



CURRENT AFFAIRS

April 1-15, 2022



GUIDANCE
G R O U P

Compiler: - Amol Munje

CONTENTS

Assam and Meghalaya have entered into an agreement to resolve the boundary question in six disputed districts.	3
What was the debate?	3
India's trade deficit grew by 88% in FY22.	4
Important issues:	4
The environment minister announced the launch of the Prakriti green initiative.	4
During this PROGRAMME, THE following green initiatives for plastic waste management were taken up: ..	5
The Delhi government launched a scheme to set up 'hobby hubs' in government schools.	5
Karnataka sets up a cooperative bank for milk producers.	6
About 'Nandini Ksheera Samriddhi Co-operative Bank':	6
The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) TILL March 2023.....	6
The objectives that are achieved by AIM are:	6
The South-Central Railway launched the 'One Station One Production'.....	7
There are initiatives at these places.	7
Such are the advantages and opportunities.	7
Kangra tea from Himachal Pradesh will get a GI tag from the European Commission.	8
UN-FAO: Mumbai and Hyderabad have been recognized as '2021 Tree City of the World'.	8
Ecuador became the first country to give legal rights to wild animals.	8
About Estralita:.....	9
Mumbai Metro's Margika No.2-A and 7 unveiled by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray	9
A 70-foot tall 'Statue of Knowledge' statue of Bharat Ratna Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar has been erected in Latur	9
PM Modi inaugurated the Prime Minister's Museum in New Delhi.....	10
chief Justice N V Ramana launched a software named Faster.....	10
Important issues:	10
Temple 360' website inaugurated	11
Haryana government launches crop insurance portal of 'Mukhya Mantri Horticulture Vima Yojana'.	11
war exercise	11
DRDO successfully tested solid fuel ducted ramjet (SFDR) technology.	12
About the SFDR technology:.....	12
India conducted a successful flight test of the Pinaka Mk-I (Enhanced) rocket system.	12
About the EPRS system:.....	12
DRDO conducted a successful flight test of anti-raging missile 'Helina'.	13
About the HELINA missile:	13
Australia won the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2022.	13
Maharashtra Kesari 2022	14

Dipika Pallikal Karthik and Saurav Ghosal wins first-ever gold medal at World Doubles Squash championships.	14
Australia's Victoria to Host the 2026 Commonwealth Games	14
Important issues:	14
Roadmap for Commonwealth:	15
Tournaments in Australia:	15
About Victoria:	15
Games included in Commonwealth:	16
R Praggnanandhaa wins prestigious Reykjavik Open chess tournament.	16
64th Grammy Awards 2022.	16
The World's First 10 Self-Made Billionaires Women	17
Forbes Announces Billionaire 2022 List	17
QS World University Ranking.	18
Top institutions in each category:	18
NITI Aayog's state energy and climate index: Gujarat tops	19
Top three states in the category of big states	19
Top three states in the category of small states.	19
Top Three Union Territories	19
Falguni Nair received the EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2021 award.	19
'Tomb of Sand' has been named as the first Hindi novel to be selected for the International Booker Prize.	19
The other five titles in the shortlist were announced:	20
Sangeet Natak Akademi Award to three artists from Maharashtra by Vice President	20
Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be honoured with the first Lata Dinanath Mangeshkar Award.	21
Vice President of India M. Venkaiah Naidu presented the International Gandhi Award for Leprosy, 2021	21
First WorldLy Saints Literary Conference	21
Sheikh Sharif elected as 23rd Prime Minister of Pakistan	22
Actor-screenwriter Shivakumar Subramanian passes away	22

ASSAM AND MEGHALAYA HAVE ENTERED INTO AN AGREEMENT TO RESOLVE THE BOUNDARY QUESTION IN SIX DISPUTED DISTRICTS.

In six of the 12 places that have created tension in the two states over and over again, Assam and Meghalaya have agreed to give them a five-decade limiting standstill, union home minister Amit Shah welcomed the decision as a "historic day for the northeast". Assam and Meghalaya Chief Ministers Himanta Biswa Sarma and Conrad Sangma signed the agreement in the presence of Shah.



WHAT WAS THE DEBATE?

The border dispute between Meghalaya and Assam has been going on since 1972. The dispute has been going on ever since Meghalaya was separated from Assam. The dispute was triggered by the demarcation of boundaries and various readings in the preliminary agreements for the creation of new states. The boundary dispute has also resulted in violent incidents between the two states several times. In 2010, four people were killed in police firing in a violence. Assam also has disputes with Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Mizoram.

The agreement will resolve the long-pending dispute at six of the 12 districts on the 884.9 km border in both the states. There are 36 villages in the six disputed places of Tarabari, Gizang, Boklapara, Pillangkata, Ratekera and Haheem with an area of 36.79 square kilometres. In 1972, Meghalaya became a separate state from Assam.

Disputes in the remaining six areas of the Assam-Meghalaya border are expected to be resolved in the next six to seven months and will work towards making the North Eastern Region a "growth engine".

INDIA'S TRADE DEFICIT GREW BY 88% IN FY22.

According to government data released, India's trade deficit rose by 87.5 per cent to \$192.41 billion in 2021-22 from \$102.63 billion last year. While the total exporters had hit a new high of \$417.81 billion dollars in the last financial year, imports also hit a new high of \$610.22 billion dollars, resulting in a trade loss of \$192.41 billion.

IMPORTANT ISSUES:

- As per the ministry of commerce and industry, “India’s merchandise imports in April 2021-March 2022 totaled \$610.22 billion, up 71 percent from \$394.44 billion in April 2020-March 2021 and 28.55 percent higher than \$474.71 billion in April 2019-March 2020.
- In March 2022, the trade deficit was \$18.69 billion, compared to \$192.41 billion for the entire fiscal year 2021-22.
- India’s monthly merchandise exports surpassed \$40 billion for the first time in March 2022, reaching \$40.38 billion, up 14.53 percent from \$35.26 billion the previous month.
- It increased by 87.89% from \$21.49 billion in March 2020.
- The country’s merchandise imports this month totaled \$59.07 billion, up 20.79 percent from \$48.90 billion the previous month, according to the ministry. It increased by 87.68% from \$31.47 billion in March 2020.
- Non-petroleum exports totaled \$33 billion in March 2022, up 4.28 percent from \$31.65 billion in the same month a year before.
- Exports of non-petroleum goods increased by 74% from \$18.97 billion in March 2020.
- Imports of non-petroleum goods totaled \$40.66 billion in March 2022, up 5.26 percent from \$38.63 billion the previous month. According to the ministry’s figures, it was up 89.79 percent from \$21.42 billion in March 2020.

THE ENVIRONMENT MINISTER ANNOUNCED THE LAUNCH OF THE PRAKRITI GREEN INITIATIVE.

- In the presence of Shri Bhupendra Yadav, Union Minister for Environment and Climate Change, the mascot 'Prakriti' was launched today to create awareness about the small changes that can be made in our lifestyle for a better environment.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced India's pledge to discontinue single-use plastic (SOPs) by 2022 to counter the challenge of plastic pollution.
- India is producing about 3.5 million tons of plastic waste every year and the per capita plastic waste generation has almost doubled in the last five years. Plastic pollution has an adverse effect on our environment and it has to do with air pollution.

DURING THIS PROGRAMME, THE FOLLOWING GREEN INITIATIVES FOR PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT WERE TAKEN UP:

- **National Dashboard on Elimination of Single Use Plastic and Plastic Waste Management (MoEFCC)** to bring all stakeholders including Central Ministries/ Departments, State/UT Governments at one place and track the progress made for elimination of single use plastic (SUP) and effective management of plastic waste.
- **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Portal for Plastic Packaging (CPCB)** for improving accountability, traceability, transparency and facilitating ease of reporting compliance to EPR Obligations by Producers, Importers and Brand-owners
- **Mobile App for Single Use Plastics Grievance Redressal (CPCB)** to empower citizens to check sale/usage/manufacturing of SUP in their area and tackle the plastic menace.
- **Monitoring module for SUP (CPCB)**, for local bodies, SPCBs/PCCs and CPCB, to inventorize details of SUP production/ sale & usage in commercial establishments at district level, and on-ground enforcement of ban on SUP.
- Industrial production of Graphene from Waste Plastic (G B Pant NIHE & NRDC) to promote more industries to come forward to up cycle plastic waste.

THE DELHI GOVERNMENT LAUNCHED A SCHEME TO SET UP 'HOBBY HUBS' IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS.

The Delhi government has set up a hobby hub after school time for government schools in Delhi to encourage additional activities. The project will be implemented in a single shift government school. The new academic session is in

the process of setting up 'Hobby Hubs' in government schools in Delhi along with school dance, music, art and handicrafts activities.

KARNATAKA SETS UP A COOPERATIVE BANK FOR MILK PRODUCERS.

The establishment of the Nandini Kshetra Samriddhi Sahakari Bank by Karnataka Chief Minister, Basavaraj Bommai, is a revolutionary initiative that will provide more economic strength to milk producers. Karnataka is the only state in the country to set up a special bank for milk producers. The logo of Nandini Kshira Samriddhi Sahakar Bank was launched by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

ABOUT 'NANDINI KSHEERA SAMRIDDHI CO-OPERATIVE BANK':

- The milk producing cooperatives had a turnover of around Rs 20,000 crore per day in various banks.
- The state government has provided Rs 100 crore as its share capital and the Milk
- Federation and Cooperatives would contribute Rs 260 crore as their share of capital for the proposed cooperative bank which would stimulate huge economic activity in rural hinterland.
- The state government has decided to computerize all the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS).

THE UNION CABINET HAS APPROVED THE CONTINUATION OF THE ATAL INNOVATION MISSION (AIM) TILL MARCH 2023

AIM will work towards its objective of creating a new culture and entrepreneurial ecosystem in the country. This will be done through various Programmes.

THE OBJECTIVES THAT ARE ACHIEVED BY AIM ARE:

- Installation of 10000 Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL),
- Establishment of 101 Atal Incubation Centre (AIC),
- Establishment of 50 Atal Community Innovation Centers (ACICs) and
- To help 200 startups through Atal New India Challenge.
- A total of Rs 2000+ crore of money outlay will be made for the establishment and support process to the beneficiaries.

The mission under NITI Aayog has been set up as announced by the finance minister in the 2015 Budget Speech.

AIM aims to create and promote a new and industrial environment across the country through interventions at schools, universities, research institutions, MSMEs and industry levels.

The state government has decided to computerize all primary agricultural plants (PACS).

THE SOUTH-CENTRAL RAILWAY LAUNCHED THE 'ONE STATION ONE PRODUCTION'.

The 'One Station One Production' initiative has been launched at major locations of South-Central Railway with the objective of creating sales and publicity centers for local production to the railway stations. This includes places like Secunderabad, Kachiguda, Vijayawada and Guntur, including Aurangabad. The initiative will be implemented in two slums every 15 days over a period of 30 days from April 9 to May 7.

THERE ARE INITIATIVES AT THESE PLACES.

- Secunderabad Hyderabad Freshwater Pearl Jewellery and Hyderabad Bangadia
- Kachiguda Pochampalli Hatmag and Kapad
- victory kondapalli the game and handicraft
- Guntur Tenali handloom fabrics and Mangalagiri sarees, jute and banana fiber products
- Tirupati calligraphy, handicrafts and wood carvings
- Aurangabad paithani sarees and Himru shawls.

SUCH ARE THE ADVANTAGES AND OPPORTUNITIES.

- There will be an opportunity to reach the national level by publicizing their produce at the major locations.
- Facility of indigenous publicity and sale at the station and on the platform during the arrival of the train.
- There will be a 15-day facility on a registration fee of Rs 500.

The Central Economic Union 2022-23 envisaged 'One Station One Production' was announced under which a large population of railway stations is envisaged

to encourage local production. This will help in the development of the sub-castes of local Kargir, Kumbhar, Vinkar, Hatmag Vinkar tribals etc.

KANGRA TEA FROM HIMACHAL PRADESH WILL GET A GI TAG FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION.

The Kangra tea in Himachal Pradesh will soon get the Geographical Indication Tag (GI TAG) of the European Commission; This tag helped to give kangra tea a chance to enter the European market. The kangra tea got the Indian GI tag in 2005. Since 1999, the cultivation and development of tea in The Kangra Pradesh of Himachal Pradesh has been steadily improving.

The development and cultivation of Kangra tea is being encouraged and taken care of by the Indian Regional Office, Palampur, state co-operation and agriculture department and four departments of CSIR, IHBT, Palampur and Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Agricultural University, Palampur.

UN-FAO: MUMBAI AND HYDERABAD HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED AS '2021 TREE CITY OF THE WORLD'.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Arbor Day Foundation have jointly recognized Mumbai and Hyderabad as the '2021 Tree City of the World'. The two Indian cities have received recognition for their commitment to "grow and take care of urban trees and green to build healthy, friendly and happy cities".

Hyderabad has been recognized for the second year in a row. In 2021, Hyderabad, known as the '2020 Tree City of the World', was the only city in India. In the third edition of the Tree City of the World list, 136 other cities from 21 countries, including Hyderabad and Mumbai, have been recognized.

ECUADOR BECAME THE FIRST COUNTRY TO GIVE LEGAL RIGHTS TO WILD ANIMALS.

Ecuador became the first country in the world to give legal rights to the south American country of wild animals. The country's Supreme Court has ruled on a plot focused on the lokari makada named "Estrellita", which was taken from her home to the zoo, where it went away a week later.

The court decided to rule in favour of Estrellita and said that her rights had been violated by the government. However, they added that the animal's rights were also violated by the owner when she removed her from her natural habitat at a

young age. The Court has finally stated that animals are subject to rights protected by the rights of nature.

ABOUT ESTRALITA:

- Estrellita was just a month old when she was taken away from the wild so that she could become a pet for librarian Ana Beatriz Burbano Proaño.
- Proaño took care of Estrellita for 18 years, however, was seized by authorities in 2019, as owning wild animals is illegal in the South American country.
- After being relocated to a zoo, the monkey sadly died. Following the tragic incident, the owner Ana Beatriz Burbano Proaño filed a habeas corpus asking the court to rule that the monkey's rights were violated.

MUMBAI METRO'S MARGIKA NO.2-A AND 7 UNVEILED BY CHIEF MINISTER UDDHAV THACKERAY

- Mumbai Metro 7 and Metro 2A routes were unveiled by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray.
- There are 9 locations on the Metro 2-A route from Dahisar to Dahanukarwadi and 10 locations on the Metro 7 route from Dahisar to Aarey.
- In the beginning, both metro routes will be operational from 6 am to 10 pm and a metro train will have six coaches.
- The total length of both the lanes will be 20.73 km. 11 automatic metro trains will run on this route. Even so, for the first few months, Metro drivers will run Metro trains. After that, driverless trains will run.

A 70-FOOT TALL 'STATUE OF KNOWLEDGE' STATUE OF BHARAT RATNA DR BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR HAS BEEN ERECTED IN LATUR

On the eve of the 131st birth anniversary of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar, a 70-foot tall statue dedicated to him and named 'Statue of Knowledge', was unveiled in Latur city of Maharashtra in the presence of Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju and leader of opposition Devendra Fadnavis, Minister of State Sanjay Bansode and Union Minister of State for Social Welfare Ramdas Athawale and others.

The statue has been erected at Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Park. This is the first statue in the state to be prepared using fibre, plastic and plaster.

PM MODI INAUGURATED THE PRIME MINISTER'S MUSEUM IN NEW DELHI.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi today inaugurated the Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya in New Delhi.
- Built on 10,000 square meters of land adjacent to the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library in the Tin Murti Bhavan, the museum will house exhibitions related to the former Prime Minister.
- The museum, which was to be built at a cost of Rs 271 crore, was approved in 2018. There are a total of 43 pulses in the museum. At the same time, the people of the museum represent the hands of the people of India who have taken on the dharmachakra, which symbolizes the nation and democracy.
- The Prime Minister's Office has said that the museum has been built to make the young generation aware of the leadership, vision and work of the Prime Minister of India. The museum has been built so that it should draw inspiration from it.

CHIEF JUSTICE N V RAMANA LAUNCHED A SOFTWARE NAMED FASTER.

Chief Justice of India NV Ramana unveiled the 'Fast and Secure Transmission of Electronic Records' (FASTER), a digital platform that sends interim orders, adjournment orders and bail orders to the Supreme Court to the qualified officers through secure electronic channels. The online introduction of the faster Programme was flagged off by CJI Ramana, Justice AM Khanvilkar, DY Chandrachud and Hemant Gupta as well as the Chief Justice and Judge of the High Courts were present.

IMPORTANT ISSUES:

- The CJI has launched software to ensure speedy and safe delivery of court orders through electronic means, which will help in transmitting judicial orders.
- He stressed the importance of safely delivering the court order given by the High Court without tampering with the parties from outside.
- The 'Faster' initiative was initiated when a bench led by CJI Ramana took suo motu cognizance of the delay in the discharge of the convicts even after getting bail citing reasons such as non-receipt of a legal order or not to commit harassment.

- According to the Supreme Court's manifesto, the register, in partnership with the NIC, has formulated the FASTER system on a war footing.

TEMPLE 360' WEBSITE INAUGURATED

- The website 'Temple 360' was launched by The Union Minister of State for Culture and External Affairs Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi during a Programme organized by the Ministry of Culture at the IGNCA Amphitheatre, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in New Delhi under the aegis of The Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav.
- Temple 360 is a digital platform where 12 Jyotirlingas and Char Dhams can be visited from any place.
- Through this platform, people can see e-darshan, e-prasad and e-aarti, participate.
- With the help of this website, one can digitally witness the grandeur of some of the most religious Hindu pilgrimages that exist. The website permits the devotee to perform e-aarti and many other services.

HARYANA GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES CROP INSURANCE PORTAL OF 'MUKHYA MANTRI HORTICULTURE VIMAYOJANA'.

Haryana Agriculture Minister JP Dalal launched the portal of mukhya Mantri Horticulture Insurance Scheme with an initial fund of Rs 10 crore for the scheme. Under this, farmers will be compensated for the loss of crops due to adverse weather conditions and natural calamities.

The scheme will compensate the farmers by claiming rs 30,000 per acre for vegetable and spices and Rs 40,000 per acre for fruits, 25 per cent, 50 per cent, 75 per cent and 100 per cent.

WAR EXERCISE

Has	practice	country	When and where
१	VARUNA 2022	India-France Naval Exercise	20th 30th March to 03rd April 2022 Arabian sea
२	Dagger 2022	India-Kyrgyzstan	9th Edition March-April, 2022 Bakloh (HP)

DRDO SUCCESSFULLY TESTED SOLID FUEL DUCTED RAMJET (SFDR) TECHNOLOGY.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested “Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet” (SFDR) booster on April 08, 2022, at the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. The test met all the mission objectives. The SFDR-based propulsion enables the missile to intercept aerial threats at very long range at supersonic speeds. It has an extremely high projected range of 350 km.

ABOUT THE SFDR TECHNOLOGY:

The SFDR-based propulsion enables the missile to intercept aerial threats at very long range at supersonic speeds. The performance of the system has been confirmed from the data captured by a number of range instruments like Telemetry, Radar and Electro-Optical Tracking Systems deployed by ITR.

The SFDR has been developed by Defence Research and Development Laboratory, Hyderabad in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories such as Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad and High Energy Materials Research Laboratory, Pune.

INDIA CONDUCTED A SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT TEST OF THE PINAKA MK-I (ENHANCED) ROCKET SYSTEM.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation and Indian Army successfully flight-tested a new version of the Pinaka rocket system at the Pokhran firing ranges. These included Pinaka Mk-I (Enhanced) Rocket System (EPRS) and Pinaka Area Denial Munition (ADM) rocket systems. With these trials, the initial phase of technology absorption of EPRS by the industry has successfully been completed and the industry partners are ready for user trials/series production of the rocket system.

The Pinaka rocket system has been developed by DRDO lab- Armament Research and Development Establishment, Pune in collaboration with High Energy Materials Research Laboratory, Pune.

ABOUT THE EPRS SYSTEM:

The EPRS is the upgraded version of the Pinaka variant, which has been in service with the Indian Army for the last decade. The system has been upgraded with advanced technologies enhancing the range to meet the emerging requirements.

After establishing the performance efficacy of the enhanced range version of Pinaka, the technology was transferred to the industries viz. Munitions India Limited (MIL) and Economic Explosives Limited Nagpur.

Rockets manufactured by MIL under Transfer of Technology from DRDO were flight tested during this campaign. Different variants of munitions and fuzes which can be used in the Pinaka rocket system were also successfully test evaluated in the Pokhran Field Firing Range.

DRDO CONDUCTED A SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT TEST OF ANTI-RAGING MISSILE 'HELINA'.

A team of scientists from the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO), Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF) jointly conducted the successful flight test of the indigenously developed helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile 'HELINA' at high-altitude ranges. The flight trials were conducted from an Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH), and the missile was fired successfully, engaging a simulated tank target in the Pokhran desert ranges, Rajasthan.

ABOUT THE HELINA MISSILE:

HELINA is one of the most advanced anti-tank weapons in the world. The missile has a maximum range of 7 kilometres. It has been developed by Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad.

AUSTRALIA WON THE ICC WOMEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP 2022.

- Australia defeated England by 71 runs in the final to capture the seventh women's world champion at The Hagley Oval in Christchurch, New Zealand on April 03, 2022.
- Australia and England had come out in the final round of the Women's World Cup after a gap of 34 years.
- Ellis scored a brilliant 170-run game in 138 balls with as many as 26 fours. So far, no cricket player, either men's or women, has played such a big game in the final match of the World Cup.
- Earlier, the record was in the name of Australia's arch-fighting batsman and wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist. Gilchrist had played a 149-run game in the final round of the World Cup held in West Indies in 2007.

- So now the record for most runs in the final round of the World Cup will now be in the name of Alice.

MAHARASHTRA KESARI 2022

- Kolhapur's Prithviraj Patil (age 20) and Mumbai East's Vishal Bunkar had a fierce battle for Maharashtra Kesari's mace today. In this, Prithviraj Patil defeated Vishal Bunkar and won the Maharashtra Kesari Gada of 2022. With the approval of State Wrestling Council, Satara District Training Association organized 64th State Ajinkyapad and Maharashtra Kesari Kitab Maidan at District Sports Complex.
- Prithviraj Patil won the bronze medal in the 95 kg weight category at the Junior World Championships.
- Kolhapur got this mace after almost 21 years.
- Earlier, Vinod Chowgule had hit Maharashtra Kesari with a mace.

DIPIKA PALLIKAL KARTHIK AND SAURAV GHOSAL WINS FIRST-EVER GOLD MEDAL AT WORLD DOUBLES SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The second-seeded Indian duo Dipika Pallikal Karthik and Saurav Ghosal won the mixed double title at the 2022 WSF World Doubles Squash championship at Glasgow, Scotland. The Indian duo thrashed the fourth-seeded pair of Adrian Waller and Alison Waters of England in the mixed doubles finals in straight sets 11-6, 11-8. This is the first gold medal for India at the WSF World Doubles Squash championship, which the country had never won before this.

AUSTRALIA'S VICTORIA TO HOST THE 2026 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

In a deviation from the conventional single host city approach, the Commonwealth Games will be held in Victoria in 2026, with the majority of events being organised by the state's regional centres. In March 2026, the Games will be held in numerous towns and regional centres around Australia, including Melbourne, Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat, and Gippsland, each with its own athletes' village.

IMPORTANT ISSUES:

- The Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) confirmed that the opening ceremony will be held at the famous 100,000-seat Melbourne Cricket Ground.

- Following an exclusive consultation session between the CGF, Commonwealth Games Australia (CGAus), and Victoria, the announcement was made.
- A preliminary list of 16 sports has been proposed for the Games, including Twenty20 cricket, with further sports to be added later this year.
- However, sports like shooting and wrestling, which India has excelled in in earlier editions of the sporting spectacular, are not included on the original list.
- Archery is also absent from the list.

ROADMAP FOR COMMONWEALTH:

- According to the CGF's new "strategic roadmap," which was unveiled on October 11 at its 2021 General Assembly, athletics and swimming will be the only mandatory sports in the CWG starting in 2026, giving host cities more flexibility to include disciplines of their choice from a proposed core list of 22 sports.
- Shooting, wrestling, and archery are among the Commonwealth Games Federation's suggested core list after a review.
- T20 cricket, beach volleyball, and 3×3 basketball, which were previously included as optional sports, have now been added to the planned core list of sports.
- The roadmap was accepted during the CGF's General Assembly, which took place about a year ago.
- The Games in 2026 will be the 23rd edition of the major multi-sport event, which began in 1930 in Hamilton, Canada.

TOURNAMENTS IN AUSTRALIA:

- The Commonwealth Games have been held in Australia five times, with Victoria hosting the Melbourne 2006 Games, largely regarded as one of the most successful editions of the tournament in history.
- Australia has also hosted the Olympic Games in Sydney in 1938, Perth in 1962, Brisbane in 1982, and Gold Coast in 2018. In 2004, Victoria hosted the Commonwealth Youth Games in Bendigo.

ABOUT VICTORIA:

- Victoria is a world-class venue for major events and tourism. The Australian Open tennis grand slam, the Melbourne Formula 1 Grand Prix,

and the Melbourne Cup are just a few of the high-profile athletic events that have taken place in the state.

- The state also holds premier cricket, golf, and Australian Rules Football tournaments on a regular basis.

GAMES INCLUDED IN COMMONWEALTH:

- Shooting, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis, Weight Lifting, Wrestling, Aquatics, Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Bowls, Cycling, Gymnastics, Hockey, Netball, Rugby 7s, Shooting, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis, Weight Lifting, Wrestling Tennis has been introduced, archery and wrestling have been reinstated, and basketball and triathlon have been withdrawn.

R PRAGGNANANDHAA WINS PRESTIGIOUS REYKJAVIK OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT

16-year-old chess sensation R Praggnanandhaa has won the prestigious Reykjavik Open chess tournament in Reykjavik, Iceland. In the final played between two Indian players, it was R Praggnanandhaa who won the contest beating compatriot GM D Gukesh in the final round. The Indian youngster scored 7½/9 and finished a half-point ahead. R Praggnanandhaa also posted four other wins, including the one over American Abhimanyu Mishra, who, last year, became the then youngest Grandmaster at the age of 12 years and four months.

64TH GRAMMY AWARDS 2022

- The 64th Annual Grammy Awards are being held at the MGM Grand Garden Arena for the first time, hosted by Treyper Noh. The 64th GRAMMY Awards are recognised for the recordings (including music artist, composition and album) released during the period from 01 September 2020 to 30 September 2021.
- John Batist received the most nominations with eleven and Batist received the most awards with five.
- Bonnie Lynn Ratt (Bonnie Wright), an American blues singer, songwriter and activist, has been honored with the Lifetime Achievement Grammy Award at the 64th Annual GRAMMY Nomination Reception.
- Bonnie Wright is a 10-time Grammy Award winner and rock and roll hall of fame inductee.

- Us-based Falguni Shah won the grammy for the best children's album, while Bengaluru's Ricky Cage won his holy gramophone for the best New Age album, along with police drummer Stewart Kopaland.
- This is the second grammy of the Indian musician (Ricky Cage) who came first for the Winds of The World at the 57th Grammy ceremony in 2015, with the support of South African bassicist Wuter Kellerman.

THE WORLD'S FIRST 10 SELF-MADE BILLIONAIRES WOMEN

- There is a big difference between being rich and being rich yourself. Adding to this gap, The Hurun Research Institute has released the list titled "Hurun Is the Most Self-Made Women in the World 2022". They would give space to women who had become self-proclaimed.
- She has earned this money not from his family heritage but from her hard work and dedication.
- China tops the list with 78 billionaires. It is followed by 25 billionaire women in the United States and five billionaires in Britain.
- Indian women have also found a place in Hurun's list. But Biocon's Kiran Majumdar Shaw, who has long claimed the crown of Self-Made Woman, has fallen behind.
- She has been turned back by Falguni Nair, founder of the Indian company Nayaka. According to media reports, Falguni Nair has become one of the top-10 self-made billionaire women in the world with a net worth of \$ 7.6 billion.
- Out of these top-10 women, 8 are from China.
- In the list of the world's most self-made women, 58-year-old Wu Yajun from Beijing is at the top and has an estimated assets of \$17 billion.

FORBES ANNOUNCES BILLIONAIRE 2022 LIST

- The 2022 list of Forbes billionaires has come out, who prepares the list of the world's billionaires, who were hit by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the coronavirus partner's disease and the lowly market.
- Tesla and SpaceX founder Elon Musk topped the Forbes list for the first time with \$219 billion of assets.
- Mukesh Ambani is the richest person in Asia. Mukesh Ambani's total wealth is \$90.7 billion. Ambani is the 10th largest person in the world. Gautam Adani, on the other hand, is the second-largest person in Asia. His

wealth is \$90 billion and is ranked 11th in the list of the richest people in the world.

- Shiv Nadar, founder of HCL Technologies Limited, is ranked third in the list of top 10 Indians announced by Forbes. There has been no change in the first three positions in the list as compared to last year.
- Cyrus Poonawala is fourth in the list. His company Serum Institute of India has made a vaccine coveshield for Corona. Poonawala's total wealth stands at \$24.3 billion.

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING

QS Quacquarelli Symonds released the 12th edition of the QS World University Rankings, the subject-wise hierarchy of institutions across the world is a compilation of several lists. The QS World Universities are compiled annually on the subject to help prospective students identify the leading universities in specific subjects.

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) - Bombay is ranked 65th and The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Delhi is ranked 72nd, these are the only Indian institutions which have got a place in the first 100 ranks under the Engineering and Technology category. IIT Bombay has secured 79.9 and IIT Delhi has secured 78.9 marks.

The QS University rankings comprise a total of 51 subjects, which have been grouped into five broad subject areas.

- Art and Humanity
- Engineering and Technology
- Life Sciences and Medicine
- natural science
- Social Science and Administration

TOP INSTITUTIONS IN EACH CATEGORY:

Category	Top Institution (Rank 1)
Art and Humanity	Oxford University (UK)
Engineering and Technology	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA)
Life Sciences and Medicine	Harvard University (USA)
natural science	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (USA)
Social Science and Administration	Harvard University (USA)

NITI AAYOG'S STATE ENERGY AND CLIMATE INDEX: GUJARAT TOPS

NITI Aayog has launched state energy and climate index (SECI) ferris I. The state energy and climate index (SECI) ferris I follows the performance of the states on 6 parameters, that is, (1) performance of the discoms (2) entry, versatility and confidence of energy (3) clean energy undertakings (4) energy efficiency (5) environmental sustainability; and (6) new ventures.

TOP THREE STATES IN THE CATEGORY OF BIG STATES

- Gujarat
- Kerala
- Punjab

TOP THREE STATES IN THE CATEGORY OF SMALL STATES

- betel-nut
- Tripura
- Manipur

TOP THREE UNION TERRITORIES

- Chandigarh
- Delhi
- Daman and Diu/ Dadra & Nagar Haveli

FALGUNI NAIR RECEIVED THE EY ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR 2021 AWARD.

Falguni Nair has been named as EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2021 in the 23rd edition of the EY Entrepreneur of the Year India Awards. She is the founder and chief executive officer (CEO) of beauty supply company Nykaa (FSN e-commerce). She Will represent India in the EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award (WEOY) on June 9, 2022, at Monaco. Group Chairman of Larsen and Toubro, A.M.Naik, was given a life-giving tour.

'TOMB OF SAND' HAS BEEN NAMED AS THE FIRST HINDI NOVEL TO BE SELECTED FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BOOKER PRIZE.

Writer Geetanjali Sri's 'Tom of Sand' novel was among the first six contenders for the Booker Prize on Thursday. This is the first Hindi language work among the leading contenders for the international award. Gitanjali's texts, born in

Mainpuri in Uttar Pradesh, have been translated into English, French, German, Siberian and Korean.

The novel of Gitanjali was originally known in Hindi as 'Walu Samadhi'. The English translation 'Tom of Sand' has been done by Daisy Raquewell.

THE OTHER FIVE TITLES IN THE SHORTLIST WERE ANNOUNCED:

- London Book Fair include: 'Cursed Bunny' by Bora Chung, translated by Anton Hur from Korean;
- 'A New Name: Septology VI-VII' by Jon Fosse, translated by Damion Searls from Norwegian;
- 'Heaven' by Mieko Kawakami, translated by Samuel Bett and David Boyd from Japanese;
- 'Elena Knows' by Claudia Piñeiro, translated by Frances Riddle from Spanish; and
- 'The Books of Jacob' by Olga Tokarczuk, translated by Jennifer Croft from Polish.

SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AWARD TO THREE ARTISTS FROM MAHARASHTRA BY VICE PRESIDENT

Renowned singer Suresh Wadkar, playwright Rajiv Naik and veteran actress Suhas Joshi were honored with the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award by Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu on Saturday.

The Sangeet Natak Akademi for the year 2018 and the Lalit Kala Akademi Award for the year 2021 were presented to artists from across the country including three artists from Maharashtra at a glittering function organized by the Union Cultural Ministry at Vigyan Bhawan here.

Sangeet Natak Akademi, which operates under the Union Ministry of Culture, is conferring the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award every year to artists who have contributed immensely in the fields of music, dance, drama and lokakala. The event presented the Natya Akademi Awards for the year 2018 to 40 artists from across the country, including three from Maharashtra. The award consists of Rs. 1 lakh, honorarium and insignia.

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI WILL BE HONOURED WITH THE FIRST LATA DINANATH MANGESHKAR AWARD.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be honored with the Lata Dinanath Mangeshkar Award, instituted to mark the memorial of veteran singer Lata Mangeshkar. The award will be given to Prime Minister Modi for his selfless service to the country and society. The award ceremony will be held on April 24, marking the 80th death anniversary of Master Dinanath Mangeshkar.

The other awardees include singer Rahul Deshpande, who will receive the Master Dinanath Award, besides veteran actress Asha Parekh, actor Jackie Shroff and Mumbai Dabbawalas, who represents Nutan Tiffin Suppliers, besides winning three other special awards.

VICE PRESIDENT OF INDIA M. VENKAIAH NAIDU PRESENTED THE INTERNATIONAL GANDHI AWARD FOR LEPROSY, 2021

The Vice President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu presented the International Gandhi Award for Leprosy, 2021 to Dr. Bhushan Kumar of Chandigarh under the Indian Nomination (Individual) category and the Sahyog Leprosy Yagna Trust, Gujarat under the institutional category. The award was presented during a function in Navi Delhi on April 13, 2022.

The Sahyog Leprosy Yajna Trust and Dr Bhushan Kumar are working for forty-four hours to create awareness about leprosy and the care that can be found in those suffering from this disease. They are also working to remove the social stigma in dealing with this disease.

FIRST WORLDLY SAINTS LITERARY CONFERENCE

- Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari inaugurated the 'First World-Wide Saints Literary Meet' held at The Maha Sainik Darbar Hall in Kolhapur.
- The first World Sant Sahitya Sammelan is sponsored by Amarwani Events Foundation, Western Region Cultural Center, Udaipur, Ministry of Culture, Government of India and Indusmoon Media, Mumbai.
- The Conference President H.M.P. Nya. Dr. Madan Maharaj Gosavi

GUIDANCE
G R O U P

SHEIKH SHARIF ELECTED AS 23RD PRIME MINISTER OF PAKISTAN

Pakistan's leader of opposition, Shehbaz Sharif, has been elected unopposed as the country's 23rd Prime Minister by voting in The National Assembly. The 70-year-old Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N) chief will take the place of Imran Khan, who has recently been removed by a no-confidence vote in the National Assembly. Shahbaz Sharif is the brother of former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

Sharif has received 174 votes and has been declared as the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The winning candidate in the 342th House should get the support of at least 172 MPs.

ACTOR-SCREENWRITER SHIVAKUMAR SUBRAMANIAN PASSES AWAY

Actor-screenwriter Shivkumar Subramaniam, who passed away, was known for his roles in the series Muktibandhan and Meenakshi Sundareswara. In 1989, he started his career by writing the script of the film 'Parinda' directed by Vidhu Vinod Chopra. He won the Filmfare Award for Best Story for thousands of khawaishis. He has worked in films like 2 States, Hichki, Nail Polish, Rocky Handasam.

GUIDANCE
G R O U P