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1. Union Finance Minister Sitharaman launches e-learning platform 'Bharat Vidya' (Sept. 21, 2022)

The Union Minister for Finance Nirmala Sitharaman launched Bharat Vidya.in, an online learning platform for Oriental and South Asian studies, in Pune, on 21 September 2022.

Bharat Vidya has been developed by the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune.

It is a first-of-its-kind online platform, which will offer both free and paid courses covering various aspects of Indology pertaining to art, architecture, philosophy, language and science.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute:

- The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune was set up on 6 July 1917 to commemorate the work of Ramkrishna Gopal Bhandarkar. Bhandarkar was a pioneer of scientific orientology in India.
- Orientology is the study of the ancient indigenous lore and wisdom of the East or the 'Orient'.
- The institute has one of the largest collections of rare books and manuscripts spanning over 1, 25,000 books and over 28,000 manuscripts in Sanskrit, Prakrit, Indian regional languages, Classical, Asean and European languages.

2. Braille version of Assamese Dictionary 'Hemkosh' gifted to PM Modi (Sept. 21, 2022)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was given a copy of the Braille version of Assamese Dictionary 'Hemkosh' from Jayanta Baruah in New Delhi on 21 September 2022.

Assam Chief Minister **Himanta Biswa Sarma** and Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways AYUSH **Sarbananda Sonowal** were also present at the occasion.

Hemkosh is the first etymological dictionary of the Assamese language based on Sanskrit spellings. It was compiled by **Hemchandra Baruah** in the 19th century.

The Braille version 'Hemkosh' was conceptualized and published by **Jayanta Baruah**.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

Braille system:

- Braille is a universally accepted system of writing used for visually impaired persons. It consists of **63 characters**, each made of one to six raised dots arranged in a sixposition matrix or cell.
- These characters are embossed in a line on paper and a person reads it by passing the fingers lightly over the manuscript.
- It was invented by Louis Braille in 1824 in Paris.

3. Dhar wind project commissioned by Adani Green Energy (Sept. 20, 2022)

The Adani Green Energy Limited has commissioned a 325 megawatt wind energy plant in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh. In a statement issued by the company on 19 September 2022 the total operational capacity of the company has now increased to 6.1 gigawatt (GW).

IMPORTANT FACTS -

Wind Energy in India:

- India has the **fourth largest** installed wind power capacity in the world after China, U.S and Germany.
- The Government of India has set a target of 140 GW of installed wind power capacity by 2030.
- According to the Government of India the current installed capacity in India was **40.13 GW** (source PIB).
- **Tamil Nadu** has the largest installed wind power capacity in the country followed by Gujarat and Maharashtra.
- Tamil Nadu has the country's biggest onshore wind farm in the form of the 1,500
 MW Muppandal facility located in Kanyakumari district.

4. Manipur CM launches 'CM Da Haisi' web portal to address public grievances (Sept. 20, 2022)

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh on 19 September launched a web portal to redress the grievances of the people and to resolve the issues related to corruption.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The name of the web portal is **'CM Da Haisi**' (Inform to CM) and the public can raise their grievances in the web portal by logging on to www.cmdahaisi.mn.gov.in.
- The complainants can also check the status of their complaints through this portal.
- Phone numbers for the Anti-Corruption Cell are also provided on the portal.

The Public Grievance Redressal and Anti-Corruption Cell located in the Chief Minister's

• Secretariat will use the portal to establish liaison with the concerned department for redressal of public grievances within the stipulated time.

About Manipur:

- Manipur is also called the 'Orchid Basket' of the country. 500 species of orchid flowers are found here.
- This northeastern state is described as Swarna Bhoomi or 'Suvarnabhu'.
- The major population here is Manipuri people known as **Meiti.**
- Loktak Lake is an important lake here.
- The language of the people here is Manipuri, which was added to the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India in 1992.
- Capital- Imphal
- Governor- L A Ganesan
- Chief Minister- N Biren Singh

5. Union Bank and Federal Bank starts RBI Digital KCC pilot Project in MP and Tamilnadu respectively (Sept. 20, 2022)

The public sector bank Union Bank of India and the private banks Federal Bank have launched a pilot project to digitize Kisan credit Card (KCC) to transform rural credit delivery systems and to improve the quality of credit delivery in the rural areas.

Public sector lender Union Bank of India started the pilot from **Harda district in Madhya Pradesh** while private sector lender **Federal Bank** began the project from **Chennai**, **Tamilnadu**.

The pilot project of the banks is part of the RBI initiative for end-to-end digitalisation of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) lending, developed by the <u>Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) Bengaluru</u>.

Under the project the banks will issue KCC to the eligible farmers without insisting on physical records such as land documents and in person visits to the branch.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

Union Bank of India:

- It is a public sector bank owned by the government of India
- It was set up as a private bank in 1919 and was nationalized in 1969.
- Andhra Bank and Corporation bank was merged with Union Bank on 1 April 2020.
- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD and CEO: A. Manimekhalai
- Tagline of the Bank: Good people to Bank with

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

Federal Bank:

- It is a private sector bank which was set up in 1931.
- Headquarters : Aluva, Kochi, Kerala
- Chief Executive Officer: Shyam Srinivasan
- Tagline : Your Perfect Banking Partner

6. Andaman and Nicobar Islands declared India's first Swachh Sujal Pradesh (Sept. 19, 2022)

The Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has declared Andaman and Nicobar Islands as India's first Swachh Sujal Pradesh, by handing over the certificate to the Lieutenant Governor Admiral DK Joshi.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- All villages of Andaman and Nicobar Island have been certified as Har Ghar Jal and also verified as open defecation free ODF plus.
- In order to be certified as a Swachh Sujal Pradesh, the State or the Union Territory has to be certified Har Ghar Jal as well shall be open defecation free.
- Certified Har Ghar Jal means that the Gram sabha of every village in the state or the Union Territory has to pass a resolution certifying that all households in the villages have access to safe drinking water through taps.
- The villages also have to confirm through a resolution of the Gram Sabha, that every household is getting regular supply of water of prescribed quality and not a single household is left out.
- They have to also confirm that all schools, anganwadi centres and other public institutions are also getting tap water.

Open Defecation Free (ODF):

- 'Open Defecation Free' (ODF) is a term used to describe communities that are using toilets instead of open defecation.
- A village that maintains Open Defecation Free (ODF) status, ensures solid and liquid waste management and is visually clean is called "**ODF Plus Village**".
- Toilet facilities should be ensured in all households, primary schools, panchayat houses and Anganwadi centres in these villages.
- At least 80% of households should manage their solid and liquid waste effectively and have minimum litter and minimum stagnant water.
- ODF Plus villages have been divided into three categories -Aspiring, Rising and Model.

Note:

- Burhanpur district of Madhya Pradesh is the first certified Har Ghar Jal District in India.
- Goa is the first state to be certified as Har Ghar Jal state.
- Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu are the first Har Ghar Jal certified Union Territory(UT) in the country.

7. 22 September State legislature proceedings to be dedicated to female legislators: CM Yoqi (Sept. 19, 2022)

The Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has said that 23 September 2022 proceedings of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council will be dedicated to the women members of both the houses.

This is for the first time that a day's proceedings has been solely dedicated to the women members of the state legislature.

According to the speaker of the legislative assembly Satish Mahana only the women members of the house will be allowed to speak after the question hour.

Currently the Uttar Pradesh legislative Assembly has 47 women members and the Legislative Council has 6 members.

The Monsoon session of the Uttar Pradesh legislature will be from 19 -23 September 2022.

No reason has been given by the chief minister why this day has been chosen for the occasion.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

Uttar Pradesh legislature :

- Uttar Pradesh has a bicameral legislature. The upper house is called the Legislative Council and the Lower House is called Legislative Assembly.
- The Legislative council consists of **100 members** and Kunwar Manvendra Singh is the chairman of the legislative council.
- Total women member in the present **Legislative council is 6.**

Legislative Assembly:

- The first legislative Assembly was constituted on **8th March**, **1952**.
- The present assembly is the **Eighteenth Legislative Assembly**, which was constituted on 11th March, 2022.
- The total members in the house is **404**, highest in the country. The total number of women members in the current house **is 47**.
- Shri **Satish Mahana** is the Speaker of Legislative Assembly.

8. Vice President asks media to be extra careful while reporting about judiciary (Sept. 19, 2022)

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, in his address as the Chief Guest at the first 'Justice JS Verma Memorial Lecture' held in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh on September 18, urged the media to be extra careful while reporting about the judiciary.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- He said that we must uphold the dignity of the judges and respect for the judiciary, as these are the fundamental principles of the rule of law and constitutionalism.
- He said that a strong, fair and independent justice system is the guarantee of democratic values to flourish and be effective.
- In the first 'Justice JS Verma Memorial Lecture', the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul delivered the keynote address.
- After the memorial lecture, the Vice President paid homage by garlanding the statues of Raja Shankar Shah and Kunwar Raghunath Shah.

Justice J S Verma:

- Justice Jagdish Sharan Verma was the **Chief Justice of India** from 25 March 1997 to 18 January 1998.
- He was appointed Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court on 14 June 1986.
- He was transferred to the Rajasthan High Court as its **Chief Justice** on 1 September 1986.
- He was appointed Acting Governor of **Rajasthan twice.**
- In 2013, the Justice JS Verma committee recommended sweeping changes to the laws relating to sexual harassment at the workplace.
- The panel was formed in 2012 after the December 16 **Nirbhaya gangrape**, which submitted its report in 2013.

9. Niti Aayog-like body to be set up in Maharashtra (Sept. 19, 2022)

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on September 18 announced that an institute on the lines of NITI Aayog would be set up in the state for comprehensive data analysis and decision making after in-depth study in various areas.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- A delegation led by **Chief Minister Eknath Shinde** met the Chief Executive Officer and other officials of NITI Aayog on 18 September.
- It was proposed that an institute on the lines of **NITI Aayog will be set up in the State** for comprehensive data analysis and decision making after in-depth study in various fields.
- Monetization of assets, technology in agriculture, transportation for alternative fuels or EV policy, non-conventional energy, health care, etc., were discussed during the meeting between NITI Aayog officials.
- NITI Aayog has also conducted a comprehensive study on similar issues and developed a tool where a comprehensive analysis of data of various departments is done for better decision making process.
- Maharashtra is aiming to become a trillion dollar economy in the coming years.
- The state government had also prepared a **five-point agenda** while presenting the budget for 2022-23 in March.

NITI Aayog:

- It is the apex public policy think tank of the Government of India and responsible for bringing ideas and focus to key areas through policy formulation.
- It is also responsible for promoting cooperative federalism in the country through the participation of state governments in the economic policy-making process.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

About Maharashtra :

- Establishment 1st May 1960
- Official Language Marathi
- Neighbouring States Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka,
 Goa, Dadra And Nagar Haveli, Chhattisgarh
- Members of Parliament Lok Sabaha 48 (Raiva Sabha seats 19)
- Legislature Bicameral (Assembly 289 and council 78 seats)
- Literacy 82.91%
- Districts 36
- Major Rivers Tributaries of Tapti, Bhima, Godavari and Krishna
- Capital Mumbai

Population - 11.23 crore (2011 census)

10. Himachal Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur inaugurates National Conference of tourism ministers (Sept. 18, 2022)

The Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur inaugurated a three-day (18-20 September) national conference of tourism ministers from various states and Union territories at Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh on 18 September 2022.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Union Minister for Culture and Tourism **G Kishan Reddy** was the Chief Guest.
- The conference in Dharamshala is being attended by tourism ministers from various states and Union Territories and other officials related to the tourism sectors.
- With India assuming the Presidency of the <u>G20</u> for one year from December 1, 2022, to November 30, 2023, Tourism-related aspects of the G20 leaders' summit will be discussed at the event.
- India is expected to host over 200 G20 meetings during its year-long Presidency of the influential group, which will culminate with an annual summit on September 9 and 10 next year.