

March - April : 2022

# Current Affairs



## Rajasthan Budget Speech -2021-22



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## Chapter - 1

# International Events

### The Global Happiness Report-2022

The 'Global Happiness Report 2022' was published by the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network on 18 March, 2022. The report typically ranks 150 countries based on a number of factors such as real GDP per capita, social support, healthy life expectancy, freedom to make decisions and perceptions of corruption. Finland has been ranked first in the report released this year on 146 countries. It is based on two key ideas, measuring happiness or life evaluation through surveys and identifying the key factors that determine well-being and life evaluation in a country.

#### Top Performers:-

Country	Rank
Finland	1
Denmark	2
Iceland	3
Switzerland	4
Netherlands	5

#### Lowest Performer:-

Country	Rank
Afghanistan	146
Lebanon	145
Zimbabwe	144
Rwanda	143
Botswana	142

**India's performance:** - India has been ranked 136th in the report. Last year India was ranked 139th.

**Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN):-** Started in the year 2012, SDSN provides scientific and technical expertise on a global scale to solve practical problems related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the Paris Climate Agreement. It was established under the **auspices** of the United Nations Secretary-General. The Annual SDG Index and Dashboard

Global Report is being published since 2016 by SDSN and Bertelsmann Stifting.

### The world's first wildlife bond

The World Bank (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) has issued the world's first wildlife bond (Wildlife Conservation Bond) for the conservation of the endangered species of black rhino and has raised \$150 million. These bonds will be used to increase the number of black rhinos (black rhinos) in South Africa's two protected wildlife - Addo Elephant National Park and Great River Nature Reserve.

### UNG Resolution on The Russia-Ukraine

India has not participated in the vote held in March 2022 by the United Nations General Assembly to condemn Russia's invasion on Ukraine. Emergency special session was convened by UNGA to discuss a proposal calling on Russia to unconditionally withdraw its troops. In the past, after the use of veto by Russia, the same resolution failed in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), after which this session of the General Assembly was called.

**Uniting for Peace Resolution:-** Resolution 377 (v) of the United Nations General Assembly is known as the United Nations for Peace resolution, which was adopted in the year 1950. The most important part of the resolution is the Part-A. in which states that where the Security Council, due to a lack of unanimity of the permanent members, fails to exercise its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, the General Assembly shall take up the matter on its own.

**Emergency Special Session (ESS):-** If there is no session, the General Assembly can meet using the mechanism of Emergency Special Session. So far 11 emergency special sessions have been called. The first ESS was held after France and Britain vetoed UNSC resolution 119 during the Suez Crisis 1956.

## The Iran nuclear deal

Recently, diplomats of Iran and world powers met again in Vienna (Austria) in search of an agreement to revive Iran's (Tehran) 2015 nuclear deal. It may be noted that the Iran nuclear deal, 2015 signed by President Barack Obama was terminated by President Donald Trump in the year 2018. The US said that US could rejoin the deal if Iran complies with the terms of the original agreement and addresses other issues related to ballistic missile stock and covert warfare.

**Also read:** The 2015 Iran nuclear deal is formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). JCPOA was the result of long negotiations between the years 2013 to 2015 between Iran and the P5+ countries (China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union).

## The Democracy Report-2022

The V-Dem Institute at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden has released a report titled 'Democracy Report 2022: The Changing Nature of Autocracy' in March 2022. The 'Variety of Democracy' (V-DEM) produces the largest global dataset on democracy with over 30 million data points for 202 countries from the year 1789 to the year 2021. Sweden has been placed in the first place in the report released on 179 countries. India has been ranked 93rd.

### Top Performing Countries:-

Country	Rank
• Sweden	1
• Denmark	2
• Norway	3
• Costa Rica	4
• New Zealand	5

### Low Performing Countries:-

Country	Rank
• Eritrea	179
• North Korea	178
• Afghanistan	177
• Yemen	176
• Belarus	175

## The India-Japan Summit

Prime Minister of Japan Kishida Fumio had an official visit to India from 19-20 March, 2022 for the 14<sup>th</sup> India-Japan Annual Summit between the two countries.

### Key points of the summit meeting:-

MoU signed by Japanese companies to introduce Johkasou technology in India for decentralized wastewater treatment. It is used out in areas where sewage infrastructure is not developed.

The leaders of both countries expressed their commitment to promote peace, security and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region.

The Prime Ministers of the two countries confirmed the importance of bilateral and multilateral partnerships between same-minded countries in the region, including the India-Australia-Japan and US Quad Grouping. PM Modi was invited by the Japanese Prime Minister to the Quad Summit meeting to be held in Tokyo.

## The Bucharest Nine

The 'Bucharest Nine' (B-9) recently dismissed the Russian claim about the eastward 'expansion' of the the North-Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

**Also read:** The B-9 is a group of nine NATO countries in Eastern Europe. It is to be known that these countries of Eastern Europe became part of the US-led military alliance- NATO after the end of the Cold War. 'B-9' or Bucharest Nine was established on 4 November 2015. Its name is derived from Bucharest, the capital of Romania. B9 is also known as the 'Voice of the Eastern Side' in the NATO alliance. The group was created by Klaus Iohannes, who has been the President of Romania, and Andrzej Duda, who became the President of Poland in August 2015, at a high-level meeting of the States of Central and Eastern Europe in Bucharest. The member states of the B9 include Romania, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and the three Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

## The India-Maldives Security Partnership

The National College for Policing and Law Enforcement (NCPL) was inaugurated by the Indian External Affairs Minister during his two-day visit to Maldives in March 2022. The NCPL in

island nation of Maldives has one of the largest funded projects of India in the city of Addu.

**NCPLE:-** One of the objectives of this training academy is to address the challenges of violent extremism and prevent radicalization. Domestically, this training academy will help strengthen law enforcement capabilities and prevent drug trafficking which is a major concern in the country (Maldives).

### **The UNEP Frontier Report-2022**

Bangladesh's Dhaka has been ranked as the world's most noisy city in the UNEP Frontier Report 2022, titled 'Noise, Blaze and Mismatch', released in March 2022. It is followed by Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh. Islamabad of Pakistan is in third place.

On the other hand Irbid is ranked as the quietest city in Jordan. It is followed by Lyon in France and Madrid, the capital of Spain. The report, released on a total of 61 cities, includes 13 in South Asia, 10 in West Asia, 10 in Europe, 11 in Southeast Asia, East Asia and Pacific, 6 in North America, 7 in Africa and 4 in Latin America.

### **The Emnati Cyclone**

Tropical cyclone 'Emnati' wreaked havoc in Madagascar in March 2022. It gave a landfall position just north of the south-eastern district of Manakara.

### **The Genocide Convention**

The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (the Genocide Convention) is an instrument of international law codified for the first time for the crime of genocide. The Genocide Convention was the first human rights treaty adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 9 December 1948. It reflects the international community's commitment to 'never again' after the atrocities committed during World War II.

**Why in discussion:** - Recently, an application has been filed by Ukraine before the International Court of Justice to initiate proceedings against Russia. Ukraine has accused Russia of falsely claiming that Genocide incidents occurred in Ukraine's Luhansk and Donetsk Oblasts and that Russia is using war against Ukraine for independence of these regions.

**ICJ:-** It is the main judicial organ of the United Nations. Unlike the six principal institutions of the United Nations, it is the only institution not based in New York. It was established in the year 1945 by the Charter of the United Nations and started functioning in April 1946. The ICJ is the successor to the Permanent Court of International Justice (PCIJ). The PCIJ was established in February 1922 at the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands. After World War II the League of Nations and the PCIJ were replaced by the United Nations and the ICJ respectively. The PCIJ was formally dissolved in April 1946, and its last president was judge of El Salvador Jose Gustavo Guerrero. Appointed the first chairman of the ICJ.

### **The Treaty on Biodiversity**

The Fourth Meeting of the Inter-Governmental Conference (IGC-4) was recently held in New York to draft a tool on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity in Areas of Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ). IGC-4 is organized under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

**BBNJ Treaty:-** The 'BBNJ Treaty', also known as the 'High Maritime Treaty', is an international agreement on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction is currently under negotiation at the United Nations.

The new device is being developed under the framework of the UNCLOS, the main international agreement governing human activities at sea. It will manage high marine activities more holistically, thereby achieving a better balance between conservation and sustainable use of marine resources. BBNJ includes the high seas beyond the special economic zones or the national waters of countries.

**UNCLOS:-** The UNCLOS is an international agreement of the year 1982 that establishes the legal framework for maritime activities. It is also called the law of the sea. It divides the oceanic regions into five main regions, which include inland waters, territorial seas, contiguous zones, exclusive economic zones, and high seas. It is an international agreement that determines the rights and responsibilities of countries over the world's

seas and oceans and establishes rules for the use of maritime resources.

### The BIMSTEC Summit

The 5<sup>th</sup> summit of BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multy Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) group was held in Colombo (Sri Lanka) in March, 2022.

#### Key points of the conference:-

The signing of the BIMSTEC Charter was the main result of this summit. Under this charter all the members meet once in two years. With the Charter, BIMSTEC now has an international existence. Also it has an logo and a flag. It has formally listed objectives and principles.

In order to develop the organization's formal structure, the leaders of the member countries agreed to divide the working of the grouping into seven segments, with India leading the security pillar.

The Master Plan for Transport Connectivity has been announced in the summit, which will provide a framework for regional and domestic connectivity.

The member countries have also signed a treaty on mutual legal assistance on criminal matters.

**BIMSTEC:-** Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization in which 5 out of 7 members are from South Asia, these include Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka and two Myanmar and Thailand are from South East Asia. This sub-regional organization came into existence in the year 1997 through the Bangkok Declaration. The secretariat of BIMSTEC is in Dhaka.

### The Indian President's visit to Turkmenistan and Netherlands

President of India Ram Nath Kovind visited Turkmenistan and Netherlands in April 2022. President Kovind arrived in Turkmenistan on 1 April. Here the host held talks with President Serdar Berdymuhamedov on many issues. There they signed four agreements, including financial, intelligence and disaster management, and agreed to expand bilateral trade and energy cooperation

to further strengthen the multi-faceted partnership.

President Kovind left for Turkmenistan on 4 April and reached the Netherlands. Here he met King Willem Alexander and Queen Maxima. On 6 April he held talks with Prime Minister Mark Rutte and visit the Dutch Parliament. Several key documents including expansion of MoU on bilateral cooperation in the fields of ports, maritime transport and logistics were announced between the two countries during the visit.

### The India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement

India has signed the 'India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (Ind-Aus ECTA)' with Australia. The agreement was signed on 2 April 2022 in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Australia Scott Morrison in a virtual programme. According to a government estimate, it will increase bilateral trade in goods and services from about US\$ 27 billion to US\$ 45-50 billion in five years and create over one million jobs in India.

**Also know:-** This is the first Free Trade Agreement (FTA) that India has signed with a major developed country after more than a decade. In February, India signed an FTA with the United Arab Emirates. India is currently working on FTAs with Israel, Canada, UK and EU.

### The India-US 2+2 Dialogue

The fourth "2+2" dialogue between India and the United States was held in Washington DC, USA on 11 April, 2022. During this, India's Foreign Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and Defense Minister Rajnath Singh met their American counterparts. Bilateral Space Situational Awareness Arrangement Agreement was signed during this period. It was also agreed to launch a 'Defence Artificial Intelligence Dialogue' expanding joint cyber training and exercises. It is to be known that the first 2+2 dialogue between the two countries took place in 2018 during the Trump administration.

**2+2 Dialogue:-** The 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue is the highest level institutional mechanism between the two countries. India has a 2+2 dialogue with four major strategic partners - the US, Australia, Japan

and Russia. Apart from Russia, three other countries are also India's partners in the **QUAD**.

### The Colombo Security Conclave

The Colombo Security Conclave - CSC) was virtually organized on 9-10 March, 2022 by the National Investigation Agency of India. Participants with their respective countries discussed various challenges related to terrorism and shared their experiences in prosecuting terrorism cases, strategies to deal with foreign fighters and countering misuse of internet and social media.

**Colombo Security Conclave:-** CSC was formed in the year 2011 as a trilateral Maritime Security Group consisting of India, Sri Lanka and Maldives. In this, Mauritius was included as the fourth member in the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of National Security Advisors. Bangladesh and Seychelles participated as observers and were invited to join the group.

### The British Prime Minister's visit to India

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson visited India from 21-22 April, 2022. Here he first visited the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad. On 22 April, the British PM had talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on many points.

#### Key Points:-

During this two G2G MoUs and four non-government MoUs were exchanged.

The Prime Ministers of both countries reviewed the progress of 'Roadmap 2030' and decided to complete the Free Trade Agreement by the end of this year.

/M Modi invites British PM to join India's 'National Hydrogen Mission'.

### The Nepal Prime Minister's visit to India

Nepal's Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba visited India in April 2022. Here he had a meeting with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

#### Key points of the journey:-

The two leaders inaugurated a 35-km long cross-border railway line connecting Jaynagar in Bihar to Kurtha in Nepal.

The Solu Corridor, a 90 km-long 132-shut power transmission line, constructed by India under the Indian Line of Credit worth Rs 200 crore, has been handed over to Nepal. This line will help many

remote districts of North-East Nepal to get electricity by connecting them to the country's national grid.

India's RuPay card launched in Nepal. Nepal is the fourth country, after Bhutan, Singapore and the UAE, to have a RuPay card.

A framework agreement has been signed by Nepal to join India-led International Solar Alliance (becoming 105th member country).

Along with three other agreements, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on enhancing technical cooperation in the railway sector, supply of petroleum products for five years and two agreements were signed between Indian Oil Corporation and Nepal Oil Corporation for sharing of technical expertise.

### The QS World University Rankings-2022

In a report released by **Quacquarelli Symonds** on 6 April, 2022 titled 'QS World University Rankings by Subject-2022', American Institute of Technology has secured first place in 12 subjects. Oxford University of UK came second and Stanford University of US and Cambridge University of UK came jointly in third place. A total of 51 subjects were included in the rankings, which were divided into five broad subject areas.

#### Top Ranked Institutes:-

##### Arts and Humanities-

###### Rank Institute

- 1 Oxford University
- 2 Cambridge University
- 3 Harvard University

##### Engineering & Technology-

###### Rank Institute

- 1 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 2 Cambridge University
- 3 Oxford University

##### Life Sciences and Medicine-

###### Rank Institute

- 1 Harvard University
- 2 Oxford University

3 Johns Hopkins University

## Natural Science-

### Rank Institute

- 1 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 2 Harvard University
- 3 Cambridge University

## Social Science and Management-

### Rank Institute

- 1 Harvard University
- 2 Oxford University
- 3 London School of Economics and Political Science

**Indian Institutes included in the Ranking:-** A total of 35 institutes of India have been ranked in the ranking. IISC Bangalore (Mechanical Engineering) has been ranked 98th, IIT Delhi (Chemical Engineering) 92, IIT Bombay (Engineering & Technology) 65th, IIT Delhi (Engineering & Technology) 72nd.

## The United Nations Economic and Social Council

India has been elected to four major bodies of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, including the Science and Technology Commission for Development.

**Also know:** The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations system, established by the United Nations Charter in 1945. It also includes 54 members of the United Nations elected by the General Assembly. It is the central forum of the United Nations for dialogue and innovative discussions on sustainable development. It coordinates the work of 14 specialized UN agencies, ten functional commissions and five regional commissions, receives reports from nine UN funds and programmes, and issues policy recommendations to the UN system and member countries.

## Appointment

### Caitlin Novak

Caitlin Novak has been elected by the Hungarian Parliament as the country's first female president. In the 188-member National Assembly, Novak secured 137 votes, while his rival Peter Rona

received 51 votes. She will replace Janos Eder in this position.

### Eun Suk Yeol

Eun Sook Yeol (61) has won the presidential election in South Korea. In the election held in 9 March, 2022, Yeol of the People's Party defeated Lee Jae-myung of the Democratic Party. The term of Eole will be five years. He will take over as the new President of South Korea on 10 May, 2022.

### Gilbert F- Hongbo

The diplomat of **Togo** Gilbert F-Hongbo has been appointed as the next Director-General of the International Labor Organization (ILO). Hongbo has been elected by the governing body of the 'International Labor Organisation', which included representatives from governments, workers and employers. His five-year term will start from 01 October, 2022. It may be noted that the current Director General of the United Kingdom, Guy Ryder, has been serving in this position since 2012.

The International Labor Organization (ILO) is the only **tripartite** organization of the United Nations, which was established in the year 1919 by the Treaty of **Versailles** as an affiliated agency of the League of Nations. It brings together the governments, employers and workers of 187 member countries to set labor standards, develop policies, and develop programmes that promote decent work for all women and men. In 1946, the ILO became the first specialized agency affiliated with the United Nations. In 1969, the International Labor Organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

### Ketanji Brown Jackson

Ketanji Brown Jackson has been appointed a judge in the US Supreme Court in April 2022. She is the first black woman to be appointed to the US Supreme Court.

### Gulzar Ahmed

Former Chief Justice of Pakistan 'Gulzar Ahmed' has been elected as the new Prime Minister of the country. He was sworn in as the 23rd Prime Minister of Pakistan on 11 April, 2022. It is to be known that after the no-confidence motion was passed in the National Assembly in the past,

President Arif Alvi dissolved the National Assembly on the advice of Prime Minister Imran Khan.

## Emmanuel Macron

Emmanuel Macron has been elected president of France for a second term. He has won the presidential election by getting 58.2 percent of the vote. His rival right-winger Marin Lopen got 41.8 percent of the vote. 44 years old Macron is the first president to be elected to a second consecutive term in 20 years.

## Robert Golob

In the parliamentary elections held in Slovenia on 24 April 2022, Robert Golob has been elected as the Prime Minister. He defeated Janez Jansa, who was prime minister for three consecutive terms, in the election.

## Death

### Shane Warne

Australian spinner Shane Warne (52) died of a heart attack on 4 March, 2022 in Thailand. He took 708 wickets in 145 Tests. He was the second highest international Test wicket-taker after Muttiah Muralitharan of Sri Lanka. He was also the captain of Rajasthan Royals in IPL.

### Bilkis Banu

Pakistan's social activist Bilkis Bano (74) passed away on 15 April, 2022. She was awarded the Ramon Magsaysay Award in the year 1986 along with husband Abdul Sattar Idi.

## Prize

### The Oscar award

The Oscar Awards for the year 2022 were distributed on 27 March, 2022 in Los Angeles. The film Dune has won three awards for Best Cinematography, Visual Effects and Sound, while Best Documentary on Short Subject has been awarded to The Queen of Basketball.

Awards he received:-

- **Best Film** - **Coda**
- **Best Director** - Jane Campion (The Power of the Dog)
- **Best Actor** - Will Smith (King Richard)
- **Best Actress** - Jessica Chastain (The Ice of Tammy Faye)

- **Best Supporting Actor** - Troy Kostur (Coda)
- **Best Supporting Actress** - Ariana de Bose (Westside Story)
- **Best Animated Feature Film** - Inkanto
- **Best International Feature Film** - Japanese film Drive My Car

## The Grammy Awards

The 64<sup>th</sup> Grammy Awards for the year 2022 in the field of music were distributed in Los Angeles, USA on 3 April, 2022. These awards were distributed for the period from 1st September, 2020 to 30th September, 2021. American singer John Battist won the most 5 awards, including the Album of the Year award for his album **We Are**.

### Awards he received:-

- **Album of the Year** - We Are (John Batiste)
- **Record of the Year** - Leave the Door Open
- **Song of the Year** - Leave the Door Open
- **Best New Artist** - Olivia Rodrigo
- **Best Pop Solo Performance** - Driver's License (Olivia Rodrigo)

**Best Children's Music Album** - A Colorful World (by Indian-American composer Falguni Shah)

**Best New Age Category** - Album Divine Tide (jointly by Indian-American musicians Ricky Cage and Stewart Copeland)

## The Pritzker Architecture Prize

The prestigious Pritzker Prize for the year 2022 was announced on 15 March, 2022 to be presented to architect, educator and social activist Francis Kéré. Kere is the first black architect to win this award.

## Boltzmann Medal

Physicist Professor Deepak Dhar of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune has been selected for the prestigious Boltzmann Medal-2022. The award is given once in three years by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics for outstanding achievements in statistical physics. This year in August 2022 this award will be given to Prof. Deepak Dhar at **Statfice 28** to be held in Japan. He will share the medal with John J Hofield of Princeton University. Physicist Professor Deepak Dhar has become the first Indian to be awarded the Boltzmann Medal.

## Carolina Bilawska

Miss Poland Carolina Bilawska has won the title of Miss World-2021 in March 2022. It is to be noted that 40 semi-finalists had gathered back in Puerto Rico, as the December 2021 final was postponed due to Corona. The Miss World Beauty Pageant 2019 title was won by Indian-origin Jamaican Tony-Ann Singh.

## Abel Prize

The 'Abel Prize' for the year 2022 has been announced by the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters to American mathematician 'Dennis Parnell Sullivan'. He is being given this award for his significant contribution in the algebraic, geometric and dynamical aspects of 'topology'.

**Also read:** The Abel Prize was started on 1 January, 2002. Its purpose is to honor outstanding scientific work in the field of mathematics. 7.5 million Norwegian kroner (US \$ 625,000) are awarded under the prize.

## The Stockholm Water Prize

The Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) has honored scientist and evaporation expert **Wilfried Butsart** with the 'Stockholm Water Prize' for the year 2022. This award is also known as the Nobel Prize for Water.

**Also Know:-** SIWI is an organization established to advocate for better water governance, which has been conferring this award to individuals and organizations for 'extraordinary achievements related to water' for the past 30 years.

## Popular books

- In An Ideal World - Kunal Basu
- The Burning Questions - Margaret Atwood
- To Hell and Back: Humans of Covid – Barkha Dutt
- I am here - Prof - Ramdarash Mishra
- Here Yourself - PremRawat
- Tomb of Sand - Geetanjali Shree
- The Queen of Fir - Devika Rangachari
- The Maverick Effect - Harish Mehta

## Special Day/Week/Year

### March

- March 1 - Zero Discrimination Day, World Civil Defense Day
- March 3 - World Wildlife Day
- March 4 - National Safety Day
- March 1-7 - Jan Aushadhi Week
- March 7 - Jan Aushadhi Day
- March 8 - World Women's Day
- 15 March - World Consumer Rights Day
- March 20 - International Day of Happiness
- March 21 - International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, International Day of Forests
- 22 March - World Water Day
- 23 March - World Meteorological Day/Martyr's Day
- 24 March - World Tuberculosis Eradication Day
- 27 March - International Theater Day
- 30 March - Earth Hour, Rajasthan Day

### April

- April 3 - Hindi Theater Day
- April 4 - International Mining Awareness Day
- 5 April - National Shipping Day
- 7 April - World Health Day
- April 11 - National Safe Motherhood Day
- April 14 - Fire Service Day
- April 17 - World Haemophilia Day
- April 18 - World Heritage Day
- April 22 - World Earth Day
- 23 April - World Book Day
- April 24 - National Panchayat Raj Day
- 25 April - World Malaria Day
- 26 April - World Intellectual Property Day
- 28 April - World Veterinary Day
- 29 April - International Dance Day

## Chapter - 2

# National Events

### The lowest maternal mortality ratio in Kerala

A special bulletin was issued by the Office of the Registrar General of India on Maternal Mortality Rate in India in March 2022 on behalf of the Office of the Registrar General of Sample Registration System. According to the bulletin, there has been a reduction of 10 points in the 'Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)' in the country. The MMR was 113 in the year 2016-18, which has become 103 in the year 2017-19.

#### Key Points:-

- The MMR in Kerala was the lowest in the country, recording MMR of 30 here.
- The number of states achieving the Sustainable Development Goals has increased from 5 to 7. These include Kerala (MMR 30), Maharashtra (38), Telangana (56), Tamil Nadu (58), Andhra Pradesh (58) and Gujarat (70).
- In Rajasthan, number 141 has been registered.

### The Jan Aushadhi Week

Jan Aushadhi Week was organized by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers from 1st to 7th March, 2022. It aims to increase awareness about the benefits of Jan Aushadhi Project and the use of generic drugs.

Also Know:-Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJK) was launched by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers in the year 2008 with the objective of providing quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all. The scheme is related to raising awareness about the use of generic drugs in the country. This programme was started by the government involving the private sector, public sector undertakings, societies, non-government organizations, cooperative bodies etc.

### Dugong Conservation Reserve at The Pak Bay

The Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to set up India's first conservation reserve for Dugong in the **Pak river, Mannar**. The dugong, also known as

the 'sea cow', is one of the four living species of the **Syrenia** range and is the only extant species of herbivorous mammal that lives exclusively in the Indian seas, including India. Dugongs are an important part of the marine ecosystem and their population reduction will affect the food chain.

### Stree Manoraksha Project

'Stree Manoraksha Project' was launched in March 2022 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with NIMHANS, Bangalore with the objective of improving the mental health of women across India. The project aims to provide mental health training to functionaries of 6000 one-stop centers across the country. Women can get help on medical, legal and criminal issues at the one-stop centre.

### The Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav

The Central Government on the eve of International Women's Day (8 March) launched a nationwide campaign named Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav. It aims to bring back the out-of-school adolescent girls in the age group of 11-14 years in the education system. This campaign is being run by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in partnership with the Ministry of Education.

The campaign will be implemented as part of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme, in which the primary beneficiaries will be over 4,00,000 out-of-school girls.

### The Deep Ocean Mission

Recently, the Deep Ocean Mission has been launched by the Ministry of Earth Sciences. DOM is a mission mode project to support the Blue Economy initiative of the Government of India. Earlier, the Blue Economy Policy was also drafted by the Ministry of Earth Sciences. Blue economy is the sustainable use of marine resources for economic growth, better livelihoods and jobs, and healthy ocean ecosystems.

## The Disaster Management Plan

The Union Minister of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj recently released the Disaster Management Plan (DMPMOPR) of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. Under the plan, every Indian village and will have a 'Village Disaster Management Plan' and each panchayat will have its own disaster management plan. It aims to build disaster resilience at the grassroots level among panchayats and establish a framework for communicating disaster management measures in rural areas with the National Disaster Management Authority.

## The PACER plan

The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Polar Science and Cryosphere Research (PACER) scheme from the year 2021 to 2026. The PACER comprises the following six components:- 1- Construction of Polar Research Ship, 2- Construction of Third Research Base in Antarctica, 3- Indian Scientific Endeavor in Arctic, 4- Polar Expedition-Antarctic, 5- Replacement of Friendship Station, 6- Southern Ocean Expedition.

## AFSPA and Northeast

Recently, the Central Government has partially withdrawn the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 applicable in parts of three North Eastern States- Assam, Nagaland and Manipur. At present AFSPA is also applicable in Arunachal Pradesh and some parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

**AFSPA** - AFSPA gives absolute powers to the armed forces. After being declared as a 'disturbed' area under section 3, it can be imposed by the Center or the Governor of a State, on the State or parts thereof.

## The Revised Wage Rate Under MGNREGA

The Ministry of Rural Development has notified new wage rates under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for the financial year 2022-23. The wage rates have been notified under the MGNREGA 2005. MGNREGA wage rate fixed according to changes in Consumer Price Index-Agriculture Labor (CPI-AL) which reflects an increase in inflation in rural areas.

## Revised Rates:-

- Out of 34 states and union territories, 21 states and union territories have shown an increase of less than 5 percent and 10 states have an increase of more than 5 percent.
- The highest increase in wages 7.14% was recorded in Goa of the 31 states and UTs .
- The lowest increase of 1.77% is in Meghalaya.
- There is no change in the wage rates of three states- Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

## The State Energy and Climate Index

NITI Aayog launched the State Energy and Climate Index (SECI) on 11 April, 2022. This is the first index that aims to track the efforts made by states and union territories in the climate and energy sector. The parameters of the index have been designed keeping in mind India's goals for climate change and clean energy transition.

## The main objectives of the index are:-

- Ranking of states on the basis of efforts to improve energy access, energy consumption, energy efficiency and protection of the environment.
- To help drive the agenda of affordable, accessible, efficient and clean energy transition at the state level.
- To promote healthy competition among states on various dimensions of energy and climate.
- **Top Performing Large States:-** Gujarat, Kerala and Punjab.
- **Top performing Small States:-** Goa, Tripura and Manipur.
- **States with unsatisfactory performance:-** Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand.

## The two new geological heritage sites

The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has identified two geological heritage sites in the Indian Himalayan region. Under this, the Shivalik Fossil Park (Himachal Pradesh) and the Limestone of Stromatolite bearing dolomite/Baksa Formation (Sikkim) have been identified. The inclusion of these two sites has resulted in 34 geological heritage sites in India. Earlier, GSI had identified some geological sites in the Northeast to promote geo-tourism.

**Geo-heritage sites:-** Geo-heritage means such geological features or places which are naturally or culturally significant and provide insight into the evolution of the earth or the history of earth sciences or can be used for educational purposes..

### Operation "Uplabdh"

Railway Protection Force (RPF) launched an all India campaign in March 2022 against alleged black marketers under Operation "Uplabdh". Earlier in February 2022, a nation-wide campaign to curb human trafficking was launched by RPF under the name **Operation Aahat**.

The month-long campaign under Operation Uplabdh has enabled to curb the activities of brokers or black marketers to a great extent and make railway tickets available to the common man.

### The India's first steel slag road

Surat in Gujarat has become the first Indian city to build a road from processed steel slag (Industrial Waste). The road has been developed as a joint venture project by the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), NITI Aayog, Union Steel Ministry and Arcelor Mittal-Nippon Steel. This road is made of steel slag i.e. waste material of steel industry. This road is of 6 lanes, with three lanes on either side.

### Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

The Union Cabinet has recently approved the countrywide implementation of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) with a budget allocation of Rs 1,600 crore for five years. Under this mission, citizens will be able to get their Ayushman Bharat Health Account Number, which can be linked to their digital health records. Ayushman Bharat is one of the flagship scheme of the country, which was launched as per the recommendation of National Health Policy 2017 to achieve the vision of Universal Health Coverage (UHC). It was launched by the Prime Minister in September 2021 through a video conference.

**Objective:-** Providing digital health ID to all Indian citizens to help hospitals, insurance firms and citizens to access health records electronically when required.

## Popular place

### Zojila Pass

Zojila Pass has been reopened in March, 2022 for civilian traffic from Sonmarg to the high altitude area of Ladakh. Zojila Pass is located at an altitude of more than 11,650 feet in Dras, Ladakh and historically most of it is closed during the winter season.

**Also know:-**Zojila Pass is a high mountain pass located in Kargil district of Ladakh. It connects Leh and Srinagar and provides an important link between the Union Territories of Ladakh and Kashmir. The Zojila Pass is known as the 'Icy Storm Pass'. It remains closed during winters due to heavy snowfall, due to which its cutting off contact with the Ladakh region from Kashmir. The Zojila Tunnel project was started in the year 2018. It is Asia's longest and strategic bi-directional tunnel, which will provide all-weather connectivity between Srinagar, Kargil and Leh.

### Major Passes of Himalayas:-

- 1- **Banihal Pass-** Connects the Kashmir Valley with the outer Himalayas and the plains in the south.
- 2- **Bara-Lacha-La Pass:-** Connects Lahaul of Himachal Pradesh with Leh district.
- 3- **Fotu-La Pass:-**Connects Leh with Kargil.
- 4 **Rohtang Pass:-** Connects Kullu Valley with Lahaul and Spiti Valley of Himachal Pradesh.
- 5- **Shipki La Pass:-** Connects Himachal Pradesh with the Autonomous Region of Tibet.
- 6- **Jelep La Pass:-** Connects Sikkim with the Autonomous Region of Tibet.
- 7- **Nathu La Pass:-** Connects Sikkim with the Autonomous Region of Tibet.
- 8- **Lipule Pass: -** Connects the Chaudan Valley of India with the Autonomous Region of Tibet. It is located at the tri-junction of Uttarakhand, China and Nepal.
- 9- **Rardung La:-** Connects Ladakh with Siachen Glacier. It is the highest motor vehicle pass in the world.
- 10- **Bom-de-la Pass:-** It is in Arunachal Pradesh.

## Shinkula Pass

To connect Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh, the world's highest tunnel will be built on the Shinkula Pass, which will be at an altitude of 16580 feet above sea level. The construction of this 4250 km long tunnel has been announced by the Border Roads Organization (BRO) on 16 April, 2022. It is to be known that to complete this project, the Central Government has implemented 'Project Yojak' of BRO.

Advantage : - On the commissioning of this tunnel, the logistics of the army will be easily transported throughout the year till the Manali-Jaskar-Kargil route. Also, Ladakh will be directly connected with Himachal Pradesh.

## Samba

Samba district of Jammu division in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has become the first district in the country to cover 100 percent households under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. This district achieved this achievement by running a special registration campaign from 11-21 April, 2022.

## Celebrity

M.C. Mary Kom

Pharma company Lupine has roped in female boxer M.CO Mary Kom as the brand ambassador of its Shakti campaign. Mary Kom is a six-time world champion and has also won a bronze medal in the Olympics.

## Appointments

### Vinay Mohan Kwatra

The Government of India has named Vinay Mohan Kwatra as the next Foreign Secretary of the country. He has replaced Harsh Vardhan Shringla in this post. Vinay Mohan was earlier Indian Ambassador to Nepal.

### Madhabi Puri Buch

Madhabi Puri Buch, a former whole-time member of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), has been appointed as its new chairman. She is the first woman to head SEBI. He assumed office on 1 March, 2022. She will remain in this position for three years. He replace Ajay Tyagi, whose term ended on 28 February, 2022.

SEBI- SEBI is a statutory body (a non-constitutional body established by Parliament) established on 12th April, 1992 in accordance with the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992. The basic function of SEBI is to protect the interests of investors in securities and to promote and regulate the securities market. The headquarters of SEBI is located in Mumbai and regional offices are at Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Chennai and Delhi.

### Manoj Soni

Dr. Manoj Soni has been appointed as the Chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on 5th April, 2022.

**Also know:-** Chairman and members of UPSC hold office for a term of six years or till the age of 65 years. Sir Ross Barker became the first Chairman of UPSC in October 1926 and till now there have been 30 Chairman in UPSC. According to Article 312 of the Constitution of India, Parliament is empowered to create one or more All India Services (including an All India Judicial Service) for the Union and the States. Recruitment to all these All India Services is done by the Union Public Service Commission.

### Lieutenant General Manoj Pandey

Lieutenant General Manoj Pandey has become the new Chief of Army Staff of the country on 1 May, 2022. He is the 29<sup>th</sup> Chief of the Army Staff of the Indian Army. He succeeds General Manoj Mukund Naravane, who retired on 30 April , 2022.

### Ajay Kumar Sood

Physicist Ajay Kumar Sood of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore has been appointed as the new Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC). His appointment will be effective for a period of three years from the date of assumption of charge or until further orders. He will replace K. Vijay Raghavan. It is to be known that since the retirement of K. Vijay Raghavan on 2 April the post was lying vacant. The objective of the office of PSA is to give practical and objective advice to the Prime Minister and the Cabinet on matters relating to science.

## Suman Bery

After Rajiv Kumar resigned from his post, the central government has appointed economist Suman Berry as the Deputy Chairman of NITI Aayog on 22 April, 2022. Suman Berry has been appointed first as a whole-time member of NITI Aayog and later as Vice-Chairman. He assumed office on 1 May, 2022.

## Prize

### ITC Award

The Union Minister of State for Education, Annapurna Devi presented the National Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Awards to 49 teachers from across the country in March 2022. It is to be known that the National Information and Communication Technology Award is given by the Ministry of Education (formerly the Ministry of Human Resource Development) to the school teachers. The purpose of this award is to honor school teachers who have improved the quality of school education and enriched the lives of their students through information and communication technology.

### INS Valsura

The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, presented the prestigious President's Color to INS (Indian Naval Ship) Valsura in March 2022. It is the highest award given to a military unit in India for exceptional services. Among the three defense forces, the Indian Navy was the first Indian Armed Forces to be awarded the 'President's Colour' by Dr. Rajendra Prasad in the year 1951.

**Also know:-** In India as well as in many commonwealth countries, this tradition is taken from the British Army. Traditionally there have been four types of symbols associated with it – standards, guidelines, colors and banners. Infantry regiments, army establishments and naval and air force units are awarded the 'President's Colour', while armored regiments are awarded 'standards'.

### Excellence Award for UDAN Scheme

UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme has been selected for the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2020 under the category 'Innovation (General) - Central'. The

Ministry of Civil Aviation received this award on the occasion of Civil Services Day on 21 April.

**Also Know:** Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration was instituted in the year 2006 by the Government of India to acknowledge, recognize and reward the extraordinary and innovative work done by Districts and Organizations of Central and State Governments. The award consists of a trophy, scroll and Rs 10 lakh as incentive to the esteemed district or organization for implementation of the project/programme or for bridging the resource gap in any area of public welfare.

### The Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honored with the first Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award on 24 April, 2022. The award has been instituted in the memory of singer Lata Mangeshkar. The Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award will be given every year to a person who has made an excellent and exemplary contribution towards the guidance of the nation, its people and society. The main purpose of this award is to honor music, drama, art, medicine and social work.

### Gyaanpith Award

Assamese poet Nilamani Phukan was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award (56<sup>th</sup>) on 11 April, 2022. It is to be known that in December 2021, he was announced to be given this award. His major works include 'Surya hetu name ahe ae nodiydi', 'Kobita' and 'Gulapi Jamur Lagna'.

### Saraswati Samman

The 31<sup>st</sup> Saraswati Samman (for the year 2021) was announced on 4 April, 2022, to Prof- Ramdarash Mishra, the eminent poet of Hindi. He will be given this award for his poetry collection 'Main Toh Yahi Hoon'. Let us know that this award for the year 2020 was received by Marathi language writer Dr. Sharan kumar Limbale for his novel 'Sanatan'.

**Also Know:-** Saraswati Samman is the highest honor conferred by K.K.Birla Foundation. It is given for the outstanding work published in the last 10 years in the languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. The award carries a citation, a memento and an amount of Rs 15 lakh.

## Chapter - 3

# Rajasthan Events

### **Solar Park will be developed in Jaisalmer and Bikaner**

Two new solar parks of with capacity of 800 MW will be developed in Jaisalmer and with capacity of 1000 MW in Bikaner in the state. The approval of the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has been received for these two parks.

**Also know:-** 10560 MW solar power capacity has been developed in Rajasthan. In this way, Rajasthan has become the first state in the country to develop 10 GW of solar power.

### **The Committee for the Formation of New Districts**

A high level committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of retired IAS Ramlubhaya to assess the need and formation of new districts in the state.

### **Camel Conservation and Development Policy**

The camel conservation and development policy has been announced by the Rajasthan state government in the budget year 2022-23. According to the state government data, less than two lakh camels are left in Rajasthan. It is to be known that in the year 2014, the Rajasthan government had declared the camel as the state animal. About 85 percent of India's camels are found in the state of Rajasthan, followed by Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

### **Insurance coverage of Rs 10 lakh in Mukhya Mantri Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme**

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has increased the annual insurance coverage from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh under the 'Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana' under the budget announcement this year. Along with this, the scheme has now included complex health services like cochlear implant, bone marrow transplant,

organ transplant, blood, platelets and plasma transfusion and limb prosthesis (bone cancer).

### **The constitution of three assembly committees**

C.P. Joshi, Speaker of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, suspended the implementation of the provisions of Rule 230(1), 231 and read rule 232(1) under Rule 306 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Assembly by suspending the Public Accounts Committee and Estimates Committee (A) and (B) have been constituted on the basis of proportional representation in April, 2022. In the above constituted committees, the following have been appointed as Chairman:-

Public Accounts Committee – Gulab Chand Kataria

Estimates Committee 'A'- Rajendra Pareek

Estimates Committee 'B' – Dayaram Parmar

### **Green Agriculture Project**

The 'Green Agriculture Project' has been started for the conservation of biodiversity and forest landscapes in the National Desert Park areas located in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts. This project of about Rs 31 crore, funded under the Global Environment Facility of the Agriculture and Food Organization, is to be completed by March 2026.

**This work will be done:** - Under the project, conservation-promotion of native flora species in the National Desert Park and 52 gram panchayats, removal of harmful species of vegetation, effective management of traditional forests (Oran) and traditional grazing area (Gochar), Water harvesting structures like Khadin and Tanka will be revived.

### **The Scout Guide National Tribe Festival**

Under the aegis of Rajasthan State Bharat Scout Guide, a five-day Scout Guide National Tribal Festival was organized on 21-25 April, 2022 at Leo International Institute of Education, Banswara.

## Prize

### Nari Shakti Samman

On 8 March, 2022, President Ram Nath Kovind presented the Nari Shakti Samman to Batul Begum, a Mand and folk singer from Rajasthan. Batul has been given this award for his outstanding services for the empowerment of women and for the recognition of Indian folk music at the international level.

### The Churu District Collector honored for excellence in Public Administration

Churu District Collector Siddharth Sihag was honored by the Prime Minister on 21 April, 2022, at the Public Service Day function held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. He was honored for his wide participation in sports centers developed in the district, medals at national and international level by sportspersons, representation of women players, para players, innovations made by the district administration in Fit India-Khelo India.

# Samyak

An Institute For Civil Services

## Chapter - 4

# Rajasthan Sujas-Saar

### IPD Tower and Cardiology Institute in The SMS

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot laid the foundation stone of IPD Tower and Heart Disease Institute to be constructed at a cost of Rs 588 crore at Sawai Mansingh Hospital, Jaipur in April 2022. There will also be a helipad on this tower, about 116 meters high. The facility of 1200 beds will be available here simultaneously.

### Rajasthan Police Raising Day

Police Raising Day is celebrated in Rajasthan on 16 April. On 16 April 1949, the police forces of all the princely states together formed the Rajasthan Police. After the integration of Rajasthan, the police forces of all the princely states were merged into one police force.

### Balwant Rai Mehta Samity

The first attempts to tackle the problem of rural India were made during the Community Development Programme in 1952 and the National Extension Service in 1953.

**Balwantrai Mehta Committee:** -Balwant Rai Mehta Committee formed in 1957 was the first committee to look into the problems of democratic decentralization in independent India. Its recommendations came into effect from 1 April 1958.

**Committees related to Panchayati Raj:** - Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1956-57), Ashok Mehta Committee (1977-78), P.V. K. Rao Committee (1985), Dr- L.M. Singhvi Committee (1986), P.K. Thungan Committee (1988)

Article 40 of the Constitution talked about the constitution and powers of Gram panchayats, but not given constitutional status. Later, by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, on 24 April, 1993, Panchayats were implemented by giving constitutional status.

**Origin and development of Panchayati Raj in Rajasthan:** - First of all, in Rajasthan in 1928, Bikaner was the first princely state, where the

Gram Panchayat Act was made. The Rajasthan Panchayati Raj Department was established in 1949 in independent India. Similarly, the Rajasthan Gram Panchayat Act was made in 1953. The then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru started the Panchayati Raj system on 2 October, 1959 from Bagdhari village in Nagaur district of Rajasthan. Sadiq Ali Committee was formed in 1964 for Panchayat Reforms, which made suggestions for financial strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions. Indira Gandhi Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj was established in the year 1984. In the year 1988, a committee was formed under the chairmanship of Harlal Singh Kharrar for the improvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions. On the recommendation of this committee, the District Rural Development Authority was merged with the Zila Parishad. In 2011, a committee constituted under the chairmanship of Gulab Chand Kataria recommended giving all the 29 functions mentioned in the 11th Schedule to the Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated for the first time across the country on 24 April 2010 after the provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment came into force from 1993.

### e-Nam

National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) was started in Rajasthan by the state government on April 14, 2016 from Ramganj Mandi in Kota in a pilot form. Presently 144 Agricultural Produce Market Committees have been linked with e-NAM.

### From the history---

In the year 1800, the word 'Rajputana' was first used by George Thomas due to the power of Rajput kings over the territories of Rajasthan.

In the year 1818, the British conquered Ajmer and divided all the princely states into two class princely states and Thikanas.

Colonel Todd used the word Rajasthan in 1829 in the Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan.

On 23 June 1947, the Indian Independence Act allowed the Indian princely states to merge with India and Pakistan.

When India became independent on 15 August, 1947, the princely states of Dungarpur, Bharatpur, Jodhpur and Alwar decided to remain independent by not collaborating with anyone. Whereas the princely states of Udaipur, Kota and Bikaner decided to join the Union of India.

Rajasthan was formed on 30 March, 1949 by integrating 19 princely states and three chief ship areas of the Rajputana in different phases. The whole process of integration was completed in seven stages, which took 8 years 7 months 14 days.

The state of Rajasthan is geographically divided into 9 regions, which include Ajaymeru, Hadoti, Dhoondad, Godwad, Shekhawati, Mewar, Marwar, Vagad and Mewat.

## Integration of Rajasthan:-

### phase I : Establishment of Matsya Union-

On 27 February, 1948, the Matsya Union was established on 18 March , 1948 by the integration of the princely states of Alwar, Bharatpur, Dholpur and Karauli.

Inaugurated by Union Minister of Minerals and Power Narhari Vishnu Gadgil. The capital Alwar and Dholpur Maharaja Udaybhan Singh became Raj Pramukh.

### Phase II:

On 25 March, 1948, East Rajasthan was formed by merging Kota, Bundi, Jhalawar, Tonk, Kishangarh, Pratapgarh, Dungarpur, Banswara and Shahpura.

Inaugurated by Union Minister of Minerals and Power Narhari Vishnu Gadgil. Kota became the capital and Rajpramuk hMaharao Bhim Singh.

### Phase III: United Rajasthan-

United Rajasthan was formed on 18 April, 1948 by merging the princely state of Udaipur with the East Rajasthan.

Capital Udaipur and Rajpramukh Mewar became Maharana Bhupal Singh and Deputy Rajpramukh Kota Maharao Bhim Singh.

Its cabinet was formed under the leadership of Manikya Lal Verma. It was inaugurated by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

### Fourth Phase: Greater Rajasthan-

On 14 January, 1949, in Udaipur, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel announced the merger of the princely states of Jaipur, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Lava and Jaisalmer into greater Rajasthan.

Greater Rajasthan was inaugurated on 30 March 1949. The capital became Jaipur and Maharana Bhupal Singh of Udaipur became of Maharaj chief, Maharaja Mansingh of Jaipur was made Rajpramukh and Maharao Bhim Singh of Kota became Uprajpramukh.

### Fifth stage: United Greather Rajasthan-

On 15 May , 1949, the merger of Matsya Union with Greater Rajasthan resulted in the formation of the United Greater Rajasthan. Neemrana was also included in this.

### Sixth Phase: Present Rajasthan-

Due to the dispute over a part of Sirohi princely state, Abu-Delwara was merged with Bombay and the rest of the princely state merged on 26 January 1950 in the United Greater Rajasthan and it named "Rajasthan".

### Seventh Phase: Merger of Ajmer-Merwara, Abu-

On the basis of the recommendations of the State Reorganization Commission 1955, Ajmer-Merwara, Abu Tehsil was merged with Rajasthan on 1 November 1956. Sunel Tappa area which had included in Madhya Pradesh was merged with Jhalawar district of Rajasthan and Sirnauj of Jhalawar district was merged with Madhya Pradesh.

### The Other Important Facts

Thar Mahotsav was organized in Barmer district on 28-30 March, 2022.

Ghotia Amba Fair - Banswara

Chapter - **5**

## Defense/Science Technology

### The Dharma Guardian-2022

The joint exercise 'Dharma Guardian 2022' between India and Japan was conducted from 27 February to 10 March 2022 at the Foreign Training Node Belagavi (Belgaum, Karnataka).

**Also read:-** Dharma Guardian is the annual training programme which is being organized in India since 2018. The scope of this exercise includes platoon level joint training conducted in forest and semi-urban/urban areas. The joint exercise programme includes house intervention drills, raids on terrorist hideouts in semi-urban areas, first aid, unarmed combat and close quarter combat firing, where both sides will jointly conduct well-developed tactical exercises to fail potential threats.

**Other military exercises between India and Japan:-** MALABAR (naval exercises in which India and Japan, the United States and Australia participate), Jimex (Navy), Shinyu Maitri (Air force).

### The Unmanned Submersible 'Haidu-1'

China's unmanned submersible 'Haidu-1' has set a new record by diving to a depth of 10,907 meters at the world's deepest sea point - the Mariana Trench. High-definition images of the geological environment and samples from the deep sea were collected during this expedition to China. During this mission, the unmanned submersible 'Haidu-1' went down more than 10,000 meters in the Mariana Trench for a total of four times.

### The Indigenous Flying Trainer 'Hansa Ng'

India's first indigenous 'Flying Trainer' Hansa-NG has successfully completed sea level trials in Puducherry from 19 February to 5 March, 2022. It has been developed by CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratory (CSIR-NAL).

It is an improved version of 'Hansa', which made its first flight in the year 1993 and was certified in the

year 2000. The Center approved the NAL retro-modified Hansa-3 aircraft with Hansa-NG and glass cockpit in 2018 and it was certified by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the aircraft was showcased at Aero-India 2019. It is powered by a Rotax digital control engine designed to meet the requirement of trainer aircraft by flying clubs in India.

**Also Know:-** National Aerospace Laboratory (NAL), a constituent of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) established in the year 1959, is the only Government Aerospace R&D laboratory in the country's civil sector. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is the largest Research and Development (R&D) organization in India.

### The Lamitye-2022

The ninth edition of the joint military exercise 'Lamitye 2022' between the Indian Army and the Seychelles Defense Forces (SDF) was held in Seychelles from 22-23 March, 2022. Seychelles is an island group in the western Indian Ocean, consisting of about 115 islands.

**Also read:-**Lamitye means friendship in 'Creole' language. It is a biennial training military exercise held in Seychelles since 2001. It aims to build and promote bilateral military ties besides exchanging skills, experience and good practices between the two armies.

### Dustlik

The third edition of 'Dustlik', a joint training exercise between Indian and Uzbekistan armies, was conducted from 22-31 March, 2022 in Yangiyark (Uzbekistan).

The exercise focused on counter-insurgency operations in semi-urban areas under the mandate of the United Nations. It aims to enhance understanding, cooperation and interactivity between the two armies.

## Sleenex

The 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the Indian and Sri Lankan navies' bilateral maritime exercise SLINEX (Sri Lanka – India Naval Exercise) was conducted from 7 to 10 March, 2022. The exercise was conducted along with the Harbor Phase at Visalapatnam on 7th and 8th March and the Sea Phase at the Bay of Bengal on 9th and 10th March. It aims to enhance mutual cooperation, improve mutual understanding and exchange best practices and procedures for multi-faceted maritime operations between the two navies.

**Other exercises between India and Sri Lanka:-** Mitra Shakti, Dosti (between the Coast Guards of India, Maldives and Sri Lanka)

## The IONS Maritime Exercise-2022

The first edition of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Maritime Exercise 2022 (IMEX-22) was held in Goa and the Arabian Sea in March 2022. 15 of the 25 member countries of IONS participated in this exercise. Its objective was to enhance interoperability in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) between the navies of the member countries. The exercise is seen as an important step for regional navies to collaborate and respond collectively against natural disasters in the region and make strong the way for strengthening regional cooperation.

**Indian Ocean Naval Symposium:-** IONS established in the year 2007 is a premier forum for cooperation and security between the navies of the coastal states of the Indian Ocean region. It is a voluntary initiative that seeks to enhance maritime cooperation between the navies of the coastal countries of the Indian Ocean region by providing an open and inclusive forum for discussion on regionally relevant maritime issues. There are 36 coastal states in the Indian Ocean which are geographically divided into the following four sub-regions.

## Sold Fuel Ducted Ramjet Booster

India successfully test- the missile system- 'Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet' (SFDR) booster at the 'Integrated Test Range' (ITR) at Chandipur of the Odisha coast on 8 April, 2022. The Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) first started developing SDFR in the year 2017 and conducted successful trials in the year 2018 and also in the year 2019.

SFDR:- It is a missile propulsion technology jointly developed by India and Russia. SFDR technology is a missile propulsion system, which is based on the concept of 'ramjet engine' principle.

## Varun-2022

The 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the bilateral exercise 'Varuna-2022' between the Indian and French Navies was conducted in the Arabian Sea from 30 March-3 April 2022. Indian and French navies have been conducting bilateral maritime exercises since 1993. Since 2001, these exercises are being called 'Varuna'. This is an annual event. The dialogue underscores the shared values between partner navies in ensuring freedom of the seas and a commitment to a free, inclusive Indo-Pacific and a rules-based international order.

**Indo-French joint exercise:-** Desert Night-21 and Garuda (air exercise), Shakti (Army exercise)

## Commissioning of the Aircraft Squadron 'Condors'

The Navy has inducted 'INS-316' into its fleet in March 2022 at a ceremony held in Goa. 'INAS-316' has been named 'Condors', which is one of the largest flying birds with huge wings. Indian Naval Air Squadron- 316' (INAS-316) will operate four P-8I aircraft procured as part of the optional clause in 2016.

## The Anti Tank Guided Missile 'Helina'

India successfully test-fired Helina Anti-Tank Guided Missile at Poran on 11 April, 2022. According to the DRDO, it is one of the most advanced anti-tank weapons in the world. The test was part of the validation trials of the third

generation 'Fire and Forget' class missiles developed by DRDO.

**Also Know:** Helina has been developed by Defense Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad under the Missile and Strategic Systems (MSS) cluste. The missile has been successfully test fired from the year 2018. It has a maximum range of seven kilometers and has been designed and developed for integration with the weaponized version of the Advanced Light Helicopter. The missile system can be launched at any time of day and night and is capable of hitting battle tanks with conventional armor and explosive reactive armor.

### Urja Pravaha

Indian Coast Guard Ship Urja Pravaha has been inducted into the Indian Coast Guard at Bharuch, Gujarat. The new ship will help Indian Coast Guard (ICG) operations by providing logistical support to Coast Guard ships, which will be deployed in remote areas of maritime operations including Special Economic Zones and Lakshadweep/Minicoy Islands.

### INS Visakhapatnam

India-built stealth guided-missile destroyer INS Vishakhapatnam has been formally attached to the port of Visalapatnam. It marks the formal induction of the first of the four Visalapatnam-class destroyers. A total of four warships (Vishalapatnam, Marmagao, Imphal, Surat) were planned to be inducted under the P-15B (Vishalapatnam class). It is indigenously designed by the Indian Navy's in-house Directorate of Naval Design and manufactured by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Mumbai.

**Also read:-** INS is the lead ship of the P15B class of Visalapatnam guided missile stealth destroyers and was handed over to the Navy on 21 November 2021.

### Anti-Ship Version of the BrahMos Missile

The anti-ship version of the Brahmos supersonic cruise missile was successfully test-fired jointly by the Indian Navy and Andaman and Nicobar Command in April 2022. The Andaman and Nicobar Command is the only tri-service command of the Indian Armed Forces.

**Also read:-** Brahmos is a joint venture between Defense Research and Development Organization and NPOM of Russia. It is named after the Brahmaputra River of India and the Moskva River of Russia. It is a two-stage (solid propellant engine in the first stage and liquid ramjet in the second) missile. It is a multiplatform missile which can be launched with precision from land, air and sea with a versatility which can operate both in day and night in spite of bad weather. It works on the principle of 'fire and forget'. It is one of the fastest cruise missiles currently actively deployed with a speed of Mach 2.8 (about 3 times the speed of sound).

Chapter - **6**

## Economic Events

### International Intellectual Property Index-2022

The International Intellectual Property Index was released by the US Chambers of Commerce in March 2022 covering 55 countries. The US topped the index with a score of 95.4%. At the same time, India ranked 43rd with 38.6".

### Agreement with the International Telecommunication Union

India has signed the Host Country Agreement with the International Telecommunication Union-ITU on 3rd March, 2022. Under this, a regional office of ITU and innovation center will be set up in New Delhi. ITU's Area Office and Innovation Center set up in New Delhi will provide services to South Asian countries such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka and India.

**International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** : is a specialized agency of the United Nations for information and communication technology. It was established in the year 1865 to facilitate international connectivity in the communication network. It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. It allocates the global radio spectrum and orbits of satellites, develops technical standards. Currently ITU has 193 countries and more than 900 private sector institutions and educational institutions as its members. India has been a regular member since 1952.

### The first industrial park owned by women

India's first 100% women-owned industrial park has started operations in Hyderabad. Started by FICCI Ladies Organization (FLO) in partnership with the state government, the park has a total of 25 units.

### The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub

The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) was inaugurated by the Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in March 2022 in Bengaluru. The

objective of RBIH is to create an ecosystem that focuses on promoting access to financial services and products for the low-income population in the country. The Hub is expected to create an ecosystem for prototyping, patents and investigations and foster a wide range of ideas at a national level spanning regulatory domains and national boundaries.

### Shrinkflation

Shrinkflation is the method of reducing the size of a product while maintaining its sticker price. This is a form of hidden inflation. A strategy by companies (primarily in the food and beverage industry) is to increase prices per given quantity in order to secretly increase dividends or maintain profits relative to increases in input costs. In business and academic research, shrinkage is also known as package downsizing.

**Why in discussion:** - Due to the continuing increase in cost, many companies are practicing 'Shrinkflation'.

### The Commercial Grade Green Hydrogen Production Plant

Oil India Limited (OIL) has set up India's first commercial-grade green hydrogen production plant at Jorhat, Assam. The plant will use renewable energy from Oil India's 500KW solar plant pump station to produce hydrogen. The daily production capacity of this new pilot project is 10 kg- per day, which will be increased to 30 kg- per day.

### The Export Preparedness Index-NITI Aayog

NITI Aayog released the (Export Preparedness Index-EPI), 2021 in March, 2022. Gujarat has been named India's top state in terms of export preparedness for the second consecutive year in the index. Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu are ranked second, third and fourth respectively. 28 states and 8 union territories are included in the index.

## Features of the Index:-

Identifying challenges and opportunities, enhancing the effectiveness of government policies and promoting a convenient regulatory framework for exports.

ESEPI is a data-driven effort to identify key areas for promotion of exports at the sub-national level (States and UTs).

### RAMP Scheme for the MSMEs

The Union Cabinet has approved the RAMP (Rising and Accelerating MSME Performance) scheme for improving and accelerating the performance of MSMEs, which will be launched in the financial year 2022-23. This is in line with the recommendations made by the U.K. Sinha Committee, the KV Kamath Committee and the Prime Minister Economic Advisory Council (PMEAC). The scheme was announced by the Finance Minister in the Union Budget 2022-23.

**Also read:-** It is a World Bank-aided central sector scheme under which the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME) is providing necessary help to address the challenges related to COVID-19.

### ADB: 7.5%- will be the growth rate

The 'Asian Development Outlook 2022' released by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on 6 April, 2022 has estimated the Indian economy to grow at 7.5 percent for the year 2022-23. At the same time, for South Asian economies, this rate is collectively estimated at 7 percent.

### IMF : India's GDP growth will remain 8.2%

The latest report 'World Economic Outlook' was released by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on 19 April, 2022 on the economic situation of the world. The Board has lowered its forecast for India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in FY-2023 from 9 to 8.2 %.

**World Bank Estimates:-** World Bank has been reduced the global growth forecast for the year 2022 from 4.1 to 3.2 percent. At the same time, India's GDP forecast for 2022-23 has been reduced from 8.7 to 8 percent.

## The Elon Musk Bought Twitter

Tesla CEO Elon Musk has bought social media platform 'Twitter' for \$44 billion. The deal was approved by the Twitter board on 25 April, 2022.

## The Labour Force Participation Rate of India

According to the recently released data of the Center for Monitoring Indian Economy-CMIE India's labour force participation rate (LFPR) stands at 40%. It should be noted that in the year 2016 there was 47%. According to the CMIE, the labour force consists of people of the age of 15 years or more.

## e-bill system

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched the 'e-bill system' on 1 March, 2022, on the occasion of 46th Civil Accounts Day. It was announced in the Union Budget 2022 to use technology to facilitate the Financial Inclusion drive in India. The e-bill system is part of the Ease of Doing Business (EODB) and Digital India eco-system for greater transparency and speedy payment processing.

## The First Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal

In line with the Prime Minister's vision 'Gati Shakti' the first Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal-GCT) of Indian Railways has been started in Asansol Division of Eastern Railway. This is the first such Shakti cargo terminal in Indian Railways since the implementation of the GCT policy in December 2021.

**Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti Yojana:-** In the year 2021, the Government of India has launched the ambitious Gati Shakti Yojana or 'National Master Plan for Multi-Modal Connectivity Plan' for coordinated and execution of infrastructure projects to reduce logistics cost. Its objective is to ensure integrated planning and implementation of infrastructure projects over the next four years, with a focus on expediting the work at the grassroots level, reducing costs and generating employment. Inclusion of Rs 110 lakh crore 'National Infrastructure Pipeline' launched in the year 2019 under Gati Shakti Yojana.

## The Forbes Billionaires List

The list of the world's billionaires was released by the American magazine Forbes on 5 April, 2022. 2668 billionaires have been included in this list. Tesla/Space X chief Elon Musk has been placed in the list as the world's richest person.

### Top billionaires of the world:-

Rank	Name	Assets (in USD\$)	Company
1	Elon Musk	219 Billion	Tesla, America
2	Jeff Bezos	171 billion	Amazon, America
3	Bernard Arnault & Family	158 Billion	LVMH, France
4	Bill Gates	129 Billion	Microsoft, America
5	Warren Buffett	118 Billion	Berkshire Hathaway, America

### Top billionaires of India:-

Rank	Name	Asset (in USD)	Company
10	Mukesh Ambani	90-7 billion	Reliance Industries
11	Gautam Adani	90 Billion	Adani Group
47	Shiv Nadar	28-7 Billion	HCL Technologies
56	Cyrus Poonawalla	24-3 Billion	Serum Institute of India
81	Radhakishan Damani	20	D-Mart

An Institute For Civil Services

## Chapter - 7

# Games

### Cricket

#### The Sri Lankan team tour of India

The Sri Lankan cricket team toured India from 24 February to 16 March, 2022. During this, a series of 3 T20 and two Test matches were played between India and Sri Lanka.

**T20:-** India won the series 3-0. India's Shreyas Iyer was selected as Player of the Series.

**Test Series-**India won the series 2-0. Rishabh Pant was selected as Player of the Series.

#### Jhulan Goswami

Indian women's cricket player Jhulan Goswami has become the first woman player in the world to take 250 wickets in international women's cricket. In the ICC Women's World Cup 2022, Jhulan Goswami took the 250th wicket of ODI career in the match against England on 16 March. He achieved this feat by dismissing England's Tammy Beaumont.

#### Steve Smith

Australian player Steve Smith has become the fastest player to complete 8,000 runs in Test cricket. He achieved this feat in his 151<sup>st</sup> innings against Pakistan. He achieved this feat, surpassing Sri Lanka's Kumar Sangakkara, who achieved the feat in 152 innings. At the same time, the third number in this list is former Indian player Sachin Tendulkar, who crossed the 8000-run mark in his 154th innings in the year 2002.

#### The ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2022

The 12<sup>th</sup> Women's Cricket World Cup was organized in New Zealand from 4 March to 3 April, 2022 by the International Cricket Council (ICC). 8 teams took part in the tournament. Australia defeats England by 71 runs in the final match to win the trophy for the 7<sup>th</sup> time. Australia's Alyssa Healy was adjudged 'Player of the Match' and 'Player of the Tournament'.

### Tennis

#### BAP Paribas Open Tournament

The BAP Paribas Open tournament known as the Indian Wells Masters was held from 7-20 March, 2022 in California, US.

Here are the winners:-

#### Men's Singles: -

- Winner - Taylor Fritz (USA)
- Runner-up - Rafael Nadal (Spain)

#### Women's Singles: -

- Winner - Inga Switek (Poland)
- Runner-up - Maria Sakkari (Greece)

#### Men's doubles: -

- Winner- John Isner and Jack Sock (both US)
- Runner-up - Santiago González and Eduard Roger Veselin (both France)

#### Women's doubles: -

- Winner - Xu Yifan and Yang Zhaoshuan (both China)
- Runner-up - Asia Muhammad (USA) and Shihahara (Japan)

#### Miami Open-2022

The Miami Open tennis tournament was held in Florida, USA from 22 March 22–3rd April, 2022.

Here are the winners:-

- Men's Singles: - Winner- Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)
- Runner-up - Kesper Rudd (Norway)
- Women's Singles: - Winner- Iga Swiatek (Poland)
- Runner-up - Naomi Osaka (Japan)

### Badminton

#### Swiss Open

The Swiss Open 2022 badminton tournament was held from 22-27 March 2022 in Basel, Switzerland. PV Sindhu of India won the women's singles event in the competition.

## Here are the winners:-

### Men's Singles: -

- Winner- Jonathan Christie (Indonesia)
- Runner-up - Prannoy HS (India)

### Women's singles:-

- Winner - PV Sindhu (India)
- Runner-up- Busanan Ongbamrunghan (Thailand)

### Men's doubles: -

Winner - Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Riyan Ardianto (both Indonesia)

Runner-up - Goh Fei and Noor Izzuddin (both Malaysia)

### Women's doubles: -

Winner- Gabriela Stoiva and Stephanie Stoiva (both Bulgaria)

Runner-up - Linda Effler and Isabel Lohau (Germany)

### Mixed Doubles: -

Winner: Mark Lemsfu and Isabel Lohau (both Germany)  
Runner-up -Goh Soon Hout and Chewon Jamie Lei (both Malaysia)

## All England Open Badminton Championship

All England Open Badminton Championship was held from 16 to 20 March 2022 in Birmingham, England.

## Here are the winners:-

### Men's Singles: -

- Winner- Viktor Alexson (Denmark)
- Runner-up - Lakshya Sen (India)
- Women's Singles: -
- Winner - Aan Se Yung (South Korea)
- Runner-up - Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)

### Men's Doubles: -

Winner- Muhammad Shahibul Fikri and Bagas Moulana (both Indonesia)

Runner-up -Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan (both Indonesia)

### Women's Doubles:

Winners - Nami Matsuyama and Chiharu Shida (both Japan)

Runner-up - Zhang Shujian and Zheng Yu (China)

## Mixed Doubles

Winner - Yuta Watanaway and Arisa Higashino (both Japan)

Runner-up -Wang Weilu and Huang Dongping (both China)

## Boxing

### The Strandja Memorial Boxing Tournament

The 73rd Strandja Memorial Boxing Tournament was held in February 2022 in Sofia, Bulgaria. India won a total of three medals in the competition.

### Medal Winner:-

- **Gold-** Nikhat Zareen, Neetu
- **Bronze** - Nandini

### Open International Boxing Tournament

The 'Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament' was organized in Phuket, Thailand on 1-10 April, 2022. India won a total of 10 medals (3 gold, 4 silver and 3 bronze) in the competition.

### Medal Winner:-

- **Gold-**Govind Sahni, Anant Pralhad Chopde, Sumit Kundu.
- **Silver-**Amit Panghal, Monika, Varinder Singh, Ashish Kumar.
- **Bronze** - Manisha, Pooja, Bhagyabati Kachari.

## Billiards/snooker

### Asian Billiards Championship

India's Pankaj Advani has won the title by defeating his own country's Dhruv Sitwala in the final of the 19th Asian 100UP Billiards Championship 2022 played in Doha on 19 March, 2022.

## Formula one race

### Bahrain Grand Prix

- Completed on 20 March, 2022.
- Winner - Charles Leclerc (Ferrari Team)

### Saudi Arabian Grand Prix

- Completed on 27 March, 2022.
- Winner - Max Verstappen

### Australia Grand Prix

- Completed on 10 April 2022 in Melbourne, Australia.
- Winner- Charles Leclerc (Ferrari Team)
- Runner up- Sergio Perez (RBPT team)

## Chess

### Priyanka Nutki

India's Priyanka Nutki achieved the distinction of becoming the country's 23rd Grand Master on 2nd March, 2022. Nutki, a native of Andhra Pradesh, achieved her final WGM norm in the 47th National Women's Chess Championship of MPL.

## Hockey

### Men's Senior National Championship

Hockey India Men's 12th Senior National Hockey Championship was organized from 6-17 April, 2022 in Bhopal. In the final match, Haryana won the title by defeating Tamil Nadu 3-1 in a penalty shootout.

## Wrestling

### Asian Wrestling Championship-2022

Asian Wrestling Championship was held from 19-24 April 2022 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Japan topped the medal list by winning a total of 21 medals (10 gold, 2 silver and 9 bronze). India won a total of 17 medals (1 gold, 5 silver and 11 bronze). A 30-member contingent from India participated in the competition. Ravi Kumar Dahiya won the gold medal for India.

## Shooting

### The ISSF World Cup-2022

The ISSF World Cup was organized by the International Shooting Sports Federation from 26 February to 8 March 2022 in Cairo, Egypt. India topped the medal tally by winning a total of 7 medals (four gold, two silver and one bronze). Norway finished second with 6 medals.

#### Medal Winner:-

**Gold** - Saurabh Chaudhary (10m - Air Pistol Competition), Rhythm Sangwan and Anish Bhanwala (Team Competition), Eisha Singh, Ruchita Venerkar and Shree Nivedha Parmanantham (Team Competition), Rahi Sarnobat, Rhythm Sangwan and Isha Singh (Team Competition).

**Silver** – Isha Singh (10m – Air Pistol Competition), Anish, Garpreet Singh and Bhavesh Shekhawat (Team Competition).

**Bronze** - Sriyanka Sadangi and Akhil Sheoran (Team Competition).

## Other

### National Senior Volleyball Championship

Tamil Nadu won the men's title by defeating Punjab in the final of the 71st National Senior Volleyball Championship played in Chennai on 10 April, 2022. In the women's section, Railways won the title by defeating Telangana.

### World Doubles Squash Championship-2022

The World Doubles Squash Championship was held in Glasgow, Scotland from 5-9 April, 2022.

#### Mixed Doubles:-

Winner – Dipika Pallikal Karthik & Saurav Ghoshal (Both India)

Runner-up - Adrian Waller Alison Waters (both England)

#### Women's Doubles: -

Winners - Dipika Pallikal and Joshna Chinappa (Both India)

Runner-up - Sarah Jane Perry and Alison Waters (England)

#### Men's doubles: -

Winner- Declan James and James Willstrop (both England)

Runners-up - Greg Lobban and Rory Stewart (Scotland)

### Commonwealth Games

The Commonwealth Games for the year 2026 will be hosted by the Victoria province of Australia. Birmingham (England) will host the 2022 edition of the Commonwealth Games from 28 July to 8 August. Earlier, South Africa was supposed to host this year's edition, but the hosting rights were withdrawn due to lack of progress in its preparation.

Also read: The first Commonwealth Games were organized in the year 1930 in Hamilton, Canada, where 11 countries sent 400 athletes to participate in six countries and 59 events. These fairs are organized every four years since 1930 (except in 1942 and 1946 due to World War II).

## Chapter - 8

# Yojana Kurukshetra Saar

from Megazines

## Yojana

### Fintech April

#### Prime Minister Gati Shakti

The Union Cabinet approved the Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti National Master Plan for Multi-modal Connectivity for Economic Zones on 21 October, 2021. It aims to reduce the involvement of multiple departments and institutionalize the overall plan for stakeholders in major infrastructure projects. The master plan includes a holistic approach for development by integrating 16 ministries into a joint committee to implement and monitor an investment of Rs 100 crore. Under this, the sector wise details of the works to be done till the year 2024-25 are as follows:-

- In the telecom sector, the optical fiber cable network is to be laid in 3500000 km-. By 2022, all 250000 gram panchayats are to be connected with high speed internet and 4G mobile connectivity.
- New and renewable energy capacity to be increased from 87.7 GW to 225 GW. About 50 percent of the electricity generation capacity in India is to be met from renewable energy sources.
- The power transmission network is to be upgraded from 4,25,500 circuit kms to 4,54,200 circuit kms.
- In the petroleum and natural gas sector, a 17000 km-long trunk pipeline connecting major demand and supply hubs for industries is to be added, taking the total pipeline length to 34500 km- across the country. All states are to be connected to the trunk natural gas pipeline network by 2027.
- The shipping sector operated by Sagarmala aims to increase the cargo capacity at the ports from 1282 MMTPA per annum in 2020 to 1759 million MMTPA. Cargo movement on all national waterways will increase from 74 MMT in 2020 to 95 MMT. Under the regional

connectivity scheme 'UDAN', 20 airports, heliports and water airports are to be made operational.

- In the year 2022-23, the national highway network will be expanded to 25,000 mm-. The road transport operated by Bharatmala and the national highway network in the highway sector by 2024-25 is to be of **2 lakh km**. Along with the coastal areas, 5590 km- of four and six lane national highways are to be completed by 2024-25. All the state capitals of the North-Eastern region will be connected by the year 2024-25 by four-lane national highways or two alternate alignments of two-lane configuration.
- **Rivers Interlinking Projects:-** Ken-Betwa Project, Damanganga-Pinjal Project, Par-Tapi Narmada Project, Godavari-Krishna Project, Krishna-Pennar Project and Pennar-Kaveri Project.

#### Industry

- To promote industry and internal trade, 11 industrial corridors and 90 textile clusters/mega textile parks are to be developed by the year 2024-25.
- Two defense corridors are to be developed by the year 2024-25, each with a target of investment of more than ten thousand crore rupees.
- 197 Mega Food Parks and Agro Processing Centers are to be developed by the year 2024-25, which will increase the food processing and preservation capacity from 222 lakh metric tonnes to 847 lakh metric tonnes.

#### Fintech Beyond Boundaries

The government has presented to the world an amazing model of public-private partnership by building strong public infrastructure in India Stack (Bharat Punj). India Stack has four pillars.

- 1- Biometric identification as Aadhaar for identification,
- 2- Opening of bank accounts of

all through Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana and creation of financial inclusion,

- 3- Creation of a platform that can be adopted for transfer of money (immediate payment service, UPI, BBPS etc.),
- 4- Allowing banks and fintech (financial technology) companies to use platforms like UPI, Goods and Services Tax Network and DigiLocker. India is the largest and fastest growing fintech market in the world with over 2100 fintechs and the third largest fintech network after the US and China. Fintech adoption rate in India is 87 percent which is the highest in the world. The global rate of fintech adoption is 64 percent. As of December 2021, there were more than 17 fintech companies in India valued at over US\$ 1 billion, which have got 'unicorn status' and in FY-2020 alone, India's market was US\$ 50-60 billion.

The concept of Fintech Beyond Boundaries was first presented at the 'Infinity Forum'. The Forum was a major fintech and global thinking event, organized in December 2021.

### Digital identity

The Government of India had started the Aadhaar project in the year 2009. In 2014, this project was merged with 'Jan Dhan Yojana'. Under this scheme, bank accounts of lakhs of people were opened by verifying the identity with Aadhar card. As of 26 January, 2022, 44 crore 58 lakh Jan Dhan bank accounts had been opened.

### Financial Technology Revolution

The number of Internet users in the country has reached 83.40 million and the monthly transactions through UPI have reached 461.7 crore.

### Artificial Intelligence in the Financial Sector

In the last financial year, transactions worth Rs 22.5 lakh crore were done through digital systems. It is expected to increase to Rs 75 lakh crore in 2026. India ranks first in the world in terms of online transactions.

### Other Key Facts

Under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, 31-41 crore RuPay cards have been issued till 9 February 2022.

**QR Code** - Quick Response Code

**BHIM** - Bharat Interface formoney

## Kurukshetra

### Empowering Rural Women (April)

#### The Women Empowerment for a Self-reliant India

- Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana was launched in May 2016. Its objective was to provide LPG cylinders to 8 crore rural women of the country.
- The Jal Jeevan Mission aims to provide tap connections to all the households in the village by the year 2024.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched 'Mission Shakti'. Under this scheme, there is talk of creating a hub of women empowerment at the national, state and district level, providing women helpline, Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao, hostel for working women, housing for women without shelter.
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana, 43.04 crore accounts have been opened in the country. Of these, 55-47 percent (23.87 crore) accounts are of women.

#### Empowered Woman Farmer

- **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana** - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) launched in the year 2011 aims to reach 9-10 crore rural poor families by 2023-24. The objective of the mission is to include one woman member from each poor rural family in the Self Help Group.
- Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Project (MKSP) was launched in the year 2010-11 with the objective of empowering women in agriculture and non-timber products (NTFP).

#### Jal Jeevan Mission

- The 'Jal Jeevan Mission' was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15 August, 2019. Its target is to provide pure drinking water through tap connections to every rural household of the country by the year 2024. In the country's 3 States and 3 Union Territories

(Goa, Telangana, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Puducherry, Haryana and Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu) tap connections have been provided to every household in every village.

## Women's Education in the National Policy on Education

- In Para 6.2 of the National Education Policy, gender (female and transgender persons) has been considered as one of the socially and economically deprived groups. In this, the recommendation to set up a gender-inclusive fund is a revolutionary step. This gender inclusive fund will be made available to the states.
- **Rani Laxmibai Self Defense Training** - Three months self defense training is provided among girls from class 6 to 7 to develop life skills for self defense and self development.
- **Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Residential Schools / Hostels** - Less populated, hilly and densely forested difficult geographical areas and border areas, Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs), LWEs, Special Focus Districts (SFDs) and 112 identified by NITI Aayog in aspirational districts, where opening of a new primary or upper primary school and secondary/senior secondary school is not mandatory, 'Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Residential Schools' have been opened to ensure education to the children.
- **KGBV**- Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) are residential schools established in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBB) for girls belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and disadvantaged groups below the poverty line from Upper Primary to Senior Secondary. This scheme is being implemented in 30 states.

## The Women in Panchayati Raj

- In 1980, Uttar Pradesh reserved 30 percent of the posts in panchayats for women. In 1985, the G.K.V Rao committee recommended greater representation to women in panchayats.
- In 2009, Article 243 (d) of the Constitution was amended to ensure the implementation of women's reservation up to 50 percent in all

states and union territories except Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram, tribal areas of Assam, Tripura and the hilly areas of Manipur.

## Women in Entrepreneurship

- The Sixth Economic Survey was conducted between January 2013 and April 2014. The data of the 7<sup>th</sup> Economic Survey has been taken till 31 March, 2021, the report of which is yet to come. According to the Sixth Economic Survey, out of the 5.85 crore entrepreneurs present in the country, the number of women is only 13.76% i.e. 80.5 lakh. Out of the total women entrepreneurs, 27.6 lakh i.e. 34.3 percent are employed in agriculture sector.
- The 'Standup India' scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 5 April, 2016. Its objective is to ease the path of entrepreneurship for women and scheduled castes and tribes. Under this, loans ranging from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 1 crore are given for setting up an enterprise outside the agricultural sector.

## Technology Inclusive Growth

- The Central Government launched e-NAM (National Agriculture Market) in April 2016, an online platform for farmers. Through this, mandis across the country were connected. e-NAM helps farmers and traders to get information related to Agricultural Produce Marketing Societies. The number of farmers registered on e-NAM has increased to 1.66 crore.
- A comprehensive initiative named PM e-Vidya was taken under the Atmanirbhar India Campaign. The initiative includes the following programs-
- **Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA)**:- Under this, high quality education material is made available in the states and union territories through a national digital infrastructure.
- **Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM)**:- It aims to bring the best of teaching and learning practices to everyone, including the most underprivileged citizens.

**Following are the government schemes for technology enabled rural development:-**

- **Technological Upgradation for Rural Areas (TARA):-** The scheme has been run under the Skill Enhancement Education and Development Programme (SEED). The scheme promotes and nurtures science based voluntary organizations and regional institutions in the form of science and technology incubation centers and active regional laboratories in rural and other backward areas so that they can effectively develop technological solutions and technologies for livelihood generation and societal benefits.
- **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM):-** Its objective is to develop the necessary infrastructure for India's integrated digital healthcare infrastructure. It uses the digital highway to bridge the gap between different parties in the healthcare industry.
- **e-Shram:-** This platform has been created by the Ministry of Labour and Employment for the benefit of those unorganized workers who are not members of Employees' State Insurance Corporation or Employees' Provident Fund Organization.
- **Digital India Programme:-** This is a major initiative to transform the country into a knowledge-based economy and a digitally empowered society. This includes three essential areas – digital infrastructure as utility for all citizens, services on demand and empowerment of citizens through digital technology.

## Budget Speech : 2021-22

- Budget has been an important means of realizing the dream of a happy life of the common citizen, maintaining the pace of sustainable development, developing basic facilities and welfare of all sections.
  - Ashok Gehlot is the Finance Minister of Rajasthan, so he presented the budget 2022-23.
  - This budget was presented on 23 February 2022.
  - The first budget of Rajasthan was presented in the Legislative Assembly on 4 April, 1952, then Finance Minister Nathuram Mirdha presented it.
  - The first gender budget of Rajasthan state in the year 2012-13, the first paperless budget in the year 2021-22 and the first "agriculture budget" in the year 2022-23 has been presented, all these innovations were done by Ashok Gehlot as Finance Minister.
  - Fiscal deficit estimated at 23 thousand 488 crore 56 lakh in the year 2022-23.
  - The fiscal deficit is estimated to be 58 thousand 211 crore 55 lakh in the year 2022-23, which is 4.36 percent of the Gross State Domestic Product.
  - This time it has been decided not to impose any new tax. Despite the Corona epidemic, Rajasthan has shown efficient financial management.
- Major announcements made in the budget:-**
- **'Indira Gandhi Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme'** will be implemented to ensure employment in cities as well. Through this scheme, 100 days of employment will be available every year to the families residing in urban areas from the coming year on demand by them. About ` 800 crore will be spent annually on this.
  - An announcement will be made to increase the 100 days of employment available under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA scheme to 125 days at the expense of the state government in the coming year.
  - It is proposed to run "Bridge Course" of 3 months duration for school students in the coming year. A provision of ` 75 crore will be made for this.
  - Announced to increase the medical insurance amount per family per annum from ` 5 lakh to ` 10 lakh under Chiranjeevi Yojana from the coming year.
  - Chief Minister Free Medicine Scheme was launched on 2 October 2011 and Chief Minister Free Testing Scheme in April 2013. It was announced to make all the outdoor (OPD) and indoor (IPD) facilities available in all categories of government medical institutions completely free of cost to all the people of the state.
  - Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Accident Insurance Scheme will also be implemented. Under which accident insurance cover up to ` 5 lakh will also be available to the insured family in Chiranjeevi Yojana free of cost.
  - New medical institutes will be set up in Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer and Kota in the coming year at a cost of ` 250 crore. These institutes are-
    1. Institute of Neuro Science and Ophthalmology- Jaipur
    2. Institute of Neuro Science- Jodhpur.
    3. Institute of Pediatrics, Nanotology and maternity quota
    4. Institute of Pediatrics and Nanotology- Ajmer
  - New Dental College is proposed to be established in Jodhpur.
  - Ayurved College will be opened in Taranagar, Churu and Ayurveda Nursing College in Bharatpur.

- With a view to reduce accidents by improving road safety bringing the Road Safety Act, it is proposed to set up a 'Rajasthan Public Transport Authority'
- State Road Safety Institute will be opened in HCM RIPA, Jaipur.
- In the coming year, one thousand more Mahatma Gandhi English Medium Schools will be started in urban and rural areas.
- In the memory of the country's first education minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Maulana Azad University, Jodhpur, established in the year 2013, will set up 'Centre of Excellence and Research' for research on social harmony at a cost of ` 15 crore.
- Expanding the scope of Mukhya Mantri Anupriti Coaching Scheme, it is proposed to benefit 15 thousand students under this.
- Savitri Bai Phule reading rooms will be set up in each district.
- Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Governance and Social Sciences (MGIGSS)-Jaipur.
- Sumer Public Library-Jodhpur will be modernized.
- The library of Shri Hindi Sahitya Samiti located in Bharatpur is unique in itself, it will be modernized.
- It was proposed to set up residential para sports academy in Jaipur and Jodhpur for high technical training, training equipments and practice to para players.
- A 'Multipurpose Indoor Stadium' will be built in Tonk.
- Expansion and upgradation of physical education college will be done in Jodhpur and Rajasthan State Sports Institute will be established under Sports Department.
- A 'Rajasthan High Performance Sports Training and Rehabilitation Center' will be set up in Jodhpur.
- Kabaddi Academy will be constructed at Rajgarh, Churu and Athletics Academy at Sriganganagar.
- Sports hostel will be constructed at Chaurasi, Dungarpur.
- A 250-room Nehru-Youth Transit Hostel and Facilitation Center for 500 youth will be set up at 'Udaipur House' in Delhi at a cost of ` 300 crore.
- Rajiv Gandhi Knowledge Service and Innovation Hubs will be set up in Jaipur, Jodhpur and Kota. It is also proposed to make a separate place for women in these buildings.
- It has been proposed to start 'Mukhyamantri Work from Home-Job Work Yojana' for women who can contribute to the livelihood of the family. It is proposed to benefit 20 thousand women under this scheme in the coming year.
- With a view to encourage activities related to Bharat Scouts and Guides in Rajasthan The 18th National Bharat Scout Guide Jamboree will be organized in Rohat-Pali.
- Science centers will be set up in Bikaner, Bharatpur and Kota to develop scientific temper among the general public, especially the youth.
- To prevent irregularities happening in the recruitment examinations Anti Cheating Cell will be formed in SOG.
- In the coming year, 32 industrial areas will be established. 'Multi Storied Industrial Complex' will be developed in Salarpur Industrial Area-Greater Bhiwadi and Boranada Jodhpur at a cost of ` 250-250 crore.
- An additional 'Inland Dry Port' will be set up in Jodhpur.
- Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemicals Investment Region (PCPIR) will be established in Pachpadra-Barmer in an area of 383 sq.km.
- With a view to provide a comfortable and safe environment to the industrial units in the state, a 'Rajasthan Industrial Security Force (RISF)' will be formed on the lines of 'Central Industrial Security Force'. In the coming year, 2,000 security personnel will be recruited under this.
- A EWS fund of ` 100 crores will be created with a view to provide opportunities for economic growth to the family of Economically Weaker Section (EWS) of general category.
- 358 Indira Rasoi are being operated under Indira Rasoi Yojana, whose number will be

increased to 1000. An annual expenditure of ₹ 250 crore is proposed on this. Its goal is to provide quality food at affordable rates in urban areas.

- In the coming year, under the Chief Minister Divyang Scooty Yojana, it was announced to increase the number of scooties from 2 thousand to 5 thousand.
- Baba Amte Divyang University will be established at Jamdoli, Jaipur.
- Chief Minister Rehabilitation Home Scheme is proposed to be implemented on the lines of "Apna Ghar" Institution with a view to providing residential institutions for the homeless, old people, working women and helpless/destitute persons in the state.
- Economic and social upliftment of Mirasi, community (Mirasi, Dhadhi, Mir, Manganiyar, Damami, Nagarchi, Langa, Rana) and Bhishti community in the state and support will be provided.
- In the year 2020-21, 'Indira Gandhi Matrutva Poshal Yojana' was started for Pratapgarh, Banswara, Udaipur, Dungarpur and Baran districts. Under this, an assistance of ₹ 6,000 is provided on the birth of the second child. Now expanding the scope of the scheme, it will be implemented in the entire state.
- Announcement was made to increase the assistance amount to orphan children of 0-6 age group from ₹ 500 per month to ₹ 1500 and for orphan children of 6-18 age group from ₹ 1000 to ₹ 2500 per month under Palanhar Yojana.
- In the coming year, Savitri Bai Phule girls hostels will be opened in Jaisalmer, Dausa, Ajmer, Tonk, Barmer and Jalore with the aim of promoting girl child education.
- In the coming year, ₹ 10 crore will be made available for each assembly constituency, increasing the amount of ₹ 5 crore for the road works in the assembly constituency.
- It is proposed to start Mukhyamantri Kshetriya Gramin Vikas Yojna for systematic infrastructure and rural development in the

inaccessible, remote and backward areas of the state.

- Development Authority will be formed in Udaipur and Kota.
- The central government has included 4 urban areas of the state Jaipur, Ajmer, Kota and Udaipur under the Smart City Mission. With a view to overall development of Jodhpur, Bikaner, Bharatpur, Alwar, Bhilwara and Chittorgarh cities, it has been announced to implement Rajasthan Smart City Scheme with a provision of ₹ 1500 crore in the next two years.
- It is also proposed to start work of 36 major drinking water projects under Jal Jeevan Mission in the year 2022-23.
- Under Mount Abu Urban Drinking Water Scheme, it is proposed to get other works done including construction of dam in Salgaon-Sirohi.
- On the lines of World Forestry Garden Jhalana Dungri (Jaipur), Botanical Gardens will be established in Jodhpur, Bikaner, Kota, Udaipur, Bharatpur and Ajmer.
- "Captive Animal Sponsorship Scheme" will be started for adoption of wildlife living in biological parks by public, organization, corporate, wildlife lover etc.
- Modern wildlife disease diagnosis and rescue centers will be developed in a phased manner in all the biological parks of the state. In the first phase, such centers will be set up at Nahargarh Biological Park, Jaipur and Machia Biological Park, Jodhpur.
- To ensure proper arrangement for disposal of e-waste, a "e-waste disposal policy" will be brought in.
- It is proposed to set up a 'e-Waste Recycling Park' in Jaipur.
- Increase in the amount of Tourism Development Fund from ₹ 500 crore to ₹ 1000 crore.
- In order to promote adventure tourism activities, the Adventure Tourism Promotion Scheme will be brought in.
- With a view to provide convenience to the tourists, integrated online booking portal and

mobile app will be developed at a cost of ` 10 crore.

- To ensure the safety and assistance of tourists, 500 "Tourist Mitras" will be recruited for important tourist destinations.
- With the aim of promoting tourism in Dungarpur and Banswara region, 'Vagad Tourist Circuit' will be developed.
- Rajiv Gandhi Central Park will be constructed in Sawai Madhopur.
- DPR for Rope-way will be prepared for Trinetra Ganesh Temple, Sawai Madhopur and Rameshwar Mahadev Temple, Bundi.
- Vedic Gurukul will be set up at Govind Guru Tribal University, Banswara.
- In order to prevent cyber crimes, strengthen the security of the digital ecosystem from cyber threats and create awareness among the public Centre for Cyber Security will be set up and Cyber Police Stations will be set up in all the districts of the state.
- Anti narcotics post will be made in Malarampur, Hanumangarh. Family courts will be opened in Bhilwara, Sri Ganganagar and Udaipur.
- The construction of 'Bar Council of Rajasthan' will be done in the premises of Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur.
- With the establishment of Lokmitra in Jaipur in the year 2002, a new era of providing services to the people easily without having to go to the government offices had begun. This same Lokmitra, today is providing online services in the form of E-Mitra and E-Mitra Plus.
- With a view to providing information about welfare schemes and to provide benefits of government facilities to the eligible families sitting at home, it was proposed to start "Mukhyamantri Digital Seva Yojana". Under this, women heads of Chiranjeevi families were announced to be given smartphones with internet connectivity for three years.
- In the year 2009-10, the state's first integrated call Centre was established. At present it is functioning as a 400-Seater Call Centre, 181 CM Helpline. It was announced to strengthen this

181 CM Helpline Centre to increase it from 400 to 1000 Seater Call Centre.

- Rajasthan Guarantee Service Delivery and Accountability Act was proposed to be brought.
- Sainik Kalyan Bhawan will be constructed in Jaipur.
- Announcement was made to implement Old Pension Scheme (OPS) before the coming year for all the employees appointed on and after 1 January, 2004.
- It has been proposed to start Rajasthan Irrigation Restructuring Programme for the economic upliftment of the farmers by ensuring the availability of water for irrigation in the state. Under this, various works will be done in the next 3 years at a cost of about Rs.14 thousand 860 crores.
- The amount of Mukhyamantri Krishak Saathi Yojana has been increased from ` 2 thousand crore to ` 5 thousand crore.
- Under this scheme, work is proposed to be done on a "Mission Mode" to implement the schemes of agriculture and all its related sectors more effectively. These 11 missions are-
  1. Rajasthan Micro Irrigation Mission
  2. Rajasthan Organic Farming Mission
  3. Rajasthan Seed Production and Distribution Mission
  4. Rajasthan Millets Promotion Mission
  5. Rajasthan Protected Farming Mission
  6. Rajasthan Horticulture Development Mission
  7. Rajasthan Crop Protection Mission
  8. Rajasthan Land Fertilization Mission
  9. Rajasthan Krishi Shramik Sambal Mission
  10. Rajasthan Agricultural Technology Mission
  11. Rajasthan Food Processing Mission
- In the coming year, mini food parks will be set up in Jhalawar, Bhilwara, Bharatpur, Kota, Tonk, Bundi, Baran, Hanumangarh, Chittorgarh, Ajmer and Udaipur districts at a cost of ` 220 crore.

- A mini agro park will be built in Tonk. Krishi Vigyan Kendra will be opened at Deoli (Tonk).
- Animal Husbandry Training Institute will be opened in Nathdwara, Rajsamand. Milk processing plant will be set up in Rajsamand district itself at a cost of 30 crores.
- It has been proposed to implement camel protection and development policy for the rearing, protection and overall development of the state animal camel in the state. Under this, a provision of ` 10 crore will be made for the coming year.
- College of Veterinary Science will be opened in Malsisar, Jhunjhunu.
- In order to encourage milk producers, 'Mukhyamantri Milk Dugdha Utpadak Sambal Yojana' was launched on 1 April, 2013 for ` 2 per liter milk grant. It was the first in the country. This scheme has been started again by the state government from 1st February, 2010.
- An announcement was made to increase the grant amount payable on milk from ` 2 per liter to ` 5 per liter under this scheme from the coming year.
- It has been announced to implement the Stamp Duty Amnesty Scheme-2022 from the coming year, which will be till 30 September 2022. In this scheme, along with 100% exemption in interest and penalty, it is proposed to give 50% exemption in the due stamp duty.
- For years, there has been a demand from the tourism sector to give it industry status. Many announcements have been made since the year 1989 till now, but the status of industry could not be achieved in real terms, with a view to strengthen this sector, it was announced to give full recognition to the tourism and hospitality sector as Industry Sector'. Now Governmental Tariffs and Levies will be payable as per the Industrial Norms in future.
- Under the Rajasthan MSME (Facilitation of Establishment and Operation) Act-2019, it was announced to exempt enterprises from approvals and inspections for 5 years instead of 3 years to provide support to the entrepreneurs.
- Excise Amnesty Scheme-2022 is proposed to be introduced.
- With a view to progressively increase the investment in the state, making RIPS-2019 more comprehensive, it is now proposed to bring 'Rajasthan Investment Promotion Scheme-2022'.
- In the year 2021-22, there was a provision of ` 5 crore for running 'Lt. Shri Gurusharan Chhabra Public Awareness Campaign' for alcohol control from moral, religious and health point of view, now it has been increased to ` 10 crore.
- Now complex health services like cochlear implant, bone marrow transplant, organ transplant, blood, platelets and plasma transfusion and limb prosthesis (bone cancer) have been included and will be available free of cost in Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima.

#### Other important facts-

- Approval for the formation of a high-level committee with regard to the formation of new districts in the state in March 2022 and to assess their need, which will be headed by Ramlubhaya.
- On 9 March, 2022, RSMML and Barmer Lignite Mining Company Limited was awarded the "National Safety Award" (Mining).
- On 24 March, 2022, in compliance with Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot's budget speech 2022-23, approval was issued by the Education Department of Rajasthan to convert 179 schools into Mahatma Gandhi English medium schools.
- Rajasthan has stood first in the country in the implementation of MNREGA. In this financial year, 40 crore man-days have been created providing employment to about 70 lakh families.