

Weekly One Liners 16th to 22nd of May 2022

Italian Open 2022: Check the complete list of winners

World No.1 Serbia's **Novak Djokovic** has defeated **Stefanos Tsitsipas** to win the 79th edition of the Italian Open (Internazionali BNL d'Italia) in Rome and to capture the 38th ATP Masters 1000 crown. Novak Djokovic became the fifth man in the Open Era to earn 1,000 match wins after defeating Casper Ruud in the semi-finals. In women's singles, **Iga Swiatek** has won the Italian Open title after defeating **Ons Jabeur**.

Here is the list of winners and runner-ups of the Italian Open finals:

Category	Winner	Runner-up
Men's singles	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)	Stefanos Tsitsipas (Greece)
Women's singles	Iga Świątek (Poland)	Ons Jabeur (Tunisia)
Men's doubles	Nikola Mektić and Mate Pavić (Croatia)	John Isner (United States) & Diego Schwartzman (Argentina)
Women's doubles	Veronika Kudermetova and Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (Russia)	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) & Giuliana Olmos (Mexico)

Highlights of the 2021 Summer Deaflympics

The 24th edition of 2021 Summer Deaflympics i.e. **Caxias 2021**, officially called the XXIV Summer Deaflympic Games, was an international multi-sport event held at Festa da Uva, **Caxias do Sul, Brazil**. The **International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD)** is the main governing body responsible for the organisation of the Deaflympics and other World Deaf Championships.

This is the first time the Games are being held in a Latin American country and not during the summer of the host city (as it is autumn in May in the south of Brazil) and the third time for the Games to be held in the Southern Hemisphere only after 1989 games held in Christchurch in New Zealand and 2005 games in Melbourne, Australia. The event was opened by Michelle Bolsonaro, the First Lady of Brazil.

The motto of the 2021 Deaflympics

The Motto of the event is **"Sports comes from the our hearts"**

Mascot

The mascot of the Deaflympics is the Ring-tailed Coati – Nino, meaning priceless, worthy of appreciation, cheerful, happy, very lucky, and auspicious.

Events and Participation

A total number of 226 events across 18 sports were held with a participation of 2,349 athletes representing 71 nations.

Total Medal Tally:

Rank	Country	Total
1	Ukraine	138 (Gold- 62, Silver- 38, Bronze- 38)
2	USA	55 (Gold- 20, Silver- 11, Bronze- 24)
3	Iran	40 (Gold- 14, Silver- 12, Bronze-14)
9	India	17 (Gold- 8, Silver- 1, Bronze- 8)

Medals Won by India:

Athlete	Event	Medal
Dhanush Srikanth	Men's 10m air rifle	Gold
Abhinav Deshwal	Men's 10m air pistol	Gold
Dhanush Srikanth & Priyasha Deshmukh	Mixed team 10m air rifle	Gold
Badminton Team	Mixed team badminton	Gold
Jerlin Jayaratchagan	Women's singles badminton	Gold
Diksha Dagar	Women's golf	Gold
Jerlin Jayaratchagan & Abhinav Sharma	Mixed doubles badminton	Gold
Sumit Dahiya	Men's freestyle 97kg	Gold
Prithvi Sekhar & Dhanaanjay Dubey	Men's doubles tennis	Silver
Shourya Saini	Men's 10m air rifle	Bronze
Vedika Sharma Women's	10m air pistol	Bronze
Abhinav Sharma	Men's singles badminton	Bronze
Prithvi Sekhar	Men's singles tennis	Bronze
Prithvi Sekhar & Jafreen Shaik	Mixed doubles tennis	Bronze
Virender Singh	Men's freestyle 74kg	Bronze
Amit Krishan	Men's freestyle 86kg	Bronze

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National Affairs

- Home Minister **Amit Shah** launched the **National Cyber Forensic Laboratory' (NCFL)** on the premises of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) in Hyderabad. The NCFL plans to expedite the resolution of cybercrime cases in the country. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) approved the establishment of the NCFL for evidentiary purposes in the CFSL, Hyderabad, in December 2021.
- The **National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP)** was launched by **NITI Aayog** for free public use. By making data accessible, interoperable, interactive, and available on a user-friendly platform, the platform intends to democratise access to public government data.
- Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, **Bhupender Yadav** has announced that **Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan** has been notified as **Rajasthan's 4th** and the **52nd tiger reserve of India**. It will help to conserve biodiversity and bring ecotourism and development to the area. **The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** had given in-principle approval to make Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary and adjoining areas as tiger reserves on July 5 last year.
- Union Cabinet Minister of Electronics & Information Technology, Communications and Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw has inaugurated **the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) Centre Leh**, Extension Centre Kargil and IT Enabled Incubation Centre for Handicraft and Handloom Sector.
- The Supreme Court used **Article 142** of the Constitution to grant **AG Perarivalan**, a convict in the assassination of former Prime Minister **Rajiv Gandhi**, extraordinary powers to "do complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it." Perarivalan was released free by a bench of justices led by **L.N. Rao** and **B.R. Gavai**, who took into account his lengthy incarceration.



- **The Union Government** has announced the formation of the **Cotton Council of India** under the Chairmanship of renowned veteran cotton man **Suresh Bhai Kotak**. The Council will have representation from Textiles, Agriculture, Commerce, and Finance Ministries along with Cotton Corporation of India and Cotton Research Institute. Mr Goyal also appealed to the spinning and trading community to ensure a hassle-free supply of cotton and yarn first to the domestic industry.

States in the News

- Rajya Sabha MP and BJP state president **Manik Saha** is all set to take over as the **new Chief Minister of Tripura**. Manik Saha, the BJP State unit president and lone Rajya Sabha MP from Tripura, was elected as legislature party leader at a meeting held at the Chief Minister's official residence. The decision was taken at a legislature party meeting following the resignation of **CM Biplab Kumar Deb**.
- **World Bank** has approved **USD 350 million** as financial aid for the **Systems Reform Endeavors for Transformed Health Achievement in Gujarat (SRESTHA-G) project**. The SRESTHA-G project will be worth USD 500 million, with the World Bank contributing USD 350 million. The project will include transforming key health delivery systems in the state.
- The Punjab Cabinet has authorised a Rs 1,500 per acre incentive for farmers who grow paddy using the direct seeding of rice technology. A total of Rs 450 crore has been set aside to provide incentives to farmers who promote the **DSR (Direct Seeding of Rice)** technique, which uses less water and is more cost-effective. The incentive scheme was approved by the Cabinet in a meeting headed by chief minister **Bhagwant Mann**.
- **The Kerala government** will launch a state-owned **over-the-top (OTT) platform** on November 1, offering film lovers an array of movies, short films and documentaries of their choice. Kerala will become the first state in India to have a state-owned OTT platform. Kerala Minister for Cultural Affairs Saji Cheriyan revealed the name of the OTT platform as **CSPACE**.
- Chief Minister of Punjab, **Bhagwant Mann** heard the grievances of the people of the state and issued redressal directions in '**Lok Milni**', a first-of-its-kind public interaction programme. This interactive programme was launched with the aim of providing a single-window platform to the people of the state for the redressal of the complaints that they have. The people of the state who had submitted various grievances and complaints with the state government in the previous two months were called to attend this programme.

International Affairs

- The Supreme Council of the Union elected **Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, Ruler of Abu Dhabi, as **President of the UAE**. The Council held a meeting at the Mushrif Palace in Abu Dhabi, headed by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. He has replaced **Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, who died at the age of 73.
- **Indian Government** has prohibited wheat exports, claiming a threat to food security, partially owing to the conflict in **Ukraine** and as a blistering heatwave reduced supply and pushed local prices to new highs. Despite not being one of the world's top wheat exporters, India's prohibition might drive global prices to new highs, putting a strain on impoverished customers in **Asia and Africa**. The prohibition would not last indefinitely and might be changed, authorities said during a press briefing.
- The world's largest suspension bridge has opened to travellers in the **Czech Republic**. The bridge, which had been under construction for nearly two years, was officially opened. **Sky Bridge 721** is the name given to it. The promenade promises both beautiful views of the cloud-shrouded **Jesenyk** mountains and an exhilarating, but slightly dangerous experience.
- Somali legislators have elected former leader **Hassan Sheikh Mohamud** as the country's next president, following a long-overdue election in the troubled **Horn of Africa nation**. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, who served as Somalia's president between 2012 and 2017, won the contest in the capital, Mogadishu, amid a security lockdown imposed by authorities to prevent deadly rebel attacks. He defeated **Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed** (also known as Farmajo).
- **Elisabeth Borne** was appointed **France's new Prime Minister** to become the second woman to hold the post in the country. She has served as Labor Minister in Macron's previous government since 2020. Borne is the second woman to hold the position after Edith Cresson, who was Prime Minister from 1991-to 1992 under Socialist President Francois Mitterrand.
- The future of **SAARC** seems bleak, with Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and Nepal in economic limbo, and Afghanistan under Islamist Taliban control. This leaves **India** with little choice but to engage in bilateral engagement with its neighbours in order to protect its national security. Ironically, the Taliban in Afghanistan are currently embroiled in a simmering war with their tutor, the Pakistan Army, which refuses to recognise the Durand Line, which splits the Pashtun tribe between the two countries.

- After receiving criticism for its restrictions on wheat exports, **India** accused the West of neglecting principles of justice, affordability, and accessibility in the case of anti-Covid-19 vaccinations, and asked them not to do so again in the case of food grains. Secretary General of the United Nations **Antonio Guterres** was present at the meeting, which was held at the UN headquarters. The United States and the other G-7 nations chastised New Delhi after it barred wheat exports without previous government approval.
- **National Geographic Society** has installed the "world's highest weather station" on **Mount Everest** at an altitude of **8,830 metres** to automatically measure various meteorological phenomena. **Nepal's Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM)** said the automatic weather station was installed a few metres below the summit point last week as the snow and ice on the summit are not suitable for fixing equipment.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** recently partnered with the **Indian School of Business (ISB)** to conduct capacity-building programs for MSDE officials. A total of 120 officers (30 per batch) across divisions under MSDE would be undergoing a comprehensive five-day-long residential training across ISB Hyderabad and Mohali campuses.
- Eight MoUs were signed at the first **Incredible India International Cruise Conference** in Mumbai. Strategies for developing India as a cruise hub, policy initiatives and port infrastructure, the potential of river cruise tourism, and the role of technology in the post-pandemic world were some of the key issues deliberated at the event.
- **NSE Academy Ltd (NAL)**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the **National Stock Exchange of India Ltd (NSE)** has signed an agreement with **HDFC Asset Management Company Ltd (HDFC AMC)** to launch a first-of-its-kind programme, 'Invest-verse: An Introduction to the World of Investing'. The programme will be offered to college students across India.
- **Government eMarketplace [GeM]**, CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. (CSC-SPV), and the Department of Posts inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the advocacy, outreach, mobilization, and capacity-building of last-mile Govt buyers, sellers and service providers in public procurement.
- **Centre for Development of Telematics(C-DOT)**, the premier R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, Government of India and Vodafone Idea Limited, one of the major telecom operators of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the occasion of "World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (May 17)".

- Ministry of Heavy Industries has signed an MoU with **National Research Development Corporation** for undertaking various activities for smooth implementation of the Scheme for enhancement of competitiveness in the Indian capital goods sector. The vision of this MoU is to make India a global hub for the manufacturing of capital goods.
- **RBL Bank, Amazon Pay and Amazon Web Services (AWS)** have announced a collaboration to offer **UPI payments**. The Bank has partnered with Amazon Pay to offer peer-to-peer and peer-to-merchant transactions. With this integration Amazon Pay will issue NPCI's allocated UPI ID with the handle @rapl, to RBL Bank.

Books and Authors

- Bestselling author **Preeti Shenoy** is set to publish a new novel titled "**A Place Called Home**", a story set in a coffee estate in **Sakleshpur, Karnataka** with a strong female protagonist at its core. The new novel is about secrets, family, and finding yourself. The book published by HarperCollins Publishers India is set to be released in June 2022.
- **Jitendra Singh**, Union Minister of State(MoS), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions released the e-book '**Civil List – 2022 of IAS officers**' at North Block, Secretariat Building, New Delhi. This is an effort by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) as a part of the Digital India initiative of the Government of India.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Reserve Bank of India** has imposed a penalty of **Rs 59 lakh** on the Korean bank, **KEB Hana Bank** for non-compliance with the certain norms related to 'interest rate on deposits. The Korean bank has been penalised for non-compliance with the directions issued by RBI on "Reserve Bank of India (Interest Rate on Deposits) Directions, 2016".
- **PNB MetLife India Insurance Company** has launched **India's first dental health insurance plan**. This is the first insurance plan in India that covers fixed-benefit outpatient expenses and provides financial assistance with costs related to overall dental health. This launch reinforces PNB MetLife leadership in the industry with this one-of-a-kind, standalone, the dental health insurance plan that covers major dental procedures without the hassles of hospitalisation.
- **The Reserve Bank of India** has said that public sector banks reported over a **51 per cent fall** in the amount involved in frauds to **Rs 40,295.25 crore** during the financial year **2021-22 (FY22)**. As many as 12 PSBs (Public Sector Banks) had reported frauds worth **Rs 81,921.54 crore** in the preceding fiscal 2020-21, the central bank said in response to an application under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.
- According to the **World Bank, India** has surpassed **Mexico** as the top remittance receiving country in 2021, pushing **China** to third place. In 2021, India received **remittances** totaling more than \$89 billion, an increase of 8% above the \$82.73 billion received in 2020. Despite the fact that the world was significantly hit by Covid in 2020, remittances were somewhat higher than the \$82.69 billion in the non-Covid year of 2019.
- **S&P Global Ratings** cut India's growth projection for the current fiscal to **7.3 per cent** from **7.8 per cent earlier** on rising inflation and the longer-than-expected Russia-Ukraine conflict. S&P had in December last year pegged India's GDP growth in 2022-23 fiscal, which began on April 1, 2022, at 7.8 per cent. For the next fiscal the growth has been pegged at **6.5 per cent**.
- **India's wholesale inflation** soared to a three-decade high in April as high commodity prices and supply-chain disruptions pushed up input costs for producers. The annual rate of inflation was **15.08% (Provisional) for the month of April 2022 (Y-o-Y)** as compared to **10.74% in April 2021**. The rate of inflation based on the WPI Food Index increased marginally from **8.71% in March 2022 to 8.88% in April 2022**.
- **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** shares made a lacklustre start on the stock exchanges, trading at a discount to the initial public offering price. The shares of the insurance behemoth began trading on the **BSE and NSE at Rs 872 per share**, down 8.11 percent from the **IPO price of Rs 949 per share**. The stocks fell despite the fact that the Sensex and Nifty were in the green. The **Rs 21,000-crore public issuance by LIC** is the largest **Dalal Street** has ever seen. Earlier this month, the issue had a robust response from all investor groups over a large six-day subscription window, rather than the regular three-day window.
- **Adani Group** which belongs to **Gautam Adani** is set to acquire swiss multinational company **Holcim's stake** in Indian companies **Ambuja Cements** and its subsidiary ACC for **\$10.5 bn (around Rs 81,361 crore)**, including the open offers. The value for the Holcim stake and open offer consideration makes this the largest ever acquisition by Adani and India's largest-ever **Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) transaction** in the infrastructure and materials space. "Our move into the cement business is yet another validation of our belief in our nation's growth story
- **Ruchi Soya**, an edible oil company, has announced that it will buy Patanjali Ayurved's food division for Rs 690 crore. Ruchi Soya's transition to the **fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG)** category is likely to be accelerated as a result of this. After regulatory permissions, the name of Ruchi Soya Industries Ltd would be changed to **Patanjali Foods Ltd**. Ghee, honey, spices, juices, and wheat are among the 21 products in the acquired food industry.

- **Tesla Inc** has been excluded from **S&P Dow Jones Indices'** widely watched S&P 500 ESG Index, citing issues such as racial discrimination accusations and crashes tied to its autopilot vehicles, a move that provoked a series of angry tweets from Tesla CEO **Elon Musk**. Tesla's lack of disclosed details relating to its low-carbon plan or business behaviour norms were also significant factors, according to **Margaret Dorn**, the organization's head of **ESG** indices for North America, in an interview.
- **The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA)** in its '**World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) Mid-year Update 2022**' report has declined India's GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth projections from **6.7% to 6.4% for 2022-23**. For 2023-24, 6% GDP growth is forecasted for India as against 6.1%. In 2021, India's economy grew at 8.8%. The growth outlook for South Asia is also downgraded by 0.4 percentage points to 5.5% in 2022.
- The central government announced that **India** has recorded the highest ever annual FDI inflow of **\$83.57 billion** during FY22. In 2020-21, the inflow stood at **\$81.97 billion**. India is rapidly emerging as a preferred country for foreign investments in the manufacturing sector. FDI equity inflow in manufacturing sectors has increased by **76 per cent in 2021-22 (\$21.34 billion) compared to 2020-21 (\$12.09 billion)**.
- **Adani Group's Adani Sportsline** has acquired the rights to own and operate a franchise in **UAE's T20 League**. Licensed by Emirates Cricket Board, the UAE T20 League will be the first major move overseas by the Adani Sportsline aiming to connect and engage with global fans from across the cricketing nations.
- **IDBI Bank** has entered into a share purchase agreement with **Ageas Insurance International**, wherein the bank is looking to sell its remaining stake of **25 per cent** in private sector life insurer Ageas Federal Life Insurance for **Rs 580 crore**, making Ageas one of the few foreign insurers to raise its stake in its Indian insurance joint venture to 74 per cent, after the government raised the FDI cap in the insurance sector.



Appointments/Resignations

- Senior IAS officer, **Nidhi Chibber** has been appointed as the chairperson of the **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** in a top-level bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre.
- **Vivek Kumar Dewangen**, a Manipur cadre 1993 batch IAS officer, has been appointed Chairman and Managing Director of **REC Ltd., Ministry of Power**. In a top-level bureaucratic upheaval, the Centre has nominated senior IAS officer **Nidhi Chibber** as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
- **Rajiv Ranjan** and **Sitikantha Pattanaik** have been named executive directors by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. **Rajiv Ranjan** was Adviser-in-Charge of the Monetary Policy Department and Secretary to the Monetary Policy Committee before being appointed to executive director. **Pattanaik** was an adviser at the **Department of Economic and Policy Research** before being appointed to ED.
- **S.N. Subrahmanyam**, the current deputy managing director and president of **Larsen and Toubro Ltd (L&T)**, has been named managing director and chief executive officer, marking the first change of guard at the top of India's largest engineering and construction corporation in 18 years. **S.N. Subramanyam** will replace **A.M. Naik** as the CEO of the company.
- **Sunil Arora**, the former chief election commissioner, has been named as the new non-executive chairman of **Gram Unnati's** board. Arora is a retired civil servant (IAS) with over 36 years of experience. He has worked as the secretary of two important ministries, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- Eicher Motors has appointed **B Govindarajan** as the **Chief Executive Officer of Royal Enfield**. He will also serve as the **Wholetime Director of the Board of Eicher Motors Limited**. Since 2021 August, Govindarajan had been serving the company as the executive director, prior to which he was associated as the chief operating officer since 2013.
- The chief of Bengaluru-based Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), **Dr Kamal Bawa** has been elected to the **US National Academy of Sciences**. The election is the reaffirmation of our important work on the ecology, conservation, and management of tropical forests that are declining all over the world but are critical to humanity's well-being. He is also an elected fellow of the **Royal Society (London)** and the **American Philosophical Society**.

- Leading stock exchange **BSE Limited** announced that it has approved the appointment of **SS Mundra**, Public Interest Director as the Chairman of the board of directors of the company. Mundra will replace **Justice Vikramajit Sen** who is the current chairman. Mundra was appointed as Public Interest Director at BSE in January 2018. He retired as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India on 30th July 2017.
- **Bharti Airtel board** has reappointed **Gopal Vittal** as **Managing Director & CEO** for a further period of five years ending on January 31, 2028. The reappointment came on a day the telco posted a consolidated net profit at **Rs 2,007.8 crore** in the March quarter, up 141% sequentially and 164% on the year. Analysts had an estimated net profit of around **Rs 1,970 crore**. This was Airtel's sixth successive quarter in the black after six straight losses earlier.
- The Board of Directors of **InterGlobe Aviation Limited (Indigo)** appointed **Pieter Elbers** as **Chief Executive Officer**. He will join IndiGo on or before **1 Oct 2022**. He succeeds **Ronojoy Dutta** who has decided to retire on 30 September 2022. Elbers has served as the President and CEO of KLM Royal Dutch since 2014 and is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Air France-KLM Group.

Defence News

- Defence minister **Rajnath Singh** has launched two made-in-India warships INS '**Surat**' and '**Udaygiri**' at the **Mazagon Docks in Mumbai**. This is the first time that the two indigenously built warships have been launched together, the Mazgaon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL). Both warships have been designed in-house by the Directorate of Naval Design (DND) and built at MDL, Mumbai.
- The **HANSA-NG 2** seater flying trainer aircraft, designed and developed by CSIR-NAL, passed an in-flight engine relight test at **DRDO's Aeronautical Test Range (ATR)** facility in Challakere. **Wg Cdr K V Prakash** and **Wg Cdr NDS Reddy**, Test Pilots from the Indian Air Force's Aircraft and Systems Testing Establishment (ASTE), conducted a flight test at an altitude of 7000-8000 feet with a speed range of 60 to 70 knots (IAF).

Science and Technology News

- At **Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC)** in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** successfully completed the static test of a human-rated solid rocket booster (HS200) for the Gaganyaan programme. According to the Bengaluru-based space agency, the HS200 is the human-rated version of the S200 rocket booster of the satellite launch vehicle **GSLV Mk III**, also known as LVM3.

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** launched India's first 5G testbed, allowing startups and industry players to test and certify their technologies domestically and lessen reliance on foreign facilities. The testbed was built at a cost of approximately Rs 220 crore. The Prime Minister said the 5G testbed is a significant step toward self-reliance in the direction of critical and modern technologies while speaking at the **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's** silver jubilee celebrations.
- Private sector rocket maker **Skyroot Aerospace Private Ltd** successfully tested its **Kalam-100** rocket that will power the **Vikram-1 rocket's third stage/engine**. The company announced the completion of the milestone of full duration test-firing of its Vikram-1 rocket stage. The third stage, named Kalam-100 after former **President APJ Abdul Kalam**, was fired for a duration of 108 seconds.
- **Chinese scientists** have proposed a space project to survey the sky through a space-borne telescope to hunt for habitable Earth-like planets outside the solar system, about 32 light-years from Earth. The project, named **Closeby Habitable Exoplanet Survey (CHES)** would be the first space mission specially designed to search for habitable terrestrial planets around nearby Sun-like stars.

Awards and Recognitions

- **Anna Qabale Duba**, a Kenyan nurse stationed at the **Marsabit County Referral Hospital**, won the inaugural **Aster Guardian Global Nursing Award** for endorsing education and campaigning against outdated cultural practices like **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** in her community. Duba, who took home **USD 250,000 (approx. Ksh.29 million)** in prize money, was feted by Emirates CEO Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum at an award ceremony held in Dubai, which commemorated the International Nurses Day.
- Cameroon Activist, **Cécile Ndjebet** has won the **2022 Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award** in recognition of her outstanding contribution to preserving forests and improving the lives of people who depend on them. This award celebrates Cécile Ndjebet's energy and dedication over three decades to promoting women's rights to land and forests. She has actively shown that women's participation in forest governance and preservation is fundamental to achieving sustainable forest management.
- Chairman of the Piramal Group, **Ajay Piramal** has received an honorary **Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE)** by Her Majesty The Queen. He received the award for services to the UK-India trade relationship as **India Co-Chair of the UK-India CEO Forum**. As co-chair of the India-UK CEO forum since 2016, the endeavour has been to help strengthen the strong bilateral relations between the two countries through greater economic cooperation.

- Author and journalist, **Wesley Morgan** has won the **William E. Colby Award 2022** for his military and intelligence writing. He was cited for his book **“The Hardest Place: The American Military Adrift in Afghanistan’s Pech Valley.”** The Colby Award, a **\$5,000 prize** named for the former ambassador and CIA director William E. Colby, is given for “a major contribution to the understanding of military history, intelligence operations or international affairs.” The Colby Award is presented by Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont. The Colby award was established in 1999.
- An innovator from Rajasthan who has developed the technology of saving energy in boilers by recycling steam, **Subhash Ola** has won the **1st prize for the Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022** and his enterprise **“Geniusenergy Critical Innovation Private Limited”** has won the **Start-up of the Year award.**

Summit and Conference

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** called for a reform of the UN health authority and a review of its vaccine approval processes a week after the government challenged the WHO’s numbers for mortality during the Covid outbreak. **Mr. Modi** also called for the World Trade Organization to be more flexible on the issue of patent waivers, where a joint India-South Africa proposal made in 2020 has yet to be adopted, speaking at the second global Covid summit, which was virtually addressed by US President **Joseph Biden** and a number of other leaders including from the African Union, European Union, Canada, Germany, South Africa, Japan, and South Korea.
- The Indian team, led by Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change **Shri Bhupender Yadav**, arrived in **Abidjan, Cote D Ivoire**, for the **UN Convention on Combating Desertification’s 15th Conference of Parties (UNCCD COP15)**. The fourteenth session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification was held in New Delhi, and India is the current president of the organisation.
- **Shri Piyush Goyal**, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Textiles, presided over the **National Startup Advisory Council’s (NSAC) 4th meeting** in New Delhi. The Minister told the audience that the government would continue to promote the development of the **startup ecosystem**. He praised **NSAC** members’ efforts and encouraged them to concentrate on tier 2 and tier 3 locations, where VC financing is scarce.

- Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs and India’s Governor for the New Development Bank (NDB), **Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman** chaired the **7th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of NDB** through video conference in New Delhi. The meeting was also attended by Governors/Alternate Governors of Brazil, China, Russia, South Africa and the newly joined members Bangladesh and United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Schemes and Committees News

- The **Department of Telecommunications** has launched the **GatiShakti Sanchar portal**, which would streamline the application and approval procedure for right of way (RoW) across the country. According to Telecom Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, the platform would help achieve the goal of Ease of doing business for telecoms infrastructure projects, which is in line with the vision of the Hon’ble Prime Minister.
- The **Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM)** has recommended that the government implement a guaranteed employment programme for the unemployed in cities and implement a **universal basic income (UBI)** scheme to eliminate income gaps. Citing the country’s uneven income distribution, the report also advocated raising the minimum wage and increasing government investment on the social sector to make vulnerable groups more resilient to shocks and prevent them from falling into poverty.
- Plumbex India Exhibition ceremony of was started by Honourable Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, **Sh. Hardeep Singh Puri**. He also announced the **Bharat Tap project**, a campaign to produce low-flow fixtures and sanitaryware to help India enter a new era of water conservation and sustainable development. **Plumbex India** is a three-day event that will take place in the Pragati Maidan in New Delhi and is the country’s largest solo exhibition on plumbing, water, and sanitation products.



Ranks and Reports News

- According to the report released by **Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles (OICA)**, **India** has surpassed **Germany** to become 4th largest vehicle market in the world. The 1st was occupied by China, followed by the US and Japan. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, India sold 3,759,398 vehicles in 2021 as compared to 2,973,319 vehicles in Germany. This is almost 26 per cent of growth and the only country to register double-digit growth among the top 5 countries.
- Billionaire **Mukesh Ambani's** Reliance Industries Ltd climbed two spots to No. 53 on Forbes' Global 2000 list of public companies worldwide 2022. Reliance is the top-ranked Indian firm on the list, followed by **State Bank of India** at No. 105, **HDFC Bank** at No. 153 and **ICICI Bank** at No. 204. **Berkshire Hathaway** took the No. 1 spot for the first time since Forbes started publishing the Global 2000 in 2003, dethroning the **Industrial and Commercial Bank of China**, which dropped to No. 2 after nine consecutive years at the top of the list. **Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudi Aramco)** took the 3 Spot.

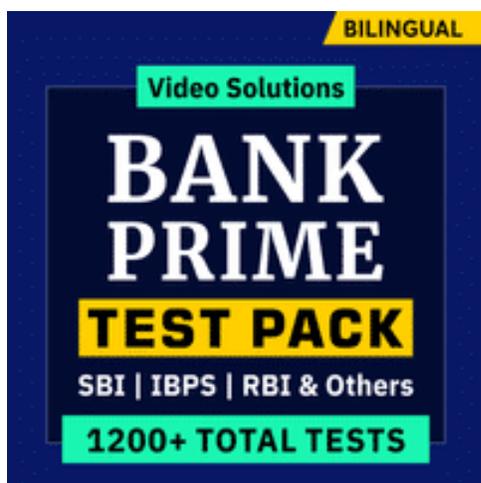
Sports News

- After a thrilling final at the Impact Arena in Bangkok, Thailand, **Korea** stunned defending champions **China** to capture their second **Uber Cup** title. **Korea** fought back from behind twice to deny **China** a record-extending 16th title in the famous team tournament in a tie that lasted close to 90 minutes apiece.
- **Quinton de Kock** and **KL Rahul** of the Lucknow Super Giants put up the best first-wicket stand in the Indian Premier League's history. This is the first time in the IPL where a team batted first and finished 20 overs with an unbroken opening partnership. **Quinton de Kock** blasted an unbeaten 140 off 70 balls against Kolkata Knight Riders, while **KL Rahul** slammed 68 not out to create a new IPL record with their 210-run stand in 20 overs.
- **Nikhat Zareen** gave a dazzling performance to beat **Thai Olympian Jutamas Jitpong 5-0** and become the fifth Indian woman to win a World title at the **Women's World Championships, Istanbul**. Nikhat thus becomes only the fifth Indian women's boxer after **Mary Kom, Sarita Devi, Jenny RL and Lekha KC** to win a gold at the World Championships. The 25-year-old Zareen is a former junior youth world champion.

Important Days

- **The International Day of Living Together in Peace** is held on **16th May** every year. The day is celebrated on the 16th of May throughout the world and with its annual observance, it aims to urge people to live together in a united and peaceful way. Individuals can attain this by listening to each other and respecting one another despite their differences.
- **The International Day of Light** is celebrated on **16 May** each year, the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser in **1960** by physicist and engineer, **Theodore Maiman**.
- **This year Vesak Day or Buddha Purnima** has celebrated on **16 May 2022**. "Vesak", the Day of the Full Moon in the month of May, is the most sacred day to millions of Buddhists around the world. It was on the Day of Vesak two and a half millennia ago, in the year **623 B.C.**, that the **Gautama Buddha** was born. It was also on the Day of Vesak that the Buddha attained enlightenment, and it was on the Day of Vesak that the Buddha in his **eightieth** year passed away.
- **National Dengue Day** is observed on the **16th of May** every year in India. National Dengue day was an initiative of the **Ministry of health and family welfare** to make people aware of dengue and its prevention measures. It also has the people to know how to prepare and control dengue before the transmission season begins.
- The **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD)** is observed each year on 17th May to increase awareness of the benefits and opportunities that the Internet and other **information and communication technologies (ICT)** provide to nations, societies, and economies. It also hopes to raise awareness about how to close the digital divide.
- **World Hypertension Day** is observed every year on **17th May**, to raise awareness and encourage hypertension prevention, detection, and treatment. The major risk factor for cardiovascular disease is high blood pressure and hypertension is known as the "**Silent Killer**".
- **International Museum Day (IMD)** is celebrated every year on **18 May**. This day is observed to highlight the importance of museums in any culture. Museums are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples.
- **World AIDS Vaccine Day** is also known as **HIV Vaccine Awareness Day (HVAD)** is annually observed across the globe on the **18th of May** to create awareness and provide information about **Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)**, a chronic, potentially life-threatening condition caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and its immunisation.

- **World Bee Day** is observed worldwide on **May 20**. World Bee Day is to acknowledge the role of bees and other pollinators in the ecosystem. This year **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** will celebrate World Bee Day through a virtual event, under the theme '**Bee Engaged: Celebrating the diversity of bees and beekeeping systems**'.
- Every year on the **third Friday of May**, people across the globe observe National Endangered Species Day. This year the day is celebrated on **May 20**. This year, it marks the **16th National Endangered Species Day**. National Endangered Species Day is celebrated with the main emphasis on conserving our planet Earth's flora and fauna. The National Endangered Species Day theme 2022 is "**Recovering key species for ecosystem restoration**". Every year the awareness campaign takes place around a theme.
- On May 17, the **International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia** is commemorated, with the goal of coordinating international events to raise awareness of **LGBT** rights violations and inspire interest in LGBT rights work around the world.
- **The International Tea Day** is observed on **May 21** every year. The day is known to create awareness about safe working conditions for the tea workers, fair trade and a sustainable environment to improve the production of tea. The Day will promote and foster collective actions to implement activities in favour of the sustainable production and consumption of tea and raise awareness of its importance in fighting hunger and poverty.



- The UN General Assembly, in its resolution, declared **May 21** to be the **World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development**. The day aims to celebrate the richness of the world's cultures and highlight the significance of its diversity as an agent of inclusion and positive change for achieving peace and sustainable development.

- **Anti-Terrorism Day** is observed every year on **21 May**, on the death anniversary of former Prime Minister **Rajiv Gandhi**. He was assassinated on May 21, 1991, by the LTTE terrorists while campaigning for the Congress Party at Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu. Rajiv Gandhi became India's youngest PM when he was sworn in at 40. He took over as the sixth PM of the country after Indira Gandhi's assassination in 1984. He served from 1984 to 1989.
- **World Metrology Day (WMD)** is annually observed across the globe on **20th May** to create awareness about the Metrology, the science of measurement and its application. The theme for World Metrology Day 2022 is **Metrology in the Digital Era**. This theme was chosen because digital technology is revolutionizing our community, and is one of the most exciting trends in society today.

Obituaries

- Former Australian all-rounder **Andrew Symonds** has been killed in a car crash. The 46-year-old, who played 26 Tests and 198 one-day internationals for Australia from **1998 to 2009**, was involved in a single-car accident outside Townsville in Queensland state. Symonds was also a top-rate fielder and was a key part of Australia's back-to-back 50-over World Cups triumphs in 2003 and 2007.

Miscellaneous News

- Food-delivery app available online **Swiggy** has agreed to buy restaurant technology and dining out platform **Dineout** from Times Internet in a formal deal. Swiggy said in a statement that Dineout will continue to operate as an independent app following the acquisition.
- A British climber **Kenton Cool** has scaled the world's highest mountain for the **16th time** becoming the first foreign climber to make the most **Mt Everest summits**. Kenton also holds a record of the first British mountaineer who climbed Mt Nuptse, Mt Everest and Mt Lhotse in a season in 2013. Last year, Kenton had made it to the top of Mt Lhotse in less than 29 hours after scaling the world's highest peak. Previously, American climber **Dave Hahn** has climbed Mt Everest 15 times.
- On the invitation of Nepal's Prime Minister, **Shri Sher Bahadur Deuba**, Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** conducted an official visit to Lumbini, Nepal, coinciding with the auspicious event of Vaishakha Buddha Purnima. This was **Shri Narendra Modi's** fifth visit to Nepal as Prime Minister, and his first to Lumbini.

- **West Central Railway** has developed a battery-operated dual-mode locomotive named **Navdoot**. This engine runs on both modes i.e. battery and electricity. Currently, it is being used during the shunting of trains at Jabalpur, Mudwara, and other stations on a trial basis. This Dual Mode Locomotive has also received the **Best Innovation Award from the Railway Board**. Railways will save 1000 litres of diesel every day with this new locomotive. After clearing all the trials, it will be used more widely.
- Delhi Lieutenant Governor, **Anil Bajjal** has submitted his resignation to **President Ram Nath Kovind** citing personal reasons. He was appointed the national capital's LG in December 2016 after the sudden resignation of **Najeeb Jung**. He had earlier served as DDA vice-chairperson and Union Home Secretary during the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government.
- The wax museum **Madame Tussauds** is returning to India. The museum will be located in a **Noida** mall. 50 Indian and international luminaries from sports, entertainment, history, and music will be featured at the new venue. **Madame Tussauds** India will let visitors to get up up and personal with celebrities as well as some of their most iconic moments.
- **On 21st May 1991**, former prime minister **Rajiv Gandhi** was assassinated in Tamil Nadu at a poll rally by a woman suicide bomber identified as **Dhanu**. 14 others including Rajiv Gandhi were killed according to the **Rajiv Gandhi Assassination investigation**. Rajiv Gandhi was campaigning for the upcoming elections with G.K Moonpanar in India's Southern states.
- Tripura Chief Minister: Biplab Kumar Deb;
- Tripura Governor: Satyadeo Narain Arya.
- World Bank Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States.
- World Bank Formation: July 1944.
- World Bank President: David Malpass.
- Chief Minister of Punjab: Sh. Bhagwant Mann.
- Kerala Capital: Thiruvananthapuram;
- Kerala Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan;
- Kerala Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan.
- Punjab Capital: Chandigarh;
- Punjab Governor: Banwarilal Purohit;
- Punjab Chief Minister: Bhagwant Mann.
- PNB MetLife Established: 2001;
- PNB MetLife Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- PNB MetLife Chairman: Kishore Ponnawolu;
- PNB MetLife MD & CEO: Ashish Kumar Srivastava.
- RBI Founded: April 1, 1935;
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- RBI Governor: Shaktikanta Das;
- RBI Deputy Governors: Mahesh Kumar Jain, Michael Debabrata Patra, M Rajeshwar Rao, T Rabi Sankar.
- Royal Enfield Headquarters: Chennai;
- Royal Enfield Founded: 1955;
- Royal Enfield Parent organization: Eicher Motors.
- Bharti Airtel Founder: Sunil Bharti Mittal;
- Bharti Airtel Founded: 7 July 1995, India.
- Managing Director of IndiGo: Rahul Bhatia;
- IndiGo Founded: 2006;
- IndiGo Headquarters: Gurugram.
- Kenya Capital: Nairobi;
- Kenya Currency: Shilling;
- Kenya President: Uhuru Kenyatta.
- WHO Director General: Tedros Ghebreyesus
- US President: Joe Biden
- Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change: Shri Bhupender Yadav
- Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Textiles: Shri Piyush Goyal
- Food and Agriculture Organization Director-General: QU Dongyu;
- Food and Agriculture Organization Headquarters: Rome, Italy;
- Food and Agriculture Organization Founded: 16 October 1945.
- Swiggy's cofounder and CEO: Sriharsha Majety
- Cofounder and CEO of Dineout: Ankit Mehrotra
- Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, GoI: Ashwini Vaishnaw.

Static Takeaways

- Minister of Home Affairs: Amit Shah
- Minister of State in Ministry of Home affairs: Ajay Kumar Mishra
- UAE Capital: Abu Dhabi;
- UAE Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham;
- UAE Prime minister: Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.
- Federal Republic of Somalia Capital: Mogadishu;
- Federal Republic of Somalia Currency: Somali Shilling (SOS);
- Federal Republic of Somalia Prime Minister: Mohammed Hussein Roble.
- France Capital: Paris;
- France President: Emmanuel Macron.
- Minister of State for External Affairs, GoI: Shri V Muraleedharan
- Secretary General of the United Nations: Antonio Guterres
- US Secretary of State: Antony Blinken
- Tripura Capital: Agartala;

- Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs: Sh. Hardeep Singh Puri.
- ISRO Chairman and Secretary of the Department of Space: S Somanath
- Director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC): S Unnikrishnan Nair
- China Capital: Beijing;
- China Currency: Renminbi;
- China President: Xi Jinping.
- International Organization of Legal Metrology Headquarters: Paris, France.
- International Organization of Legal Metrology Founded: 1955.

