

Weekly One Liners 27th June to 03rd of July 2022

Ekhnath Shinde to take oath as Chief Minister of Maharashtra

Ekhnath Shinde, a rebel Shiv Sena MLA, will be sworn in as the new chief minister of Maharashtra. The dissident Shiv Sena faction led by **Ekhnath Shinde** and the BJP will form Maharashtra's new government after nearly ten days of intense power struggles. The Maha Vikas Aghadi government's authority in the state came to an end the day after **Uddhav Thackeray** resigned as chief minister. The Shinde camp announced that talks with the BJP have begun and that they will form the government.

KEY POINTS:

- When announcing Shinde's candidacy, **Fadnavis** stated that the BJP, the **Ekhnath Shinde** group, and 16 independents/smaller parties had all written letters of support to the governor. Shinde will take his oath in Raj Bhawan.
- **Devendra Fadnavis** takes oath as **deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra**
- **Uddhav Thackeray** resigned as chief minister of Maharashtra due to a mutiny within his own **Shiv Sena** party and the realisation that he would not be able to demonstrate his government's majority in the House.
- His resignation came after the **Supreme Court** declined to impose a stay on a floor test that the Governor had ordered.
- **JP Nadda** said that there will be a strong government in this state thanks to Amit Shah's support, which will result in rapid state development. The 50 MLAs have battled alongside me and given me this position of trust. I reassure them that I won't subject them to the same treatment they previously received.
- He added that they shall put in nonstop effort to move this State toward development. Finding a diamond like Devendra Fadnavis is challenging. Even though he is not a member of the cabinet, they will always value his advice and suggestions.
- BJP now has close to 120 members. **Fadnavis** could have easily assumed the position of CM. He was kind and offered Balasaheb's shivsainik this position.

About the Maharashtra Uddhav Crisis:

- Following allegations of cross-voting in the Legislative Council elections, the crisis started on June 21.
- Following that, Uddhav Thackeray convened a hasty meeting of Shiv Sena MLAs. **Ekhnath Shinde**, the leader of the Sena, and 11 other MLAs were not identifiable.
- The missing Sena leaders were discovered camped out in opulent hotels in Surat, Guwahati, and finally Goa before returning to Mumbai. This was followed by a week of resort politics.

About Ekhnath Shinde:

- **Ekhnath Shinde** is an Indian politician who was born on February 9th, 1964.
- He served as the government of Maharashtra's Cabinet Minister for Public Works and Urban Development.
- He now represents Thane, Maharashtra's Kopri-Pachpakhadi constituency in the legislative assembly.
- Before he precipitated a serious political crisis, **Ekhnath Sambhaji Shinde** served as the PWD Cabinet Minister for the Maharashtra State Government (MSRDC, Public Undertaking) and is currently a Shiv Sena member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly from the Kopri-Pachpakhadi (Vidhan Sabha constituency).
- There are 288 members of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.
- He was re-elected to the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly for a total of four terms in 2004, 2009, 2014, and 2019.

National MSME Award 2022

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Department, Government of Odisha has been awarded first prize in the category "**National MSME Award 2022 to States/UTs for outstanding contribution in the promotion and Development of MSME Sector**" by virtue of various developmental initiatives taken up for the development of MSMEs. **Bihar and Haryana** were second and third respectively.

Other awardees:

- **Kalahandi** has been awarded third prize in the category "**National MSME Award 2022 to Aspirational districts for outstanding contribution in the promotion and Development of MSME Sector**" as the sectoral development was in the line of award parameters, according to an official statement issued by the state government.



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- Similarly, **Sumeet Mohanty M/s Saferisk Insurance Brokers Private Limited**, Bhubaneswar has been awarded first prize in the category “**Award for Service Entrepreneurship - Service Small Enterprise (Overall)**”.
- In addition, **Sibabrata Rout M/s Amarnath Pest Management Technology, Cuttack** has also been awarded third prize in the category “**Award for Service Entrepreneurship - Service Micro Enterprise (Overall)**”.

About the awards:

Awards to States and UTs and Aspirational Districts for their contribution to the MSME, parameters like sector-specific policies & their performance, the efficacy of Facilitation Council, Grievance redressal, Y-o-Y growth of MSME budget, growth of MSME credit, implementation of the cluster approach, Udyam Registration, skill development programs, and awareness conducted, etc. were taken into account.

Ranjit Trophy 2022: Madhya Pradesh beats Mumbai by six wickets

Madhya Pradesh wrote history as they won their maiden **Ranjit Trophy title**, beating tournament **heavyweights Mumbai by 6 wickets** in the final at the M.Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. Under the leadership of **Aditya Shrivastava**, the team defeated 41-time champions Mumbai. The team was coached by former India wicketkeeper-batsman **Chandrakant Pandit**.

Mumbai batter **Sarfaraz Khan** was crowned as the ‘Man of the Tournament for his brilliant Ranji Trophy 2022 with the bat, which saw him score 982 runs at an average of 122.75, finishing at the top of the batting charts. Other top bowlers of The 2022 Ranji Trophy are spinner **Shahbaz Nadeem** of Jharkhand (25 wickets).

History of Ranji Trophy:

- The **Ranji Trophy** is a domestic first-class cricket championship played in India between multiple teams representing regional and state cricket associations. The competition currently consists of 38 teams, with all 28 states in India and four of the nine union territories having at least one representation.
- The competition is named after the first Indian cricketer who played international cricket, **Ranjit Singh**, who was also known as ‘Ranji’. The first match of the competition was held on 4 November 1934 between Madras and Mysore at the Chepauk ground in Madras in the final.
- Mumbai(Bombay) have won the tournament the most number of times with 41 wins including 15 back-to-back wins from 1958–59 to 1972–73.

National Statistics Day 2022

National Statistics Day is observed in India on **June 29** each year. The day aims to raise public awareness of the value of statistics in everyday life as well as in the planning and development process. The celebrated statistician, Professor **Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis**, is recognised on National Statistics Day for his contributions to economic planning and statistics. Additionally, the Indian Statistical Institute’s founder, Professor PC Mahalanobis, celebrates his birthday on 29 June. The theme of National Statistics Day 2022 is ‘**Data for Sustainable Development**’.

National Statistics Day 2022: Significance

To honour Professor Mahalanobis and promote the use of statistics in daily life. The Indian government observes National Statistics Day. The events’ main goal is to raise public awareness of the role statistics play in formulating and affecting public policy. The Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation is in charge of planning the day (MOSPI).

National Statistics Day: History

It was initially observed on **June 29, 2007**, to honour Professor Mahalanobis’ exceptional contributions to statistical research and economic planning. It was decided to designate his birthday as National Statistics Day. On June 5th, 2007, the Indian Gazette initially published a notification about this.

National Affairs

- Union minister for Road Transport and Highways, **Nitin Gadkari** has approved the Draft GSR Notification to introduce **Bharat NCAP (New Car Assessment Program)**, wherein automobiles in India shall be accorded Star Ratings based upon their performance in Crash Tests. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Following a 12-day exhibition at the **Batsagaan Temple** on the grounds of **Gandan Monastery, Mongolia**, in honour of Mongolian Buddha Purnima, the four Holy Relics of the Lord Buddha returned to **India**. The sacred relics were presented to Union Minister **Shri Arjun Meghwal** in Ghaziabad. Due to high demand from the Mongolian people, the presentation of the holy relics had to be extended by a few days. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- During his visit to **Nagaland**, the Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, **Narendra Singh Tomar**, officially inaugurated the **Dimapur Honey Testing Laboratory**. The honey testing facility will support beekeepers and producers in testing their produced honey. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- According to a report by the **Hurun Research Institute** titled **Hurun India Future Unicorn Index 2022**, India is predicted to have 122 new unicorns in the following 2-4 years. The total worth of these potential unicorns is currently 49 billion US dollars. When a startup is valued at **\$1 billion USD**, it is considered to be a **Unicorn**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The new **smart** campus of Bosch India, a top provider of technology and services in **Bengaluru**, was essentially inaugurated by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**. According to a business statement, Modi noted in his inauguration address that this year is a historic one for both India and **Bosch India** as both countries mark their 75th anniversaries of independence. ([Click here to read the article](#))

States in the News

- The people of **Goa** has celebrated the **Sao Joao festival**, the feast of **St John the Baptist** with traditional enthusiasm after a two-year coronavirus-induced gap. The festival is dedicated to Saint John the Baptist, who baptised Lord Jesus on the river of Jordan and is celebrated at the onset of monsoon. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Devotees were finally permitted to take part in the annual **Ambubachi Mela** at Assam's renowned **Kamakhya Temple** after a two-year absence. The head priest of **Maa Kamakhya Devalaya**, or "Bor Doloi," **Kabinath Sarma**, explained that the "Pravritti" was used to symbolically close the temple doors for four days as part of the rites. The door will be unlocked or **Nivriti** in the morning of the first day. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Kerala state government** has issued orders regarding the implementation of a medical insurance "**MEDISEP**" scheme for government employees and pensioners and the deduction of premium from the salary of June 2022 and pension of July 2022. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The **Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD)** will be launched the **One Health pilot** in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**. The programme is aimed at bringing stakeholders from animal, human and environment health on a common platform to address challenges. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Ratan Tata**, an Industrialist, applauded the **Telangana** government's most recent **T-Hub** opening in **Hyderabad**. The Telangana Chief Minister **K Chandrashekhar Rao** received congratulations from the chairman emeritus of **Tata Sons** on the new T-hub facility in **Hyderabad**, which will significantly improve the Indian startup ecosystem. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Uddhav Thackeray** has resigned as the **Chief minister of Maharashtra**. This comes immediately after the Supreme Court refused to stay Maharashtra Governor's direction to the **Uddhav Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA)** government to take a floor test in the Assembly. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Karnataka government** has launched the '**Kashi Yatra**' scheme. The Kashi Yatra project, which offers a cash assistance of **Rs 5,000 to each of the 30,000 pilgrims** willing to conduct a pilgrimage to the Kashi Vishwanath Temple in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. ([Click here to read the article](#))

International Affairs

- Representatives from the **United States** arrived for talks in an effort to assist the island nation during its greatest economic crisis since its independence in 1948, Sri Lanka hiked its fuel costs, adding to the suffering of the populace. **Diesel**, which is frequently used in public transportation, has seen a price increase of 15% to 460 rupees (\$1.27) per litre, while gasoline has seen a price increase of 22% to 550 rupees (\$1.52) per litre, according to **Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Commonwealth of Nations** now has 56 member nations after the admission of **Togo** and **Gabon**. The two historically French-speaking nations were formally admitted to the union at the **Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting**, which was presided over by Rwandan President **Paul Kagame** in **Kigali**, the country's capital. ([Click here to read the article](#))

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- **Iran** has submitted an application to become a member in the group of emerging economies known as the **BRICS**. Iran's membership in the BRICS group, which includes **Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa**, "would result in added values for both sides," Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson. **Argentina** had also applied to join the group. Argentina's President **Alberto Fernandez**, currently in Europe, has in recent days reiterated his desire for Argentina to join BRICS. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The United Kingdom government** has announced a partnership with leading businesses in India to offer 75 fully funded scholarships for Indian students to study in the UK from September, in celebration of the **75th anniversary of India's independence**. Additionally, the British Council in India is offering around 18 scholarships for women in **science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)** covering over **12,000 courses across more than 150 UK universities**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **US** and its allies, **Australia, New Zealand, Japan**, and the **United Kingdom**, have launched a new initiative called **Partners in the Blue Pacific** for effective and efficient cooperation with the region's small island nations in response to China's aggressive push to expand its sphere of influence in the **Pacific**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Ferdinand Marcos Jr**, the son of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos Sr, won the elections on 9th May with 31.6 million votes and was sworn as the **17th President of the Philippines**. He took the oath at the National Museum of Fine Arts in Manila before the Supreme Court Justice, Alexander Gesmundo. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Defense Initiatives (DI), Belarus, and Defense Initiatives Aero Pvt Ltd, India (a subsidiary of DI Belarus)**. The MoU is signed to build cooperation amongst the three companies for the supply of Airborne Defense Suite (ADS) for Indian Air Force's helicopters. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In order to provide PAN-related services for **PayNearby's** retail partners through Aadhaar and biometric or SMS-based OTP authentication for their clients, **Protean eGov Technologies Ltd** (previously NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure Ltd) and **PayNearby** have formed a cooperation. For millions of citizens, the cooperation seeks to improve service delivery. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Books and Authors

- A new biography of one of India's most firebrand union leaders and former Central minister **George Fernandes** will trace his journey from the streets of Bombay to the corridors of power in Delhi, announced the **Penguin Random House India (PRHI)**. "**The Life and Times of George Fernandes**", written by **Rahul Ramagundam**, will be released under Penguin's 'Allen Lane' imprint on July 25. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

- The **Nainital Bank-BoB** co-branded **Contactless RuPay Credit Card** has been launched, according to BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Bank of Baroda** and **Nainital Bank**, which was founded by **Bharat Ratna Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant** in 1922 and has been under Bank of Baroda management since 1973. The card, which is being introduced in Nainital Bank's centennial year, is intended to reward users for everyday spending categories including groceries and department stores. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has given the **State Bank of India** preliminary approval for its proposed operations support subsidiary, which aims to reduce the cost-to-income ratio. Before introducing the new subsidiary across India, the bank will soon begin a pilot programme in a select areas. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- One of the top NBFCs, **Mufin Finance**, has received preliminary authorisation from the **RBI** to issue semi-closed prepaid payment instruments. Digital banks, fintech companies, and major consumer-facing applications are able to introduce features like digital payment solutions for lending thanks to a semi-closed **PPI licence**. Following well-known companies like **Bajaj Finserv, Manapurram, and Paul Merchants**, **Mufin Finance** is the fourth NBFC to get a similar licence from the **RBI**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In order to digitise the cash collection mechanism in India's Tier III cities and semi-urban areas, **Airtel Payments Bank** has teamed with **Axis Bank**. **Airtel Payments Bank** will help **Axis Bank** digitise last-mile cash collections by utilising the broad reach of its digital-led neighbourhood banking concept. This collaboration will aid **Axis Bank** in streamlining its cash management operations. Additionally, it is anticipated to shorten the payment cycle and free up bandwidth for the nation's field agents. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **May saw credit card** spending reach an all-time high of **\$1.14 trillion**, indicating that the retail sector is doing well. According to **Reserve Bank of India data**, credit card spending increased 118 percent annually and 8 percent monthly as a result of strong e-commerce spending, high-value travel and tourism spending, and discretionary purchases. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- India's economy, according to Commerce and Industry Minister **Piyush Goyal**, is among the fastest-growing in the world and is predicted to reach **\$30 trillion** in the next 30 years. **Goyal** remarked that if India grows at a compound annual growth rate of 8% annually, the economy will double in nine years while speaking to exporters in **Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu**. According to the minister, the country's economy is currently worth approximately \$3.2 trillion and will be worth roughly \$6.5 trillion in nine years. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Goods and Service Taxes (GST) Council** is going to talk about changing the law to make it easier to create **GST tribunals**. A report by a **Group of Ministers (GoM)** on online gambling, casinos, and racetracks will also be discussed by the Council. The **GoM** has proposed that rates and valuation standards for the 28 percent **GST** that will be imposed on casinos, racetracks, internet gambling, and lotteries be uniform. It said that no distinction should be made between games of skill and games of chance for the purposes of the levy. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Nasscom**, an Indian non-governmental trade association and advocacy group, claims that an **integrated AI and data** use plan could boost India's GDP by \$500 billion by 2025. The **Nasscom**, in collaboration with **EY** and with backing from **Microsoft, EXL, and Capgemini**, has introduced a **AI Adoption Index** to track sectoral progress on AI adoption in the nation. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- A report titled "**India's Booming Gig and Platform Economy**" was released by **NITI Aayog**. **Suman Bery**, vice chairman of **NITI Aayog**, **Amitabh Kant**, and **Dr K Rajeswara Rao**, special secretary, released the report. The study, which is a first of its kind, offers in-depth viewpoints and suggestions on the **gig-platform economy** in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- While permitting states to issue an e-way bill for the intra-state movement of gold and precious stones, authorities said the **GST Council** authorised modifications to tax rates on specific items and services. Along with approving a **GoM** report on high-risk tax payers to avoid cheating, the Council, presided over by Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** and made up of state equivalents, also approved a number of compliance processes for **GST-registered enterprises**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Retail investors may use UPI, or the unified payments interface mechanism, to apply in the public offering of **REITs** and **InvITs** for application values up to Rs 5 lakh, according to capital markets regulator **Sebi**. The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)** stated in two separate circulars that the new framework, which aims to further streamline the procedure, will be applicable to public issue of units of **Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT)** and **real estate investment trust (REIT)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)** has slapped heavy penalties in a 2015 'dark fibre' case that saw certain brokers exploiting the **National Stock Exchange's (NSE's)** internet infrastructure to get faster connectivity to its colocation (colo) facilities. The markets regulator has imposed a penalty of **Rs 7 crore** on NSE and **Rs 5 crore** on former Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) **Chitra Ramkrishna**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **NITI Aayog** and the **Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC)** made an upbeat prediction that by FY2026-27, electric two-wheelers would be completely incorporated into the Indian market. The **Department of Science & Technology** established the independent **TIFAC** in 1988 with the mission to forecast technological developments, evaluate technological trajectories, and foster innovation. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP)-2020** was presented by Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** in New Delhi. According to the report's analysis of the Business Reforms Action Plan's execution, seven states have been named as the top achievers. **Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Punjab, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu** are the states in question. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Tata Power Solar Systems**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Tata Power**, has accomplished a remarkable feat by commissioning **India's largest floating solar power project in Kayamkulam, Kerala**. On a 350-acre water body, backwaters area, having an installed capacity of 101.6 Megawatt Peak. **Tata Power Solar** successfully built a scaffolding platform on the water body to make the entire solar plant float on water. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Zomato (Online food delivery platform)** has announced the acquisition of **Blink Commerce (Blinkit)**, earlier known as **Grofers India**. The company's Board of Directors approved a proposal to acquire cash-strapped quick commerce company **Blinkit** for **Rs 4,447 crore**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **Acemoney** has launched **UPI 123Pay payment and wearable ATM cards**. The UPI 123Pay payment allows people to carry out cashless transactions without smartphones or internet connections using feature phones. The wearable ATM cards are gadgets designed as key chains and rings that enable people to carry out cashless transactions without ATM cards and phones. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- One of India's top private general insurers, **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance**, announced the launch of its unique **Global Health Care** health insurance programme. A complete health indemnity insurance programme called **Global Health Care** offers seamless coverage to the policyholder for both domestic and international (outside of India) medical providers for both planned and emergency treatment (within India). ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In an investment agreement (IA) signed by **Google** and **Airtel**, the buyer offers to buy a 1.28 percent minority and non-controlling part in the company's equity share capital. The roughly \$1 billion for 1.28 percent investment in **Bharti Airtel** by **Google** was approved by the Indian Competition Commission. The proposed merger was accepted by the **CCI** based on the Acquirer's amendments (Google International LLC). ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The chief govt of India Resurgence Asset Reconstruction Firm (IRARC), **Avinash Kulkarni**, has been chosen to head the **India Debt Decision Firm (IDRCL)**. Kulkarni is a (SBI) veteran, having undertaken numerous roles on the public sector behemoth. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **International Weightlifting Federation (IWF)** believes that substantial progress has been made in enhancing the culture and leadership of the sport. **Mohammed Jalood** has been elected as the organization's president. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Mukesh Ambani's** eldest son **Akash Ambani** will take over as chairman of **Jio Infocomm's** board, the digital division of Reliance industries, in what is viewed as the 65-year-old billionaire's succession planning. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Pinterest Inc.** announced that Chief Executive Officer **Ben Silbermann** would step down and give Google Commerce Executive **Bill Ready** control of the social media site. With **Ready's** appointment, **Silbermann's** 12-year leadership of the company, which began in 2010 when he co-founded it, comes to an end. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Attorney General (A-G), **K.K. Venugopal** has been re-appointed as the country's top law officer for a **period of three months**. Mr. Venugopal, whose current one-year term ends on June 30, agreed to a short tenure following a request from the government. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Sandeep Kumar Gupta**, Director for Finance at Indian Oil Corporation, has been picked to head India's largest gas utility **GAIL (India) Ltd**. He will replace **Manoj Jain**, who is scheduled to retire on August 31. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Appointments/Resignations

- **Anil Khanna** has been appointed the **acting President of Indian Olympic Association (IOA)**. The Delhi High Court has ordered that **Narinder Dhruv Batra** cannot continue as the President of the IOA and appointed Anil Khanna as acting president. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Former Drinking and water Sanitation Secretary, **Parameswaren Iyer** has been appointed as the new **Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog** for 2 years. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Central government has appointed senior IPS officer **Tapan Kumar Deka** as **Director of Intelligence Bureau**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Samant Kumar Goel's** contract as secretary of the intelligence agency's **Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)** was extended by the Centre on June 24 by another year. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- IRS officer **Nitin Gupta** has been appointed as the new **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) chairman**. ([Click here to read the article](#))



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Defence News

- The Indian Air Force announced that three **Su-30 MKI** planes and two **C-17** transport aircraft are taking part in a month-long tactical leadership programme in **Egypt**. According to the statement, the exercise offers a singular chance to highlight the IAF's capabilities and reach against the backdrop of the current geopolitical situation. In Egypt (Cairo West Airbase), the Indian Air Force would send three **Su-30MKI** aircraft, two **C-17 aircraft**, and **57 IAF personnel** to the Egyptian Air Force Weapon School to take part in a tactical leadership programme. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Off the coast of **Chandipur**, in the state of **Odisha**, India successfully tested the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM). **Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)** and Indian Navy successfully conducted flight tests for the **Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM)**. Off the coast of **Chandipur, Odisha**, the launch was carried out from an Indian Naval Ship. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Pay Roll Automation for Disbursement of Monthly Allowances (PADMA)**, an automated Pay & Allowances module for the **Indian Coast Guard** was inaugurated by Shri Rajnish Kumar, Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA), Ministry of Defence. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In **New Delhi**, there was the **fourth Synergy Conference** between the Indian Army and the Defense Accounts Department (DAD). Senior commanders of the Indian Army and DAD attended the one-day meeting, which was co-chaired by Vice Chief of Army Staff (VCOAS) **Lt Gen BS Raju** and Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) **Shri Rajnish Kumar**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Defence Research and Development Organization's (DRDO)** Abhyas high-speed expendable aerial target (HEAT), which was created as a target for the testing of missile systems, underwent a successful flight testing from the **Integrated Test Range (ITR)**, off the coast of Odisha. The Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), a **DRDO** unit with a Bengaluru location, created **Abhyas**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The ninth **Army to Army Staff Talks**, which were held in **Dehradun**, between the Australian and Indian armies were centred on developing a roadmap for improved defence cooperation and joint military exercises. The **Indian Military Academy (IMA)** was the location of the discussions, where both parties went over the road map for initiatives promoting **defence cooperation**, according to the Army. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- **Mo Bus**, Odisha-based public transport service has been honored with a prestigious **United Nations award**, for their role and efforts in helping the world recover better from Covid19. The public transport service has been recognised for its role in **"promoting gender-responsive public services to achieve the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)"**, the UN said. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Former Karnataka chief minister **S M Krishna**, Infosys founder and IT industry veteran **N R Narayana Murthy**, and former badminton player **Prakash Padukone**, have been selected for the **'Kempegowda International Award'**, which has been instituted beginning this year. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Indian tennis great, **Vijay Amritraj** has been named the 2021 recipient of the **Golden Achievement Award** by the **International Tennis Hall of Fame and International Tennis Federation**. In recognition of his outstanding impact on tennis as a player, promoter, and humanitarian, Amritraj was honoured in London. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- By press announcement, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** had called for entries for the programme mentioned in the caption. The decision was made to jointly reward **Professor Renu Jatana**, a former dean of Mohanlal Sukhadia University in Udaipur, Rajasthan, and **Dr. Sagar Sanwariya**, an assistant professor at Government Girl's College in Nathdwara, Rajasthan, under this programme for their book **Vittiye Prabhand**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The winner of the longest-running Indian beauty pageant outside of India, **Miss India Worldwide 2022**, was announced as British biomedical student **Khushi Patel**. **Shrutika Mane** was named the second runner up, and **Vaidehi Dongre** from the US was named the first runner up. The top 12 competitors at the pageant were the champions of other international competitions. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The winners of the **21st edition** of the **Transylvania International Film Festival** were applauded at the Awards Ceremony, organised in the Unirii Square in Cluj-Napoca. **Utama**, the debut film of director **Alejandro Loayza Grisi**, was chosen as this year's big winner and awarded the **10,000 euro Transylvania Trophy**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Delhi-based leading Drone enterprise platform company **IG Drones** has been felicitated with the **"Best Drone Organization - Start-up Category"** by **Airwards**. IG Drones has been selected for the award for its approach of helping local communities and giving access to technology to various stakeholders during natural disasters and calamities. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- Lok Sabha Speaker **Om Birla** along with Minister for Road Transport and Highways, **Nitin Gadkari** gave away **National Highways Excellence Awards-2021**. Awards were given to the stakeholders and companies engaged in the highway construction and maintenance of road assets in New Delhi. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Ashok Soota**, founder and Executive Chairman of Happiest Minds Technologies, has been conferred with **CII Quality Ratna Award 2021**. The Annual CII Quality Ratna Award constituted in the year 2019 is in recognition of outstanding leadership, contribution, and distinguished service to the **Quality Movement in India**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Summit and Conference

- **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, Minister of State for the Government of India, left for **Portugal** to attend the **Lisbon UN Ocean Conference, 2022**. On the topic of **Scaling up Ocean Action** based on Science and Innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: Stock taking, Partnerships and Solutions, he will give the conference's keynote presentation. The Conference will have participants from more than 130 nations. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **United States** and other major nations came to an agreement at their **G7** summit's conclusion to concentrate on **China's** growing threats, despite the fact that the three-day meeting's most pressing issue was **Russia's conflict in Ukraine**. In a communique, the **Group of Seven (G7)** countries articulated a strategy for challenging **Beijing** regarding its economic policies and human rights violations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- According to a survey, **Kolkata** is the least costly city in Asia, while Mumbai and Delhi are among the top 40 most expensive cities for expats. **Mumbai** is the most expensive city in India in terms of both living expenses and lodging costs, according to Mercer's 2022 Cost of Living assessment. **Hyderabad** is the most expensive Indian city in the ranking, followed by **New Delhi, Chennai, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad**. The least expensive Indian cities are **Pune and Kolkata**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The annual ranking of the world's most liveable cities has just been released by the **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)**, and **2022's Global Liveability Index** shows some marked differences from the previous year. The EIU, which is a sister organization to The Economist, ranked 173 cities around the world on a variety of factors, including health care, crime rates, political stability, infrastructure and access to green space. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Sports News

- Indian women's discus thrower, **Navjeet Dhillon** won the gold medal at the **Qosanov Memorial 2022 athletics meet in Almaty, Kazakhstan**. Navjeet Dhillon, who is looking to seal her place in the Indian team for Commonwealth Games, won the women's discus throw with a 56.24m effort. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Ace sprinter **Sekar Dhanalakshmi** ran her personal best time to win **200m gold at the Qosanov Memorial Athletics**. Dhanalakshmi ran a creditable sub-23 second, clocking 22.89s to better her earlier personal best of 23.14s she had come up last year. Dhanalakshmi is only the third Indian woman to run sub-23s after national record holder **Saraswati Saha (22.82s)** and **Hima Das (22.88s)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Olympic gold medallist, **Sydney McLaughlin** broke her own **women's 400 metres hurdles** world record at the U.S. championships in Eugene, Oregon, winning the final in **51.41 seconds**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Eoin Morgan** has announced his immediate retirement from international cricket, according to the **England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB)**. **Morgan** was the captain of England's men's white-ball team. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Novak Djokovic** became the first player in history to win **80 matches in all four Grand Slams** when he defeated **Kwon Soon-woo** 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 on Centre Court his **80th win in Wimbledon**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Tokyo Olympian **Deepak Punia** won a bronze medal after defeating **Maksat Satybaldy (Kyrgyzstan)** in the 86kg freestyle weight category at the U23 Asian wrestling championships 2022 in **Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan**. Despite a win, it was an unimpressive result from him as the Indian contingent was expecting a better outing from the world championships silver medalist in the tournament. ([Click here to read the article](#))



- **Adani Sportsline**, the sports arm of the Adani Group, has inked a long-term principal sponsorship deal with the **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)**. It will be the official partner of the Indian contingent during the upcoming **Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022**, the **Hangzhou Asian Games 2022**, and the **Paris Olympic Games 2024**. The group had earlier been associated with the Indian contingent during the Tokyo Olympics in 2021. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Science and Technology News

- **The Indian Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE)** has started authorising Indian private firms, marking the beginning of private space sector launches in India. IN-SPACE is an autonomous, single window nodal agency; formed to promote, authorise, monitor and supervise the space activities of **non-governmental private entities (NGPEs) in India**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The NASA researchers** successfully launched **CAPSTONE spacecraft** to the moon from New Zealand. The launch took place on **Rocket Lab's Electron rocket**. Mission CAPSTONE stands for **Cislunar Autonomous Positioning System Technology Operations and Navigation Experiment**. With a price tag just shy of \$30 million, NASA hopes the mission will verify that a specific type of moon orbit is suitable for the lunar Gateway space station that the agency aims to launch later this decade. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Important Days

- **International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking**, also known as **World Drug Day**, is conducted by the United Nations. It is observed on **June 26** annually. "**Addressing drug challenges in health and humanitarian crises**" is the theme for 2022's celebration of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The United Nations General Assembly** on December 12, 1997, adopted a resolution to proclaim **June 26** as the **International Day in Support of Victims of Torture**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Recognising the potential of the MSME and their role in strengthening economies, **June 27** is celebrated as the **Micro-Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day**. The day is aimed at raising public awareness of the contribution of MSMEs to global economic growth and sustainable development. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **International Day of the Tropics** is observed globally on **29 June**. The International Day of the Tropics celebrates the extraordinary diversity of the tropics while highlighting unique challenges and opportunities nations of the Tropics face. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The National Insurance Awareness Day** is observed on **28 June**. The main objective of the day is to make people aware about the several benefits of investing in an insurance plan or policy. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **June 30** is observed as the **International Day of Parliamentarism** every year to commemorate the date on which the **Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)** was founded. The IPU, founded in Paris in 1889, is an international organisation of national parliaments to promote democratic governance, accountability, and cooperation among its members. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **World Asteroid Day (also known as International Asteroid Day)** is an annual UN-sanctioned global awareness campaign event observed on **June 30**, which is the anniversary of the **Siberian Tunguska event of 1908**. To provide knowledge to the general public about the importance of asteroids in history, and the role they play in our solar system today. The theme of Asteroid Day 2022 is "**small is beautiful**." ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The Chartered Accountants' Day or CA Day** is held on **01 July** every year in India. It is also known as **ICAI Foundation Day**. The day is marked to commemorate the foundation of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) on July 1, 1949. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- India celebrates **National Doctor's Day on July 1**, the birth anniversary of **Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy**, an eminent physician, academician, freedom fighter and politician. Doctor's Day is celebrated globally on different dates. The date changes from country to country. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **International Day of Cooperatives** is marked annually on **the first Saturday of July**. This year, the day will be observed on **2 July** to highlight the contributions of the cooperative movement. UN International Year of Cooperatives, which showcased the unique contribution of cooperatives to making the world a better place, this year's #CoopsDay slogan — "**Cooperatives Build a Better World**" — echoes the theme of the International Year. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **World Sports Journalists Day** is observed on **July 2** every year to celebrate the services of sports journalists for the promotion of sports. Sports journalism is a form of reporting that focuses on matters pertaining to any subject or topic related to sports. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **The World UFO Day (WUD)** is held on **July 2** every year globally. It is a day dedicated to the undoubted existence of **Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO)** by World UFO Day Organization (WUFODO). WUD aims to raise awareness about the existence of UFOs and encouraging people to think about the possibility of us not being alone in the Universe. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Obituaries News

- **Dr V Krishnamurthy**, former chairman of public sector undertakings such as **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)**, **Steel Authority of India (SAIL)** and **Maruti Udyog (now Maruti Suzuki)**, passed away. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Renowned business tycoon **Pallonji Mistry** has passed away at the age of 93. He was the Chairman of the **Shapoorji Pallonji Group**, one of the largest business firms in India. He was honoured with the Padma Bhushan in 2016 for his contribution in the field of industry and trade. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In Kerala, noted lyricist, author and journalist, **Chowalloor Krishnankutty** passed away at a private Medical College Hospital in Thrissur. He was 86. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Indian hockey stalwart and member of the gold medal winning 1975 World Cup team, **Varinder Singh** passed away. He was 75. Singh was part of the gold medal-winning **Indian team at the 1975 men's Hockey World Cup in Kuala Lumpur**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Malayalam actor and assistant director **Ambika Rao** passed away at the age of 58. She entered the movie industry as an assistant director with the 2002 release **'Krishna Gopalakrishna'** helmed by Balachandra Menon. ([Click here to read the article](#))



Miscellaneous News

- India gave the international community the reassurance that it will keep to its goal of protecting at least 30% of "our" lands, waters, and oceans by 2030 under Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**. India's Minister for Earth Sciences, **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, made the following remarks on behalf of the country at the UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon: Under the leadership of Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**, all efforts are being made to achieve the 30×30 target in a mission mode as per the COP resolutions. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a **Caribbean mangrove swamp**, researchers found the largest bacterium known to science. While the majority of bacteria are tiny, this one is so large that it can be seen with the unaided eye. It is by far the largest bacterium known to date, according to **Jean-Marie Volland**, a marine biologist at the **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory** and a co-author of a paper reporting the finding in the journal Science. The thin white thread is about the size of a human eyelash. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Static Takeaways

- Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs & Culture: Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal
- Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar
- Nagaland Agriculture Minister: G. Kaito
- Chief Secretary of Nagaland: J. Alam
- Central Horticulture Commissioner: Prabhat Kumar
- Energy Minister of Sri Lanka: Kanchana Wijesekera
- Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Sri Lanka: Ranil Wickremesinghe
- Commonwealth Association Secretary-General: Patricia Scotland
- President of Rwanda: Paul Kagame
- President of Gabon: Ali Bongo
- President of Togo: Faure Gnassingbé
- United Kingdom Prime minister: Boris Johnson;
- United Kingdom Capital: London;
- United Kingdom Currency: Pound Sterling.
- Philippines Capital: Manila;
- Philippines Currency: Philippine peso.
- Goa Governor: P.S. Sreedharan Pillai;
- Goa Chief minister: Pramod Sawant.
- Kerala Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan;
- Kerala Capital: Thiruvananthapuram;
- Kerala Chief minister: Pinarayi Vijayan.
- Chief Minister of Telangana: K Chandrashekhar Rao
- Founder, managing director and CEO, PayNearby: Anand Kumar Bajaj

- Managing director and CEO, Protean eGov Technologies: Suresh Sethi
- Bharat Electronics Limited Founded: 1954;
- Bharat Electronics Limited Headquarters: Bengaluru;
- Bharat Electronics Limited Chairman & Managing Director: Anandi Ramalingam;
- Bharat Electronics Limited Executive Director: Vinay Kumar Katyal.
- MD & CEO, Nainital Bank: Mr. Dinesh Pant
- MD & CEO, BFSL: Mr. Shailendra Singh
- Chief Relationship Management and Marketing, NPCI: Mr. Rajeeth Pillai
- Chief finance officer and head institutional business, Airtel Payments Bank: Gaurav Seth
- Group executive and head – Bharat Banking, Axis Bank: Munish Sharda
- Union Commerce and Industry Minister, GoI: Shri Piyush Goyal
- Union Finance Minister, GOI: Nirmala Sitharaman.
- Chairperson of NITI Aayog: PM Narendra Modi
- Vice chairman of NITI Aayog: Suman Bery
- SEBI Founded: 1988;
- SEBI Act: 1992;
- SEBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- SEBI First Women Chairman: Madhabi Puri Buch (present);
- Tata Power Solar Systems Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Tata Power Solar Systems Founded: 1989.
- Zomato Founded: July 2008;
- Zomato Founders: Deepinder Goyal; Pankaj Chaddah
- Zomato Headquarters: Gurgaon, Haryana
- MD and CEO, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance: Tapan Singhel
- NITI Aayog Founded: 1 January 2015;
- NITI Aayog Preceding: Planning Commission (15 March 1950)
- NITI Aayog Headquarters: New Delhi;
- NITI Aayog Chairperson: Narendra Modi;
- NITI Aayog Vice Chairperson: Suman K Bery;
- NITI Aayog comes under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Intelligence Bureau Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Intelligence Bureau Formed: 1887.
- RAW Formed: 21 September 1968;
- RAW Headquarters: New Delhi;
- RAW Founders: R. N. Kao & Indira Gandhi.
- Central Board of Direct Taxes Founded: 1963;
- Central Board of Direct Taxes Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Central Board of Direct Taxes Chairman: Nitin Gupta;
- Central Board of Direct Taxes Minister responsible: Ministry of Finance.
- GAIL Headquarters: New Delhi;
- GAIL Founded: 1984.
- Chief of the Air Staff / Air Force Chief: Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- Chief of Naval Staff: Admiral R. Hari Kumar
- Minister of Defence: Shri Rajnath Singh
- Indian Coast Guard Director-General: Virender Singh Pathania;
- Indian Coast Guard Founded: 1 February 1977;
- Indian Coast Guard Headquarters: Ministry of Defence, New Delhi.
- Vice Chief of Army Staff (VCOAS): Lt Gen BS Raju
- Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA): Shri Rajnish Kumar
- Defence Minister of India: Rajnath Singh
- Head of the DRDO: G. Satheesh Reddy
- Odisha Capital: Bhubaneswar;
- Odisha Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik;
- Odisha Governor: Ganeshi Lal.
- International Tennis Federation Headquarters: London, United Kingdom;
- International Tennis Federation Founded: 1 March 1913;
- International Tennis Federation President: David Haggerty.
- Economist Intelligence Unit Headquarters: London, United Kingdom;
- Economist Intelligence Unit Founded: 1946;
- Economist Intelligence Unit Managing Director: Robin Bew.
- NASA administrator: Bill Nelson;
- Headquarters of NASA: Washington D.C., United States;
- NASA Founded: 1 October 1958.
- UNODC Headquarters location: Vienna, Austria;
- UNODC Founded: 1997;
- Director-General of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes: Ghada Fathi Waly.
- Inter-Parliamentary Union Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- Inter-Parliamentary Union President: Saber Hossain Chowdhury;
- Inter-Parliamentary Union Founded: 1889, Paris, France;
- Inter-Parliamentary Union Secretary General: Martin Chungong.
- United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) Director: Simonetta Di Pippo.
- Institute of Chartered Accountants of India President: N. D. Gupta;
- Institute of Chartered Accountants of India HQ's: New Delhi.