahul Bhatia** as the new Managing Director (MD) of IndiGo with immediate effect for a period of 5 years.

- The appointment of Rahul Bhatia was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors, subject to the approval of the shareholders.
- InterGlobe Enterprises is the parent company of IndiGo.

Key Points:

As the MD, Rahul Bhatia, will oversee all the aspects of the airline and lead the management team.

Rahul Bhatia will aim to transform and focus on expanding IndiGo's presence in India and in international markets and building for the long term.

About Rahul Bhatia:

i. Rahul Bhatia is the non-executive Vice Chairman of InterGlobe Enterprises.

ii. He established InterGlobe Enterprises in 1989 with its flagship business of Air Transport Management.

About IndiGo (InterGlobe Aviation Ltd):

CEO– Ronojoy Dutta

Headquarters- Gurugram, Haryana

Honours/ Awards

Brand Finance Global 500 2022: Apple Retains Most Valuable Brand Title

According to Brand Finance's annual report titled "Global 500 2022: The annual report on the world's most valuable and strongest



brands", Apple has retained its title as the **World's Most Valuable Brand in 2022**. The valuation of Apple has increased by 35%(USD 355.1 billion) and the report states that Apple has become the first brand to reach a market valuation of USD 3 Trillion.

- Following Apple, Amazon and Google have been named among the top three most valuable brands.

Highlights:

- TikTok** has become the World's fastest-growing brand with 215% growth in its valuation in 2022.
- China's **WeChat**(ranked 13) has been named the strongest Brand for the 2nd year. WeChat has scored 93.3 out of 100 and an elite AAA+ rating.

Note:

Satya Nadella, Chairman and CEO of Microsoft has topped Brand Finance Brand Guardianship Index 2022 of the world's top 250 CEOs.

Key Points:

- United States(US) and China dominated the claiming two-thirds of brand value in ranking and India sees the fastest growth over course of COVID-19 pandemic among the top nations up 42%.
- India's Tata Group(ranked 78th) is among the top 100 most valued brands globally. Tata group has ranked 77th in 2021 ranking. The company's valuation has increased 12% in 2022.

iii. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has slipped from 229 in 2021 to 236th in 2022 and Mahindra Group has ranked 364th in the ranking.

PR Sreejesh becomes 1st Indian man to win World Games Athlete of the Year 2021 Award

Veteran India hockey goalkeeper Parattu Raveendran (PR) Sreejesh (33) from Kerala won **The World Games Athlete of the Year 2021** for his performances

2021. With this he became the 1st Indian man & 2nd Indian to receive this accolade after



Indian women's hockey captain **Rani Rampal** who became the first Indian to win this in 2020.

- He will receive a trophy and prize from the official sponsor of The World Games Athlete of the Year i.e. **Protective Life**.

Key Points:

- For this award, he has surpassed Alberto Gines Lopez (Climber) of Spain and Italy's wushu player Michele Giordano. He has grabbed 1,27,647 votes, whereas Alberto and Michele Giordano accumulated 67,428 and 52,046 votes respectively.
- He was the only Indian nominated and was recommended by the International Hockey Federation (FIH).
- In the FIH Stars Awards in October 2021, PR Sreejesh was named as the Goalkeeper of the year 2021.

China honors PLA Galwan commander Qi Fabao as Winter Olympics Torchbearer

The government of China, selected People's Liberation Army (PLA) regiment commander **Qi Fabao**, who was involved in the Galwan Valley Clash as the Torchbearer of 2022 Winter Olympic that will be held in Beijing.

Highlights:

i. The 2022 Winter Olympics, officially called the **XXIV Olympic Winter Games** and commonly known as Beijing 2022, will be organized between 4-20 February 2022 in Beijing, China.

ii. President of China Xi Jinping and other world leaders across the world, including Russia's Vladimir Putin, five Central Asian Presidents and Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan will attend the ceremony.

iii. Wang Meng, who is China's four-time Olympic short track speed skating champion, handed over the flame to Qi Fabao at Winter Olympic Park, Beijing.

About Galwan Valley Clash:

i. In 2020, Ladakh's Galwan Valley witnessed a violent clash between the Armies of India and China. India lost 20 Indian soldiers which led to a military standoff with China.

ii. The Galwan Valley area lies just to the **east of the Siachen glacier** and is the only point that provides direct access to **Aksai Chin** from India.

iii. The Indian and Chinese armies were engaged in the standoff in **Pangong Tso**, Galwan Valley, **Demchok and Daulat Beg Oldie** in Ladakh.

New Zealand's Daryl Mitchell Named winner of ICC Spirit of Cricket Award 2021

New Zealand cricketer, **Daryl Mitchell**, has been named the winner of the International Cricket Council (ICC) **Spirit of Cricket Award 2021** for his

gesture of refusing to take a single in the high-pressure 2021 ICC

Men's T20

World Cup

Semi-Finals

against

England at the

Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi.



- He has become the 4th New Zealand player to win the award after Daniel Vettori, Brendon McCullum and Kane Williamson.

Note:

The ICC Spirit of Cricket Award is annually awarded by the ICC to recognise the player most notable for "upholding the 'Spirit of the Game'".

About Daryl Mitchell:

i. Daryl Mitchell has been called into New Zealand's Test team in 2019 as a replacement for the injured Colin de Grandhomme.

ii. He had made his international debut against India in T20 cricket in February 2019.

iii. He has also made his first-class debut at the end of the 2011-12 season.

Republic Day Parade 2022: Uttar Pradesh Selected As Best State Tableau, Maharashtra won Popular Choice Award

Uttar Pradesh (UP) was selected as best state tableau of 73rd Republic Day parade 2022 on Rajpath along with **Maharashtra (MH)** that won in **popular choice category** and the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) was named as the best marching contingent among Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF).

Highlights of the winners:

- i. The tableau of UP has been selected as the best tableau among the 12 States/UTs.
- ii. In the Best Central Ministries/Departments, a total of 9 tableaux of Central Ministries/Departments had participated in the parade.
- iii. MH took first place in the best state tableau under **people's choice awards**.

Bloomberg Billionaires Index – Gautam Adani overtakes Mukesh Ambani as Asia's Richest Person

In accordance with the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, Gautam Adani (59) net worth reached \$88.5 billion overtaking Mukesh Ambani's \$87.9 billion becoming Asia's richest person as on 8th February, 2022.



- With a nearly **\$12 billion jump** in his personal wealth, he has become the 10th richest person in the world.
- Globally the Elon Musk was named as the world's richest person with total net worth of \$235 Billion. He was followed by Jeff Bezos with total net worth of \$183 Billion & Bernard Arnault with total net worth of \$168 Billion.

Key Points:

- i. Currently, Gautam Adani owns a total of **12 ports** and plans to be the world's biggest ports operator by 2030.
- ii. Known as the nation's infrastructure king, he has announced plans to expand his green energy capacity by 2025.
- iii. Gautam Adani founded the Adani Group in 1988

and diversified into resources, agriculture, logistics, aerospace, energy and defence, amongst others.

Note – The Bloomberg Billionaires Index is a daily ranking of the world's richest people.

19 yr old Zara Rutherford Becomes Youngest Woman to Fly Solo Around the World

Zara Rutherford, a 19-year-old Belgian-British pilot, has set the world record as the youngest woman to fly solo around the world and she has also become the first woman to circumnavigate the world in a microlight aircraft. She is also the first Belgian to circumnavigate the world solo in a single-engine aircraft.



- She completed her ~52,000-kilometre journey covering 41 countries in a bespoke Shark ultralight aircraft (Shark UL plane).
- She began her journey from Kortrijk-Wevelgem Airport in western Belgium on 18th August 2021 and ended on 20th January 2022.

Previously, the record of youngest woman to fly solo around the world was held by American aviator **Shaesta Waiz** who achieved the feat at the age of 30 in 2017.

Atal Tunnel officially recognised as 'Longest Highway Tunnel above 10,000 feet' by World Book of Records

February 9, 2022, the World Book (WB) of Records United Kingdom (UK) has officially certified Atal Tunnel as the World's Longest Highway Tunnel above

10,000 Feet (~3048 Meters) from the Mean Sea Level (MSL). This recognition was given during a ceremony in New Delhi. The award for the same was received by **Lieutenant General Rajeev Chaudhry**, Director General of Border Roads (DGBR).

About Atal Tunnel:

Constructed by Border Roads Organisation (BRO) connecting Manali, Himachal Pradesh (HP) to the Lahaul-Spiti Valley in HP, this **9.02 kilometer** long tunnel worth **Rs 3300 crores** was inaugurated by Prime Minister (PM) of India Narendra Modi in Manali on October 3, 2020.

- It has reduced the distance on Manali-Sarchu road by 46 km and travel time by four to five hours, providing all-weather connectivity on the Manali – Leh axis.
- It is built in **Pir Panjal Range** of Himalayas.
- It is also the **world's longest and highest motorable tunnel** running across the 13,050 ft high Rohtang Pass.

World Book of Records UK is an organisation that catalogues and verifies extraordinary records across the world with authentic certification.

ICICI Bank's MD & CEO Sandeep Bakhshi Named Business Standard Banker of the Year 2020-21

Sandeep Bakhshi, Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ICICI Bank, has been named as the Business Standard Banker of the Year 2020-21 for his role in turning around ICICI Bank and changing perceptions of the bank during his three-and-a-half-year tenure as MD and CEO of ICICI Bank.

- He was selected by a jury of five, chaired by S S Mundra, former deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**).
- The criteria for selecting the contenders are, banks with an asset size of Rs 50000 crore and above as of March 2021, and 10% or more growth in profits prior to provisioning in the past 1, 2 and 3-year.

Bill Gates Honoured with 'Hilal-e-Pakistan' 2nd Highest Civilian Honour of Pakistan

On 17th February 2022, the government of Pakistan has honoured **Bill**

Gates of United States of America with **Hilal-e-Pakistan**, the second Highest Civilian Honour of

Pakistan for his efforts towards eradicating polio in Pakistan. He is the co-founder of Microsoft and philanthropist.



- Dr Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan conferred the award to Bill Gates at the ceremony held in Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad, Pakistan, during his one-day visit to Pakistan. This marks Bill Gates first-ever visit to Pakistan.
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has been a major contributor in worldwide polio eradication through Gavi, the vaccine alliance.

DPIFF Awards 2022: Ranveer Singh, Kriti Sanon, Asha Parekh Received the Awards

The winners of the **Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (DPIFF) Awards 2022**, India's only

independent international film festival, were declared in Mumbai, Maharashtra. The award was presented by **Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (DPIFF)** in memory of Dadasaheb Phalke '**Father of Indian Cinema**'.

- Bollywood stars Ranveer Singh and Kriti Sanon received awards in the Best Actor and Best Actress category for their performances in movies '83' and 'Mimi'.
- Allu Arjun's movie, 'Pushpa: The rise' received the film of the year award. Actress Asha Parekh was honoured with an award for her outstanding contribution to cinema.

Note – The movie '83' is based on Team India's 1983 World Cup victory led by Kapil Dev. 'Mimi', which is the Hindi remake of Samroutdhi Porey's 'Mala Aai Vhhaychy', the National award-winning 2011 Marathi film.

DPIFF Awards 2022 recognizes the outstanding efforts by international as well as national personalities from cinema.

About Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (DPIFF):

CEO – Abhishek Mishra

Sports

Chennai Super Kings Becomes India's 1st Unicorn Sports Enterprise

Four-time Indian Premier League (IPL) winners

Chennai Super

Kings (CSK), has

become the

country's **1st sports**

Unicorn with its

market cap having touched a high of **Rs 7,600**

crores and its share in the grey market trading in the

Rs 210-225 price band.



- Currently, CSK has a market cap more than its parent entity, India Cements. On January 29, 2022, India Cements' market cap stood at Rs 6,869 crores.

Key Points:

i. Reasons behind increase in market cap: Winning of 4th IPL title in Dubai, and addition of two new franchises to the upcoming season at record prices.

ii. CVC Capital acquired the rights for the Ahmedabad franchise for Rs 5,625 crore and the Sanjiv Goenka-led RPSG (RP-Sanjiv Goenka) Group bought the Lucknow franchise (Lucknow Super Giants) for Rs 7,090 crore.

What is Unicorn?

Unicorns are privately held start-up companies having a valuation of more than USD 1 billion.

Additional info – Currently, India has the **3rd** largest number of Unicorns in the world. As per the Global Unicorn Index 2021 report released by the Hurun Research Institute, India ranked at 3rd (by adding 33 'unicorns' in 2020) by displacing the United Kingdom (UK) to the 4th spot.

About Indian Premier League (IPL):

It is an annual Twenty20 cricket league usually held in a two-month window between March and May.

Founded by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

The league came into existence in 2008 with 8 franchises.

110th Australian Open Tennis 2022: Rafael Nadal Won Record 21st grand slam Men's Singles Title

i. Rafael Nadal claimed his record-breaking 21st Grand Slam Men's Singles Title at the first Grand Slam of 2022 i.e. the 2022

Australian Open was held at Melbourne Park, Melbourne in



Australia on January

17-30, 2022. Organized by the **International Tennis Federation** (ITF), it was the 110th edition of the Australian Open, and the 54th in the Open Era.

ii. **Men's Singles**– Rafael Nadal Parera of Spain by defeating Russia's Daniil Sergeyevich Medvedev by 2-6, 6-7, 6-4, 6-4, 7-5

iii. **Women's Singles**– Ashleigh Barty of Australia by defeating the United States' Danielle Rose Collins by 6-3, 7-6

Static about Grand Slam events:

Grand Slam tournaments (also called majors) are 4 most important annual tennis events. The 4 Grand Slam events are Australian Open, Wimbledon, French Open & US Open. They are hosted by the International Tennis Federation.

Australian Open

- It takes place at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Australia. Usually takes place

in the Month of January. It was founded in 1905.

- It is the 1st Grand Slam event of the ATP & WTA Calendar
- Type of surface – Hard Court

Wimbledon

It takes place at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, London, United Kingdom (UK). It is the Oldest Tennis Tournament, founded in 1877.

- It usually takes place around the months of June-July
- Type of Surface – Grass

French Open

It is also known as Roland Garros and takes place at the Roland Garros Stadium, Paris, France. It was founded in 1891.

- It usually takes place in the months of May-June.
- Type of Surface – Clay

US Open

It takes place at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, New York, USA. It was founded in 1881. It is the 4th & Final Grand Slam Tournament of the WTA & ATP Calendar.

- Usually takes place in the months of August-September.
- Type of Surface – Hard Court

Asian Games 2022 to Feature 40 Sports; Cricket to be Back After 11 years

Asian Games 2022(19th edition), the multi-sporting event which is set to take place from 10th to 25th September 2022 in Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China will

feature 40 sports with a total of 61 disciplines including several Olympic Sports. Cricket (in T20 format) is set to be featured in the Asian Games after 11 years.

- Following the approval from the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), E-sports and breakdancing will debut in the 2022 Asian Games.
- India, a member of the South Asian Zone of the OCA, is one of the 7 countries that have competed in all the editions of the Asian Games.
- Sony Pictures Networks India, (SPN), has acquired the exclusive rights for the 2022 Asian Games from November 2021 to September 2023.

Tata Steel Chess Tournament 2022: Norway's Magnus Carlsen Won the Title

Norwegian Grandmaster(GM), Magnus Carlsen (world rank: 1), has won the title of Tata Steel Chess Tournament

2022, organised by the Tata Steel Chess

Tournament. He has won his **8th**



Tata Steel Title defeating Italian-American GM Fabiano Caruana. Magnus Carlsen, holds the record for most wins at the tournament.

- The Tata Steel Chess Tournament 2022, 84th edition, took place in Wijk ann Zee, the Netherlands from 14th January to 30th January 2022.
- The Tata Steel Chess Tournament is internationally known as “The Wimbledon

of Chess” and it was formerly known as the Corus chess tournament.

Note:

India's Viswanathan Anand has won the 5 Tata Steel Title, the 2nd most wins in the tournament.

Additional info:

Grandmaster Erigaisi Arjun of India has won the Tata Steel Challengers and earned a spot in the Tata Steel Masters 2023.

Erigaisi Arjun from Warangal, Telangana has become the 4th Indian to win the Challengers title after P Harikrishna, B Adhiban and Vidit Gujrathi.

About Magnus Carlsen:

Magnus Carlsen became the World Chess Champion in 2013 by defeating Viswanathan Anand.

He topped the International Chess Federation(FIDE) world ranking at the age of 19 and became the youngest person to do so.

Football -AFC Women's Asian Cup India 2022:

China PR won the Championship; wins 9th Title

China PR (People's Republic) won the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Women's Asian Cup India 2022 defeating South Korea in the finals held at the D.Y.

Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra. The 2022 championship marks China's 9th title.

- **AFC Women's Asian Cup India 2022**, the **20th edition of the AFC Women's Asian Cup**, was hosted by **India** from 20th January to 6th February 2022 in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, and Pune, Maharashtra.
- **Participants of 2022:** China PR; Chinese Taipei; India; Ir Iran; Japan; Myanmar; Australia; Indonesia; Thailand; Philippines; Korea Republic (South Korea); and Vietnam.

- For the first time in the competition, the final tournament was expanded from 8 teams to 12.

Note: Previously India has hosted the AFC Women's Asian Cup in 1979.

Key Points:

- China PR is the most successful team, with 9 titles.
- China PR won the title for the 8th time in AFC Women's Asian Cup 2006.
- With this win, China PR has been qualified for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup which is to be held in Australia and New Zealand.

About AFC Women's Asian Cup:

- AFC Women's Asian Cup is a quadrennial tournament, held every 4 years, to crown the best women's football team in Asia.
- The first-ever AFC Women's Asian Cup was held in 1975 (New Zealand was the inaugural champion of the event).
- Initially, the competition was held every 2 years in the 1970s, 1990, 2000s and briefly shifted to a triennial competition in the 1980s. Since 2014, the event became quadrennial.

Cricket: Overview of West Indies Tour of India – 2022

West Indies cricket team toured India for 3 One-Day Internationals (ODI) and 3 Twenty-20 Internationals (T20I) in February, 2022. It was a complete **whitewash** series win for India over West Indies.

- In the ODI cricket, India defeated West Indies by 3-0 and in the T20I cricket, India defeated West Indies by 3-0.

Records of Indian Cricket Team:

- The Indian Cricket Team is the first ever team to play 1000 ODI matches, followed by Australia which

played 958 ODI matches.

- Also, the Indian cricket team became the second team to win 100 T20I matches followed by Pakistan.
- India secured International Cricket Council (ICC) No.1 Rank (10484 points) in T20I after the win against West Indies.

Man of the Series in the West Indies Tour of India – 2022:

- Prasidh Krishna** was adjudged Man of the Series in ODI's.
- Suryakumar Yadav** was adjudged Man of the Series for India in T20I's

Records Of Rohit Sharma Captaincy:

- Rohit equalled Sarfaraz Ahmed (Former Pakistan Captain) record of nine consecutive T20I wins as a skipper.
- Rohit hence became the first Indian captain, and fifth overall in world cricket, to win consecutive bilateral T20I series (minimum 3 matches).

Debutants For India in the West Indies Tour of India – 2022:

- Deepak Hooda, in ODI's
- Ravi Bishnoi and Avesh Khan, in T20I's.

Highlights of Winter Olympics 2022 held in Beijing China; Norway Tops

i. The 24th edition of winter Olympics i.e. 2022 Winter Olympics/ Beijing 2022, officially called the **XXIV Olympic Winter**



Games was an international winter multi-sport event held on February 4-20, 2022 at Beijing National Stadium in Beijing, China. Beijing Organising Committee organizes the event.

- This is for the second time that Beijing hosted Olympics after 2008 when it hosted the Summer Olympics 2008. With this, Beijing becomes the **first**

city to have hosted both the Summer and Winter Olympics. Some events were also held in its Yanqing District, and Zhangjiakou.

iii. Norway topped the medal tally for the second successive Winter Olympics by winning a total of 37 medals, of which 16 were gold. This win set a **new record for the highest number of gold medals won** at a single Winter Olympics.

iv. It should be noted that India launched a diplomatic boycott of the Games after a People's Liberation Army (China's Army) commander Qi Fabao involved in **2020 Galwan Valley** border clashes between India-China appeared as an Olympic torchbearer in the customary torch relay.

v. Beijing 2022 passes Winter Olympics to Milano and Cortina of Italy which will host the winter games in 2026.

About Beijing Organising Committee:

Beijing Organising Committee for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games is a public institution with legal person status, responsible for the organisation and coordination of all the preparations and delivery of the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Secretary General – Han Zirong

Secretariat – Beijing, China

GM R Praggnanandhaa defeats Magnus Carlsen at Airthings Masters Chess Tournament

A 16-year old Indian Grandmaster (GM) **R Praggnanandhaa** defeated World Number 1 **Magnus Carlsen** (Norway) in the 8th round of the **Airthings Masters**, an online rapid chess tournament.

Key points:

i. With this victory, R Praggnanandhaa became the third Indian, after Viswanathan Anand and P

Harikrishna, to accomplish the rare feat of defeating Magnus Carlsen.

ii. The Airthings Masters, which is an online chess rapid tournament of 16 players, a player gets three points for a win and one for a draw in the preliminary rounds. Currently, Russian player Ian Nepomniachtchi is on top of the standings with 19 points followed by Ding Liren and Hansen (both on 15 points).

About R Praggnanandhaa:

i. R Praggnanandhaa was born on August 10, 2005 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

ii. He is an Indian chess grandmaster and the fifth youngest grandmaster among the top 39 youngest grandmasters as of June 30, 2021 behind Abhimanyu Mishra, Sergey Karjakin, Gukesh D and Javokhir Sindarov.

- In 2016 he became the world's youngest international masters in history, at the age of 10 years, 10 months, and 19 days.
- In 2013, he also won the World Youth Chess Championships Under-8 title, which earned him the title of FIDE Master at the age of 7 years.
- He became India's youngest and world's second youngest Grandmaster in 2018.

India Wins the Bid to Host 2023 IOC Session In Mumbai After 40 Years

During the 139th International Olympic Committee's session (IOC) in Beijing, China, India won the bidding rights to host the **2023** IOC session in Mumbai,



Maharashtra. India will host for the first time in 40 years since 1983.

- The IOC session is the general meeting of the Members of the IOC.
- The session will be hosted at the state-of-the-art, **Jio World Convention Centre**, Mumbai.
- In 1983, IOC session was held at New Delhi.

International Olympic Committee(IOC)

- The IOC has a total of 105 members active members.
- Additionally, it consists of 45 honorary members , 1 honour member who do not have the right to vote and 206 individual National Olympic Committees.
- An ordinary Session of IOC is held once a year.

About Indian Dignitaries:

- The Indian dignitaries consist of the country's first individual Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra (Beijing 2008, shooting).
- IOC Member Nita Ambani.
- Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President Narinder Batra.
- Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur.

Ranji Trophy 2021-22: Sakibul Gani creates World Record & Becomes 1st Cricketer to Score Triple-Century on First-Class Debut

In February 2022, Sakibul Gani, an Indian cricketer hailing from Motihari in Bihar, created a world record by becoming the first cricketer to score a triple century on his debut in a first-class match, 2021–22 Ranji Trophy.

- He scored 341 runs with 405 balls, (56 fours & 2 sixes) representing Bihar in the plate group 2021–22 Ranji Trophy fixture against **Mizoram** at the Jadavpur University Campus Ground, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- He made his List A debut for Bihar in October 2019.

Previously, the record of highest score on first-class debut was held by Ajay Rothera of Madhya Pradesh (267 runs in December 2018) and Amol Muzumdar of Mumbai (260 runs in 1993-1994).

Indian Weightlifter Mirabai Chanu Wins Gold in Singapore Weightlifting International 2022

Saikhom Mirabai Chanu , the Indian weightlifter from Manipur state wins **Gold medal** in 55kg category in Singapore

Weightlifting International 2022. Also secured her position for the



Commonwealth Games 2022 in 49kg and 55kg category in Birmingham, United Kingdom.

- Mirabai Chanu participated for the first time in the 55kg category in weightlifting and lifted the total weight of 191 kilograms (86kg in snatch+105kg in clean & jerk) and placed First in the podium, under the guidance of Indian Weightlifting Federation (IWLF).
- Followed by her Second place was given to Australia's Jessica Sewastenko's, lifted 167kg and Third place was given to Malaysia's Elly Cassandra Englebert, lifted 165kg.

iii. In the 2020 Tokyo Olympics Chanu lifted a total of 202kg (87kg+115kg), and was awarded **Silver medal**.

Note:

- Sanket Sagar (55kg), Rishikanta Singh (55kg) and

Bindyarani Devi (59kg) also placed their names in weightlifting in Commonwealth Games 2022.

ii. Karnam Malleswari is the First Indian woman to win a bronze medal in women's 69kg weightlifting at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

Achievements of Mirabai Chanu:

YEAR	COMPETITION	POSITION
2014	commonwealth games – Glasgow, Scotland	Silver
2016	Women Senior National Weightlifting Championship	Gold
2017	World Weightlifting Championship – Anaheim, California	Gold
2018	Women's Sr. National WL Championship – Mangalore, India	Gold
2018	Commonwealth Games – Gold Coast, Australia	Gold
2020	Olympics – Tokyo, Japan	Silver

Obituaries

Actor, Olympian & Asian Games medallist, Praveen Kumar Sobti passed away

Asian Games medallist, **Praveen Kumar Sobti** passed away at the age

of 74, due to heart attack. He was a hammer throw & discus throw player,

film actor, politician, and soldier with Border Security Force (BSF).



i. Sobti was born on 6 December 1947 in Sarhali Kalan, Punjab.

ii. As an actor, he starred in more than 50 Hindi films and played the famous character of "Bheem" in B.R. Chopra's television series **Mahabharat** in 1988.

iii. As a politician he contested the 2013 Delhi Legislative elections on an Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) ticket. Later, he joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in 2014.

iv. He has won 4 medals in the Asian Games. In 1996 he won a Gold for Discus throw and a Bronze for Hammer throw; In 1970 he won a Gold for Discus throw and in 1974 he won a Silver for Discus throw.

- He won a silver medal in the Commonwealth Games at Kingston in 1966. Becoming the second Indian, only after Milkha Singh, to win a medal for India in Commonwealth Games.
- He also competed in two Olympics, in 1968 Mexico City, Mexico and in 1972 Munich, Germany.

French Virologist Luc Montagnier who Co-Discovered HIV Virus Passed Away

French virologist Luc Montagnier, who led the team in 1983 that identified the human

immunodeficiency virus (**HIV**) which causes Acquired

ImmunoDeficiency Syndrome (**AIDS**), has died.



- He shared the **2008 Nobel Prize** for Medicine particularly in identifying the virus that causes AIDS with his fellow French scientist Françoise Barre-Sinoussi.

About Luc Montagnier:

i. Montagnier was born in 1932 in France and gained a PhD in virology at the University of Paris and later became Director of the World Foundation for AIDS Research and Prevention in Paris.

- He joined the National Centre for Scientific Research (**CNRS**), France in 1960 and became **head** of the Pasteur Institute's virology department in **1972**.

ii. He for the first time identified an infectious **double-stranded RNA** from cells infected with the **murine encephalomyocarditis virus**, a small single-stranded RNA virus in Kingsley Sanders' laboratory at Carshalton near London.

- The **first** description of infectious viral RNA from the tobacco mosaic virus by Fraenkel-Conrat and Gierer and Schramm inspired him to become a virologist in 1957.

iii. His investigation of interferon, one of the body's defences against viruses, also opened avenues for medical cures for viral diseases.

Padma Bhushan Rahul Bajaj Former Chairman of the Bajaj Group Passed Away

Padma Bhushan **Rahul Bajaj**, Indian Industrialist and former chairman of Bajaj Group has passed away in Pune, Maharashtra. He was born on 10th June 1938 in Calcutta, Bengal Presidency, British India (now Kolkata, West Bengal).

About Rahul Bajaj:

- i.** Rahul Bajaj took charge as the Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) of Bajaj Auto in 1968 and was later appointed as Managing Director in 1972.
 - ii.** In April 2021 he stepped down as the non-executive director and chairman of Bajaj Auto, succeeded by Niraj Bajaj.
 - iii.** He has also served as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (**CII**) from 1979 to 1980 and served a 2nd term as President of CII from 1999-2000.
 - iv.** He has also served as the President of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (**SIAM**) and the Chairman of erstwhile Indian Airlines from 1986-89.
 - v.** From **2006 to 2010** he served as a member of the **Rajya Sabha** (from Maharashtra), the upper house of the Parliament.
- Honours:**
The government of India honoured him with the **Padma Bhushan**, the third-highest civilian award of India in 2001 for Trade and Industries.

Indian Composer & Singer Bappi Lahiri Passed Away

Indian music composer and singer, **Bappi Lahiri** (nickname: Bappi Daa, Disco King of India), has passed away in Mumbai,



Maharashtra. He was born as **Alokesh Lahiri** on 27th November 1952 in Jalpaiguri, West Bengal.

- He is well known for popularizing the use of synthesised disco music in Indian cinema.
- Some of his well-known works include Disco Dancer, Aap Ki Khatir, Sharaabi.
- He has worked in films in Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Kannada, Telugu and Gujarati languages.

Former Odisha CM Hemananda Biswal passed away

Former Odisha Chief Minister (CM) Hemananda Biswal passed away in Bhubaneswar, Odisha at the age of 83 years.

- He was appointed as the CM of Odisha **twice** (1989-1990, 1999- 2000) and also was the **first tribal CM of Odisha**.

i.Hemananda Biswal was born on December 1, 1939 in Thakurpada village of Jharsuguda, Odisha.

ii.He was an agriculturist by profession. For the first time, elected as MLA (Member of Legislative Assembly) in 1974.

iii.He was appointed as the chief of Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee between 1998 and 1999.

Important Days with theme

Martyrs Day 2022 – January 30

Martyrs Day, also known as Shaheedi Diwas, is annually observed across India on 30th January to pay respect to the martyrs who lost their lives during India's freedom struggle. The day also marks the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.



- **30th January 2022** marks the **74th Anniversary** of the Martyrdom Day of Mahatma Gandhi.

Shaheedi Diwas or Martyrs Day is observed across India on two days 30th January and 23rd March.

- 23rd March pays homage to the freedom fighters, Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru, and Sukhdev Thapar, who were hanged to death by the British.

Indian Coast Guard celebrates 46th Raising Day – 1st February 2022

Indian Coast Guard Day is annually observed across India on 1st February to commemorate its Raising Day of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), operating under the Ministry of Defence.

1st February 2022 marks the observance of the **46th Raising Day** of the Indian Coast Guard.

Indian Coast Guard is the 4th Largest Coast Guard in the World.

Background:

i.On 1st February 1977, the Interim Indian Coast Guard was established to prevent seaborne smuggling

of goods.

ii. ICG was established by the Coast Guard Act, 1978 of the Parliament of India.

iii. The Indian Coast Guard was formally inaugurated by the then Prime Minister (PM) Morarji Desai on 19th Aug 1978.

World Cancer Day 2022 – February 4

World Cancer Day is annually observed across the globe on 4th February to create awareness about

Cancer and

prevent the

millions of

deaths due to

cancer. The day

also aims to

educate the general public about cancer.



- The Campaign theme of World Cancer Day for 2022 to 2024 is “Close the Care Gap”.
- The Campaign theme of World Cancer Day 2022 is “Close the Care Gap- Realising the problem”.

The theme aims to raise awareness about the difference between cancer care and prevention of cancer that can be availed by people from different sections of society.

Background:

i. World Cancer Day is an initiative of the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), the largest and oldest international cancer organisation.

ii. World Cancer Day was initiated on 4th February 2000 at the World Summit Against Cancer for the New Millennium in Paris.

iii. The Charter of Paris has recognised the 4th February of every year as World Cancer Day.

About Union for International Cancer Control (UICC):

CEO– Cary Adams

Headquarters– Geneva, Switzerland

World Radio Day 2022 – February 13

The United Nations (UN)’s World Radio Day (WRD) is annually observed across the globe on **13th February** to keep the popularity of radio alive and to promote the use of it among everyone.

The day also marks the anniversary of the establishment of the UN Radio service. UN Radio was established on 13th February 1946.

- **13th February 2022** marked the observance of the **11th** edition of **World Radio Day**.

Theme & Sub Theme:

i. The theme of the World Radio Day 2022 is “**Radio and Trust**”

ii. UNESCO marks the observance of the WRD 2022 with **3 sub-themes**,

- **Trust in radio journalism:** Produce independent and high-quality content;
- **Trust and accessibility:** Take care of your audience;
- **Trust and viability of radio stations:** Ensure competitiveness.

Central Excise Day 2022 – February 24

The Central Excise Day is annually observed across India on 24th February to honour the contributions of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), a part of the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance.



- The day also commemorates the anniversary of the enactment of the Central Excise and Salt Act on 24th February 1944.

The day is annually organised and celebrated by the CBIC.

Objective:

To encourage the employees of the excise department to carry out the duties of central excise across India in a better way in order to prevent corruption in the goods manufacturing business.

About Central Board of Indirect Taxes and

Customs (CBIC):

Chairman– Vivek Johri

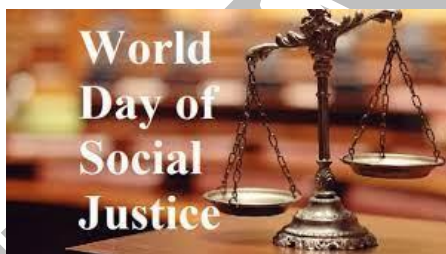
Headquarters– New Delhi, Delhi

Motto– “Desh Sevarth Kar Sanchay” Tax collection in Service of the Nation

World Day of Social Justice 2022 – February 20

The United Nations(UN)’s **World Day of Social Justice** is annually observed across the globe on 20th

February to speak out against injustice and promote worldwide social justice.



- The day is observed to tackle the issues like poverty, exclusion, gender inequality, unemployment and human rights.

The theme of World Day of Social Justice 2022 is “**Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment**”.