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1. 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 [G20](#) 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.

2. Amidst controversy Amit shah inaugurates Hyderabad Liberation Day celebration (Sept. 17, 2022)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the year-long celebrations of Hyderabad Liberation Day at the parade grounds in Hyderabad, Telangana on 17 September 2022. However the celebration has become controversial after the Telangana Chief Minister announced to observe the day as [Telangana National Integration Day](#). The center move has also been criticized by the Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi.

Both the Chief Minister and Owaisi considers Centre's move as communal.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Speaking on the occasion, Amit Shah said for the first time liberation day is being held officially on the land of Telangana after 75 years. He said some political parties feel ashamed to call September 17 Hyderabad Liberation Day as they still have fear of Razakars (Nizam's para military force) in their mind.
- Maharashtra Chief Minister **Eknath Shinde**, Karnataka Transport Minister Sriramulu and Union Culture minister Kishan Reddy participated in the event while **Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao** stayed away from the event.
- Telangana Liberation Day is observed on 17 September to mark the popular rebellion against the ruler of Hyderabad, Nizam after Independence. It subsequently led to the

Police action by India, code named '**operation polo**' in 1948 and the Hyderabad princely state was merged with India.

3. Sudarsan Patnaik creates Modi sand sculpture with Kulhar on PM's birthday (Sept. 17, 2022)

Famous sand artist and Padam Shri awardee, Sudarsan Patnaik of Odisha has paid tribute to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his 72 birthday in his own unique way.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- He made a 5 feet sand statue of the PM with the message 'Happy Birthday Modi ji' by placing 1,213 Kulhar (clay tea cups) at **Puri beach** on 17 September 2022. He used 5 tonnes of sand for the purpose.
- Sudarsan Patnaik has participated in more than 60 international sand art championships and festivals around the world and has won many awards.
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4. World's largest blood donation drive launched in Gujarat (Sept. 17, 2022)

The Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel launched the world's largest blood donation drive on 17 September 2022 on the occasion of the 72nd birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Ahmedabad.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The 'Mega Blood Donation Drive' has been organized by **Akhil Bharatiya Terapanth Yuva Parishad** Ahmedabad. According to the organizers "the target is to get more than 1, 50,000 units of blood donation by organizing around 2,000 Blood Donation Camps"
- Meanwhile in New Delhi the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya launched [**Raktdaan Amrit Mahotsav**](#), a countrywide mega drive for voluntary blood donation from 17th September to 1st October this year.
- 1st October is observed as the **National Voluntary Blood Donation Day**.

5. PM Narendra Modi releases 8 Cheetahs in MP's Kuno National Park (Sept. 17, 2022)

The first batch of cheetahs, translocated from Namibia to India, has been released into the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 17.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Cheetahs (**5 females and 3 males**) have been brought from Namibia in Africa as part of '**Project Cheetah**'.
- Eight cheetahs were brought in a cargo plane to Gwalior as part of an intercontinental **cheetah translocation project**.
- Later, helicopters from the Indian Air Force transported the cheetahs from Gwalior Air Force Station to **Kuno National Park**.
- This is the first time in the world that a large carnivore has been transferred from one continent to another.
- The cheetahs have been brought under a memorandum of understanding signed earlier this year.

Reintroduction Action Plan :

- Reintroduction of a species means releasing it in an area where it is capable of surviving.
- Under the scheme, 50 cheetahs will be released in various national parks of the country over a period of 5 years.

Extinction of cheetahs :

- The last cheetah of the country was found dead in the year **1947 in Chhattisgarh** and in the year **1952** it was declared extinct in the country.
- Habitat loss, conflict with humans, poaching and high susceptibility to diseases are the major causes of their extinction.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***About 'Project Cheetah' :***

- This is a one of its kind project in which a species is being brought out of the country (from **South Africa / Namibia**) and restored to the country.
- The subspecies of the extinct cheetah in India was the **Asiatic cheetah (Acinonyx jubatus venaticus)** and the subspecies of the cheetah being brought back to the country is the **African cheetah (Acinonyx jubatus jubatus)**.
- Research has shown that the genes of both these subspecies are similar.

6. 8 Tribal militant group in Assam to join the national mainstream (Sept. 16, 2022)

In a significant breakthrough to the peace process in Assam 8 tribal /Adivasi militant organisations signed a peace agreement with the Assam Government and the Central government on 15 September 2022 in Guwahati.

The Agreement was signed in the presence of the Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** and the Assam chief minister **Himanta Biswa Sarma**.

The leaders of the 8 group including the All Adivasi National Liberation Army, the Adivasi Cobra Militant of Assam, the Birsa Commando Force, the Santhal Tiger Force, and the Adivasi People's Army, Tiwa Liberation Army ,Gorkha People's Organisations , Kuki Tribal Union .

The groups have been in ceasefire since 2012 and living in designated camps.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

Active militant groups in Assam :

- Except the hardline faction of the banned **United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), led by Paresh Baruah**, and the **Kamatapur Liberation Organisation**, all other rebel groups active in the state have entered into peace agreements with the government.

Mainstreaming the militants :

- With the formal signing of the peace pact the Central government and the state government will take steps for the rehabilitation of these militants so as to assimilate them in the national mainstream.
- The Centre also announced a Rs **1,000-crore development package**. Both the Center and the state government will contribute Rs 500 crore each. The package will be used for infrastructure development in the villages and areas where the adivasi population live.

7. Tamilnadu Government to launch 'SIRPI' programme in Schools (Sept. 14, 2022)

The Tamil Nadu government will launch SIRPI (Students In Responsible Police Initiative) along the lines of the National Cadet Corps (NCC).

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The initiative will be launched by the Chief Minister M K Stalin. The Greater Chennai Police is forming SIRPI units. In the first stage, 50 students will be selected from 100 schools.
- According to the Tamil Nadu government, the project is aimed at addressing the issue of juvenile delinquency, driven by factors such as socio-economic status, peer pressure, lack of family support and unemployment.

SIRP: (Students In Responsible Police Initiative).

8. Nagaland holds its first ever Naga Mircha Festival at Seihama (Sept. 12, 2022)

The 'Naga Mircha (Naga King Chili) Festival' - 2022 was organised for the first time on 10th September at Seihama village of Kohima district in Nagaland.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The festival was organised by the **Horticulture Department**.
- Many northern Angami villages cultivate chillies, with the village of Seihama becoming a major producer with a variety of species.

About Naga Mircha :

- Considered to be the world's hottest chili, the Naga Mircha (King Chili) has consistently been placed in the **top five** in the list of world's hottest chillies based on SHU.
- It is also known as '**Raja Mircha**', '**Bhoot Jolokia**' or '**Ghost Pepper**'.
- It was granted the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag in 2008**. It belongs to the genus Capsicum of the **Solanaceae** family.
- It is an indigenous crop of Nagaland, which is believed to have originated from the Jeliangrong region of Nagaland and is extensively grown in Peren, Som, Kohima and Dimapur.
- It is of normal size and matures to a bright red colour.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

Nagaland State :

- Nagaland was formally recognized as a separate state on December 1, 1963, with Kohima declared as its capital.
- It is bounded by Arunachal Pradesh in the northeast, Manipur in the south and Assam in the west and northwest and Myanmar (Burma) in the east.
- Mithun (Gyal) is the state animal of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh.
- Blyth's Tragopan is the state bird of Nagaland.
- The Konyaks are the largest tribe, followed by the Aos, Tangkhul, Semas and Angami.
- Other tribes include the Lotha, Sangtam, Phom, Chang, Khim Hungama, Yimchungar, Zeliang, Chakhesang (chokri) and Rengm

9. Army's Kibithu base in Arunachal Pradesh renamed after first CDS, late General Bipin Rawat (Sept. 10, 2022)

To honour the country's first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) late General Bipin Rawat, the Kibithu military garrison in Arunachal was named as General Bipin Rawat garrison on 10 September 2022.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Kibithu is a small hamlet near Walong on the banks of the Lohit Valley in Arunachal Pradesh close to the India-China border.
- Gen Rawat commanded his Battalion 5/11 Gorkha Rifles as a Colonel at Kibithu from 1999-2000.
- The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh (Retd), Brigadier BD Mishra, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister **Pema Khandu** and other senior military and civilian dignitaries were present on the occasion along with daughters of the late CDS.
- General Bipin Rawat and his wife along with senior Army and Air Force officers died in a Helicopter crash in Coonoor, Tamil Nadu 8 December 2021. He was going to the **Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Tamil Nadu** to address the faculty and student officers of the 'Staff Course'.
- He was the **27th Army chief** and was the first Chief of Defence Staff. He was appointed to the Chief of Defence Staff post on December 31, 2019.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***Arunachal Pradesh :***

- It is the easternmost region of India. It is also called '**Land of the Dawn-lit-Mountains' or land of rising sun.**
- It shares its International border with China, Bhutan and Myanmar.
- Arunachal Pradesh finds its mention in the literature of Kalika Purana and the great Hindu Epic Mahabharata. It is believed to be the Prabhu Mountains of the Puranas.
- It was earlier called as North East Frontier Agency (NEFA) and it was renamed as **Arunachal Pradesh in 1972.** It was a Union Territory.
- It became a state on **20 February 1987.**
- Governor of the State: **(Retd), Brigadier BD Mishra**
- Chief Minister: **Pema Khandu**
- **Capital: Itanagar**

10. Rajasthan Government launches Indira Gandhi Urban Employment Scheme' to provide 100 days of employment (Sept. 10, 2022)

The Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on 9 September 2022 launched the 'Indira Gandhi Urban Employment Scheme' to provide 100 days of employment in a year to families residing in urban areas of the state. The scheme was announced by the government in the state budget 2022-23.

IMPORTANT FACTS -***Employment under the scheme :***

- The scheme provides that eligible persons will get a minimum 100 days of employment in a year.
- This scheme will be implemented in all the urban local bodies of the state.
- At least 50 people will be given employment in each ward of urban local bodies.

Who are eligible ?

- People who are in the age group of **18 -60 years** and living in the urban areas are eligible for jobs under the scheme.

Budget for the scheme :

- Government of Rajasthan has allocated Rs 800 crore for the scheme

Nature of works offered :

- According to the government the scheme will offer works related to environment protection, water and heritage conservation, garden maintenance, and removing encroachments, illegal sign boards, hoardings, banners, sanitation, cleanliness and other such works.

Wages offered under the scheme :

- Under the scheme unskilled labour will be provided a wage of ₹259 per day, skilled workers will be given ₹283 each day and mates will be given ₹271 per day.
- The government will credit the wage payment in the bank accounts of the beneficiary within 15 days.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***About Rajasthan :***

- Rajasthan 'Land of Kings' or 'Land of Kingdom' is India's largest state by area and shares International boundary with Pakistan.
- The State was formed on 30th March 1949. On this day the Rajputana State was merged into the Dominion of India.
- The state has the famous bird sanctuary, Keoladeo **National Park** near **Bharatpur**
- Apart from this state has 4 national tiger reserves namely
- **Ranthambore Tiger Reserve** in Sawai Madhopur district,
- **Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve** in Kota district,
- **Sariska Tiger Reserve** in Alwar district and
- **Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary** (India's 52nd tiger reserve).
- Governor: **Kalraj Mishra**
- Capital: **Jaipur** It is also known as Pink City.