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## **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 29-09-2022**

### **NATIONAL NEWS**

#### **Indian government introduces 'Sign Learn'**

- The Center produced the "Sign Learn" smartphone app, a lexicon of 10,000 words for Indian Sign Language (ISL).
- The app was introduced by Pratima Bhoumik, a minister of state for social justice and empowerment.
- Sign Learn is built on the lexicon of the 10,000-word Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC).
- For the 'Sign Learn' smartphone app, ISLRTC and NCERT worked together to release 500 academic words in Indian Sign Language.

#### **'Visit AP' Campaign**

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the 'Visit AP' campaign at Vijayawada.
- The launch coincided with World Tourism Day. "The Visit Andhra Pradesh 2023 campaign aims to promote tourism, travel, hospitality and adventure.
- As part of this campaign, Andhra Pradesh will observe 2023 as 'Visit Andhra Pradesh' year to enhance tourism with particular emphasis on attracting foreign tourists.

### **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

## **Bilateral Fast-Track Mechanism**

- India and the Netherlands have signed a joint statement to formalize the bilateral Fast-Track Mechanism between the two countries.
- The Joint statement aims to facilitate a platform for the Dutch companies operating in India, for faster resolution of investment cases.
- It is expected that the mechanism will strengthen and assist bilateral efforts to increase mutual investment activities and also support and develop business cooperation between companies in both countries.
- Commerce and Industry Ministry of India announced that the Netherlands is the fourth largest foreign direct investor in India.
- The cumulative flow of FDI from the Netherlands to India reached around 42.3 billion US dollars between April 2000 and June 2022.

## **Indian Fertiliser Companies Sign MoU with Canadian Company**

- Indian Fertiliser companies have signed an MoU with Canpotex, Canada one of the largest Potash suppliers globally.
- The Indian companies are Coromandel International, Chambal Fertilizers and Indian Potash Limited.
- MoU will reduce both supply and price volatility and ensure a stable long-term supply of Potassic fertilizer to India.
- Canpotex company will supply up to 15 Lakh tonnes of Potash annually for a period of three years to the Indian Fertilizer companies.
- This supply partnership is expected to improve the fertiliser availability within the country and reduce supply side and price vulnerabilities.

## **G-20 Summit**

- Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar arrived in Bali, Indonesia on a three-day visit to participate in G-20 Summit.
- Mr. Tomar held separate bilateral meetings with the Canadian Minister of Agriculture Marie-Claude Bibeau and Australia Assistant Minister for Trade and Manufacturing, Tim Ayres.
- Mr Tomar extended invitation to both the Ministers for the G-20 Agri-Summit to be hosted by India in 2023.
- Besides, he also sought their support for the International Year of Millets - 2023 to be celebrated under India's stewardship.

# **BANKING**

## **Ethical Hacking Lab**

- Union Bank of India has inaugurated 'Ethical Hacking Lab' at the Cyber security Centre of Excellence (CCoE) in Hyderabad.
- The main objective is to build cyber defence mechanism to safeguard the Bank's Information Systems, Digital Assets, Channels etc against potential cyber threats.
- The Ethical Hacking Lab was inaugurated by MD & CEO, Union Bank of India A. Manimekhalai.
- Union Bank is adopting various new initiatives to increase Digital Footprints.

## **Reits and Invits to Issue Commercial Papers**

- Capital markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) allowed emerging investment vehicles, Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) and Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) to issue commercial papers.
- The move came after Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Commercial Paper Directions indicated that InvIT and REIT having a net worth of at least Rs 100 crore are eligible to issue commercial paper
- At present, there are 3 listed REITs Embassy Office Parks REIT, Mindspace Business Parks REIT and Brookfield India Real Estate Trust on Indian stock exchanges.
- The issuance of listed CPs should be within the overall debt limit permitted under the REITs and InvITs rules.
- CP refers to a short-term debt instrument issued by companies to garner funds generally for a period of up to one year.

## **Yubi Partners with SBI**

- Yubi (earlier, CredAvenue) has partnered with the State Bank of India (SBI) to help grow the bank's co-lending portfolio.
- SBI will be integrated with Yubi Co.Lend, a co-lending marketplace that enables lenders to collaborate with multiple partners and disburse joint loans to the priority sector.
- Yubi is a unified credit platform with a comprehensive product which support to all stages of the debt lifecycle.
- As part of this collaboration, Yubi Co.Lend will assist SBI in collaborating with an extensive base of non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), housing finance companies (HFCs) and fintechs to grow its co-lending business.

# SPORTS

## Jhulan Goswami Retires from International Cricket

- The legendary Women's Cricketer, Jhulan Goswami announced her retirement from all forms of the game.
- She made her ODI debut in 2002 against England.
- She holds the record for taking the greatest number of wickets in Women's ODI cricket.
- She also won the ICC Women's Player of the Year award in 2007.
- She played 204 Women's ODI matches taking 255 wickets at an average of 22.04.

# AWARDS & PRIZES

## National Tourism Awards

- The Union Ministry of Tourism presented awards in 8 different categories to Madhya Pradesh under the 'National Tourism Awards 2018-19' at the award function held in New Delhi on World Tourism Day.
- The state has received awards for the first time in the categories "Clean Tourism Place - Western Region" (Ujjain) and "Incredible India Bed and Breakfast Establishment Approved by State Government" (Cottyard House, Homestay, Mandla).
- Guides of Madhya Pradesh have been awarded for the 'Best Wildlife Guide' for the fourth time in a row.
- Indore, the cleanest city in the country won the award for 'Civic Management of a Tourist Destination in India' (Category A).

# APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

## Chief of Defence Staff

- Lt General Anil Chauhan (retired) had been appointed as the next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS).
- The CDS is the most senior uniformed officer in rank, the first among equals-the only four-star officers in the country are the CDS, the chiefs of the Indian Army, Indian Navy and Indian Air Force.

- He will also function as Secretary to the GoI, Department of Military Affairs.
- Lt Gen Anil Chauhan was commissioned into the 11 Gorkha Rifles of the Indian Army in 1981.
- Lt General Anil Chauhan (retired) was awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Uttam Yudh Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Sena Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal.
- He is the second CDS of India as the post of CDS has been vacant since the sudden death of India's first CDS Gen. Bipin Rawat.

## **Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia**

- Saudi Arabia's powerful Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman has been appointed prime minister of the Kingdom by King Salman bin Abdulaziz.
- According to a royal decree, King Salman also promoted his second son Prince Khalid from deputy Defence Minister to Defence Minister.
- The 37-year-old crown prince has taken the lead on Vision 2030, the kingdom's wide-ranging plan to transform its economy and end its dependency on oil.

# **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

## **VSHORADS Missile**

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) carried out two successful test flights of the Very-Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missile.
- The missiles were test-fired from a ground-based portable launcher. The tests were carried out from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur, the coast of Odisha.
- VSHORADS is a Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD) designed and developed indigenously by DRDO's Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories and Indian Industry Partners.

# **IMPORTANT DAYS**

## **World Rabies Day**

- World Rabies Day is celebrated every year on 28 September.
- Rabies is a deadly virus that spreads to people from the saliva of infected animals.
- World Rabies Day is celebrated to raise awareness about the deadly disease and educate people on how to fight against this disease.
- The theme for the year 2022 is 'Rabies: One Health, Zero Deaths'.

- The Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC) established World Rabies Day in 2007.
- This day was recognized by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- They choose the date 28th September to observe World Rabies Day to remember the French Scientist Louis Pasteur who developed the first rabies vaccine.



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