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Current Affairs:04/05.09.2021

12th Defence Expo-2022 to be held at Gandhinagar in Gujarat



The **12th Defence Expo-2022** is scheduled to be held in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat** from March 10 to 13, 2021, in a hybrid format. The biannual event will have participation of about 100 countries. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh was in Gujarat on September 02, 2021, to review the preparations of DefExpo-2022, at Kevadia, Gujarat jointly with Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Vijay Rupani. The

Memorandum of Understanding was also signed between the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, GoI, and Gujarat Government for organising DefExpo-2022. The aim of DefExpo-2022 is to achieve 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence and reach **USD 5 billion defence exports target by 2024.**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Virtually Addresses 6th Eastern Economic Forum 2021 in Vladivostok



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi virtually addressed the plenary session of the **6th Eastern Economic Forum (EEF)**, organised on September 03, 2021 in **Vladivostok, Russia**. An Indian delegation led by **Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Hardeep Singh Puri** and comprising leading Indian oil and gas companies are participating in the

EEF Summit 2021 in Russia. On the sidelines of EEF, Petroleum Minister will also have meetings with Russian Energy Minister Nikolay Shulginov to review bilateral energy cooperation in the energy sector and with the Russian Minister for Development of Far East and Arctic Alexei Chekunkov to discuss the collaboration between Indian and Russian companies in that region. Petroleum Minister will also co-chair India-Russia Business Dialogue.

I&B Ministry constitutes 12-member Committee to review guidelines of Journalist Welfare Scheme; Head-Ashok Kumar Tandon

The **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** has constituted a Committee to look into the existing guidelines of **Journalist Welfare Scheme** and make appropriate recommendations for changes to the guidelines. The committee will be headed by **Prasar Bharati Board Member Ashok Kumar Tandon.**

The committee will have total **12 members.**

Basic task of the committee will be to:

1. examine the need for revision of quantum of ex-gratia payment in death as well as other cases under Journalist Welfare Scheme.
2. look into the aspect of differentiation or parity between accredited and non-accredited journalists for availing benefits under the scheme.
3. revise and broad-basing the definition of working journalist for the purpose of the Scheme keeping in view the Occupational, Safety, Health and Working Condition

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Code-2010 as well as Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.



Rank 2022	Rank 2021	University	Country
1	1	University of Oxford	United Kingdom
2	4	California Institute of Technology	United States
3	3	Harvard University	United States
4	2	Stanford University	United States
5	6	University of Cambridge	United Kingdom
6	5	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States
7	9	Princeton University	United States
8	7	University of California, Berkeley	United States
9	8	Yale University	United States
10	10	The University of Chicago	United States

IMF increases India's quota of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) to 13.66 billion SDR

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has made an allocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) 12.57 billion to India. (approx USD 17.86 billion). With this, the **total SDR holding of India has gone upto SDR 13.66 billion** (equivalent to around USD 19.41 billion). SDR is one of the components of the Foreign Exchange Reserves (FER) of India. Hence the Foreign Exchange Reserves (FER) has also increased now. IMF has allocated a total of SDR 456 billion to all its member countries out of which India has got SDR 12.57.

India third largest Unicorn ecosystem in the world; Top- USA: Hurun Research Institute



Hurun Research Institute has released the **Hurun India Future Unicorn List 2021**, as per which **India is the third largest Unicorn/startup ecosystem** in the world. The **USA is on top** followed by China on second. India has 51 unicorns according to the list. USA has 396 and China has 277 unicorns. **Zilingo is the top unicorn** in the ranking in India with a funding of USD 310.

The headquarters of Zilingo is in Singapore. **Bengaluru is top Indian city** in terms of number of Unicorns headquartered in a city. Bengaluru has 31 unicorns followed by Mumbai which has 12 unicorn.

University of Oxford tops Times World University Rankings 2022, three Indian institutes in top 400

Three Indian educational institutes have found place in the top 400 list of **Times World University Rankings 2022**, released on September 02, 2021. These are:

1. IISc Bangalore – 301-350 bracket
2. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Ropar – 351-400 bracket.
3. IIT Indore – 401-500 bracket.

Top University- **University of Oxford** in United Kingdom has topped the list for the sixth consecutive year.

Larsen & Toubro and Powergrid Wins the Prestigious ATD 2021 BEST Award **Larsen & Toubro Technology Services** has been awarded with the “**Association for Talent Development (ATD) 2021 BEST Award**”, securing the **first rank from 71 organisations** globally. Apart from this, **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID)**, a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power, Government of India has also won the 2021 BEST Award, placed at 8th position. These are the only two companies from India in Top 20 of 2021 BEST Award. The Association for Talent Development (ATD) has honored 71 organizations from around the globe with 2021 BEST Awards.

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Dr. PPK Ramacharyulu appointed as Secretary General of Rajya Sabha

Rajya Sabha chairman M Venkaiah Naidu has appointed **Dr. Parasaram Patabhi Kesava Ramacharyulu** as the new **Secretary General of the**



Upper House of Parliament, with effect from August 31, 2021. Ramacharyulu succeeds Desh Dipak Verma, whose four year term ended on August 31. Prior to this appointment, Ramacharyulu was working as secretary in the Rajya Sabha Secretariat since 2018. He is the first ever Upper House member to rise from the ranks of the secretariat to the top post of secretary general in the about 70 years of the Rajya Sabha.

Archer Harvinder Singh Clinches Bronze in Men's Individual Recurve to get India's 13th medal at Paralympics



In Paralympics 2020, India's ace **archer Harvinder Singh** has won **bronze** medal in men's **individual recurve open** on September 03, 2021. The 31-year old has become India's first ever archer to win a medal in the Paralympics. With this win, India's medal haul at the ongoing Paralympics Games in Tokyo has reached 13 [2G,6S,5B].

Avani Lekhara wins bronze in 50m Rifle to win her second medal at Tokyo Paralympics



After winning an unprecedented gold recently, Indian para-shooter **Avani Lekhara** has now won a **Bronze** Medal for the country at the Paralympics Games in Tokyo, in **50m Rifle 3 Position SH1** event on September 03, 2021. With this win, the 19-year-old Lekhara has now become the only Indian women to win two medals, in the same edition of Paralympics. Prior to her, Joginder Singh Sodhi was the only Indian to win multiple medals in the same edition of the Games. He had won one silver and two bronze medals in the 1984 Paralympics.



Praveen Kumar wins silver at Paralympics men's T64 high jump

On September 03, 2021, Indian para-athlete **Praveen Kumar** claimed a **silver** medal in the **men's high jump T64 event** at Tokyo Paralympics. The 18-year-old Noida-based Praveen Kumar registered a jump of 2.07m, and also set a new Asian record. Now India's total medal tally in the ongoing Games has increased to 11. Great Britain's Jonathan Broom-Edwards clinched the gold medal with a jump of 2.10m. Maciej Lepiato of Poland won bronze with an effort of 2.04m.

Nirmala Sitharaman chairs 24th meeting of Financial Stability and Development Council

Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 24th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC).

Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) is the apex level forum set up by the Government of India for strengthening and institutionalizing the mechanism for maintaining financial stability, enhancing inter-regulatory coordination and promoting financial sector development. Finance Minister is the chairperson of FSDC. It must be noted that FSDC Sub-Committee is chaired by the Governor, RBI.

India becomes first Asian nation to launch 'Plastics Pact'

India has become the first country in Asia to launch a Plastics Pact, a new platform to promote a circular system for plastics. The India Plastic Pact platform was launched on September 03, 2021 by the British High Commissioner to India, Alexander Ellis, at the 16th Sustainability Summit hosted by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The new platform 'India Plastic Pact' is a joint effort of World-Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF India) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and envisions to create a world where plastic is valued and does not pollute the environment. The Pact targets the businesses to transition towards a circular economy for plastics by 2030. The initiative is supported by UK Research & Innovation (UKRI) and WRAP, a global NGO based in the UK, and endorsed by the British High Commission in India.

Government launches AYUSH AAPKE DWAR campaign to distribute medicinal saplings

As a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration, the Ministry of AYUSH has launched a campaign titled 'AYUSH AAPKE DWAR', which aims to distribute medicinal plant saplings to 75 lakh households in one year. The campaign was inaugurated by Union Minister of AYUSH Sarbananda Sonowal from Mumbai on September 03, 2021, during which he distributed medicinal plant saplings to citizens. Subsequently, the campaign was launched from more than 45 locations across the country. The medicinal plants being distributed include Tejpatta, Stevia, Ashoka, Giloy, Ashwagandha, Lemongrass, Tulsi, Sarpagandha and Amla. Under this campaign, it is proposed to undertake the cultivation of medicinal plants across 75,000 hectares in one year.

Arunachal Pradesh launches two schemes to boost agriculture & horticulture produce

In Arunachal Pradesh, the state government has launched two ambitious schemes related to agriculture and horticulture sector. The scheme for agriculture sector is called 'AtmaNirbhar Krishi Yojna'. The state government has allocated Rs 60 crore to the scheme. The scheme for horticulture sector is named 'AtmaNirbhar Bagwani Yojna'. A similar amount of Rs 60 crore has been allocated to this scheme as well.

- Both the schemes are based on front-ended subsidies. The credit link for the same will be provided to beneficiaries by SBI, Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank and Arunachal Pradesh Cooperative Apex Bank.

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• To avail the benefits of the schemes, beneficiaries will get the subsidy assistance in the following proportion: 45% (govt subsidy): 45% (bank loan): 10% (to be borne by the farmer).

India and US inks Project Agreement for Air-Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

The Ministry of Defence, Government of **India** and **US** Department of Defence have signed a **Project Agreement (PA) for Air-Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (ALUAV)**, under the Joint Working Group Air Systems in the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI). The PA was signed on July 30, 2021. The PA for ALUAV is part of the Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation (RDT&E) Memorandum of Agreement, which was first signed between Ministry of Defence and US Department of Defence, in January 2006 and renewed in January 2015. The RDT&E aims at deepening defence technology collaboration between the two nations through co-development of defence equipment.

28th Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise 'SIMBEX-2021' Concludes

The **28th edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX)** took place from September 02 to 04, 2021. The SIMBEX-2021 annual bilateral maritime exercise was hosted by the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) in the southern fringes of the **South China Sea**. The Indian Navy was represented by Guided Missile Destroyer INS Ranvijay with a ship borne helicopter, ASW Corvette INS Kiltan and Guided Missile Corvette INS Kora and one P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft. The exercise aimed to strengthen the bilateral defence ties between both countries.

Indian Army to take part in military exercise 'ZAPAD 2021' in Russia



The Indian Army will participate in a multi-nation military exercise named '**ZAPAD 2021**' at Nizhny in **Russia**. The exercise will be held between September 03, 2021 and September 16, 2021. More than a dozen countries from Eurasia and South Asia will also participate in the exercise.

Manish Narwal wins Gold and Singhraj Adhana clinches Silver in 50m Mixed Pistol (SH1) at Tokyo Paralympics

Indian para-shooter **Manish Narwal** has clinched **gold** medal in the **P4 – Mixed 50m Pistol SH1** final at Tokyo Paralympics 2020 on September 04, 2021. The 19-year-old Manish scored 218.2 points to win gold. In the same event, India's **Singhraj Adhana** clinched the **silver** medal 216.7 points. This is the second medal for Adhana in the ongoing Games. Earlier he won bronze medal in the **P1 Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1 event**. The Russia's Sergey Malyshev won the bronze medal.

Shuttler Pramod Bhagat wins India's 4th GOLD, Manoj Sarkar claims bronze at Tokyo Paralympics 2020

Indian **shuttler Pramod Bhagat** created history as he won a **Gold** medal in the men's singles badminton SL3 final match at the ongoing Tokyo Paralympics on September 04, 2021. He defeated Daniel Bethell of Great Britain, 2-0. Badminton has been introduced for the first time in Paralympics this year.

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The 33-year-old Pramod Bhagat, from Bhubaneswar, has now become the first athlete from India to win gold in Badminton in the Paralympics or Olympics. Meanwhile, Indian player **Manoj Sarkar has won the bronze** in the same event.

Cyrus Poncha elected as Vice-President of Asian Squash Federation

Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) Secretary-General, Cyrus Poncha has been unanimously elected as **Vice-President of the Asian Squash Federation (ASF)** on September 04, 2021, during the 41st annual general meeting of ASF. The Dronacharya Awardee has been elected for a period of **four-year term**. **David Mui of Hong Kong** was elected unopposed as the President of ASF for a **second term**. Apart from Cyrus Poncha, Mr. Fayeze Abdullah S. Al-Mutairi of Kuwait and Tae-sook Hee of Korea have been also elected as the Vice-Presidents of ASF.

International Day of Charity : 05 September

The **International Day of Charity** is observed annually on **September 05**. It was declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012. September 5 was chosen in order to commemorate the death anniversary of **Mother Teresa**, who had always been engaged in charitable work. The prime purpose of the International Day of Charity is to raise awareness and provide a common platform for charity related activities all over the world for individuals, charitable, philanthropic and volunteer organizations for their own purposes on the local, national, regional and international level.

National Teachers' Day : 05 September

In India, the **Teachers' Day** is celebrated every year on **September 05** since 1962. The day marks the birth anniversary of **Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan**, an Indian philosopher, academic, and statesman, who defined the role of the teacher as someone who acts not only as an educator but also as a moral mentor and inculcates values among students. He was the second President of India (1962 to 1967) and the first Vice President of India (1952–1962). The Ministry of Education presents the National Teachers Awards on this occasion every year. In 2021, the President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind will confer National Awards on 44 teachers from across the country.