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1. PM inaugurates world's first CNG terminal in Gujarat's Bhavnagar (Sept. 30, 2022)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the **“world’s first CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) terminal at Bhavnagar in Gujarat** on 29 September.

Important facts

- It will be **“world’s first CNG terminal** along with the **world's fourth largest lock gate system.**
- It is being constructed by a consortium of the Mumbai-based **Padmanabhan Mafatlal Group and the UK's Foresight Group.**
- The CNG project is a part of an ambitious mega project of brownfield expansion of Bhavnagar port.
- There are plans for a proposed development of a brownfield port terminal in the northern part of the existing Bhavnagar port in Gujarat.
- The primary objective of the CNG terminal is to develop CNG receiving infrastructure for India through the Gujarat coast.
- The port will also have a container terminal, multi-purpose terminal and liquid terminal, which will be connected to the northern regions of the country by the existing road and railway network.

What is CNG?

- CNG, also known as compressed natural gas, is an eco-friendly alternative to gasoline.
- It is a fuel gas mainly composed of **methane (CH₄).**
- CNG fuel is safer than gasoline and diesel because it is non-toxic and does not contaminate groundwater.
- The use of CNG fuel is becoming more popular in both commercial and non-commercial vehicles.

2. Mahakal Corridor: PM Modi to inaugurate Ujjain’s temple redevelopment project (Sept. 30, 2022)

The Prime Minister will inaugurate the **Mahakal Corridor** constructed at a cost of Rs 350 crore at **Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh** on October 11.

About Mahakal corridor

- The construction work of Mahakal Corridor project in Ujjain city of Madhya Pradesh is in progress as per the plan.

- **Mahakal Mandir Parisar Vistar Yojna** is a plan for the expansion, beautification, and decongestion of the Mahakaleshwar temple and its adjoining area in Ujjain district.
- Under the scheme, the **Mahakaleshwar temple complex** of about 2.82 hectares is being increased to 47 hectares, which will be developed by the Ujjain district administration in two phases.
- The project will include a 17-hectare Rudrasagar lake.
- This corridor is going to be four times bigger than **Varanasi's Kashi Vishwanath Corridor**.

Mahakaleshwar Temple

- Shri Mahakaleshwar of Ujjain is considered one of the **twelve famous Jyotirlingas** of India.
- According to Hindu mythology, the temple was built by **Lord Brahma** and is currently situated on the banks of the holy **Kshipra River**.
- According to the records, the **Mahakal lingam** of the temple is believed to be **swayambhu (self-manifested)** and unlike any other Jyotirlinga in the country, the idol of Mahakaleshwar faces south.
- The **bhasma-aarti** is the first ritual conducted at the temple in the morning to wake the God.
- This temple is revered as one of the **18 Maha Shakti Peethas** in India.
- The present form of the temple was built in **1734 AD** by the Maratha general **Ranoji Shinde**.
- The collectorate office of Ujjain district now manages the administration of the temple.

3. Ministry of Women and Child Development organizes Poshan Utsav (Sept. 30, 2022)

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is organizing **“Poshan Utsav”** from 30 September to 2 October 2022 at **Kartavya Path in New Delhi** to mark the culmination of **5th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2022**.

Important facts

- **“Poshan Utsav”** was inaugurated by Union Minister of Women and Child Development **Smriti Zubin Irani** on 30th September, 2022 on the Kartavya Path.
- “Poshan Utsav” will act as a platform to create awareness about the importance of proper nutrition, especially for young children and women, to tackle the challenges of malnutrition in the country.
- Poshan Utsav is being organized as a fair with the basic message of good nutrition.

- Poshan Utsav will include cultural performances, nutrition parade, health check-up camps, healthy food stalls and sports to convey the message of nutrition.

About Rashtriya Poshan Maah

- Under Poshan Abhiyaan, the month of September is observed as Poshan Maah every year, **since 2018**.
- It includes one month of activities focused on antenatal care, breastfeeding, anaemia, growth monitoring, girl child education, diet, right age of marriage, hygiene and healthy eating (food nutrition).
- **Poshan Abhiyan** was launched by the Prime Minister on the occasion of the International Women's Day on **8th March, 2018** from **Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan**.

4. India climbs to the 40th rank in the Global Innovation Index of WIPO (Sept. 30, 2022)

The World Intellectual Property Organization (**WIPO**) on 29 September released the **Global Innovation Index 2022**.

Important facts

- **India** has reached the **40th position** in the Global Innovation Index of the World Intellectual Property Organization.
- India has moved up from **81st in 2015** to 40th in 2022 in the Global Innovation Index (GII).
- India was **46th position** in the ranking last time.
- In the index **Switzerland** has emerged as the **world's most innovative economy for the 12th consecutive year**.
- Switzerland continues to be the world leader in innovation for the 12th year in a row.
- It is a leader globally in patents by innovation output, origination, software spend, high-tech manufacturing, production and export complexity.
- The **US ranks second** in the index, followed by **Sweden, the UK and the Netherlands**.

About Global Innovation Index

- WIPO began its publication in **2012** along with GII.
- Key criteria to measure innovation cover institutions, human capital and research, infrastructure, credit, investment, linkage, creation, dissemination of knowledge, and creative output.
- **It is calculated by three measures-**

1. Innovation Input Sub-Index
2. Innovation Output Sub-Index
3. The overall GII score is the average of the Input and Output Sub-Indices, on which the GII economy rankings are then produced.

About WIPO

- It is the global forum for intellectual property services, policy, information and cooperation.
- It is a self-funding agency of the United Nations and its member states are 193.
- Its mission is to lead the development of a balanced and effective international Intellectual Property system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all.

5. 81st foundation day of CSIR observed on 29 September (Sept. 29, 2022)

The Council for Industrial and Scientific Research (CSIR) is observing its **81st foundation day** on 29 September 2022. The premier government funded Scientific and Industrial Research organisation in India was set up on 26 September 1942 as an autonomous body.

CSIR has a network of 37 national laboratories, 39 outreach centers, 3 Innovation Complexes, and five units with a pan-India presence.

It is a pioneer of India's intellectual property movement, CSIR has filed about 225 Indian patents and 250 foreign patents per year during 2015-20. CSIR has a patent portfolio of 1,132 unique patents in force, out of which 140 patents have been commercialized.

CSIR is ranked 37th among 1587 government institutions worldwide and is the only Indian organization among the top 100 global government institutions, according to the Scimago Institutions Ranking World Report 2021.

CSIR holds the **7th rank in Asia** and leads the country at the first position.

The **Prime Minister of India** is the President of CSIR.

Headquarters: **New Delhi**

First Director General : **S.S.Bhatnagar (1942-54)**

Current Director General : **Nallathamby Kalaiselvi (first women to be appointed to this post)**

Headquarters : **New Delhi**

6. SEPC session on Services Sector Exports Strategy for India@2047 held in New Delhi (Sept. 29, 2022)

Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC), an apex trade body set by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry on 29 September 2022 held its **12th Annual General Meeting (AGM) at New Delhi** on 29 September 2022.

As part of its AGM, the SEPC also organised an interactive session titled “**Services Export Promotion Councils’s (SEPC) India@2047: Services Sector Exports Strategy ‘Skilling And Internationalization Of Higher Education’**”.

Addressing the interactive session the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, Piyush Goyal said that the service sector export target for the 2022-23 has been set at \$350 billion dollars .

In 2021-22 the service sector export was \$254 billion .

Speaking on the occasion ,the SEPC Chairman, Sunil H Talati, said “the services sector currently contributes 55% of the total exports. By 2023 we aim to reach 75% and internalization of education and skill development is key to witnessing such unprecedented growth.

Services Export Promotion Council, was set up in 2006 by the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry. It has been mandated to facilitate global business opportunities for India’s services sector.

7. Union Minister Anupriya Patel represented India in the 21st Meeting of SCO Ministers responsible for Foreign Economy and Foreign Trade (Sept. 29, 2022)

The Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Smt. **Anupriya Patel** represented India at the 21st Meeting of [Shanghai Cooperation Organisation \(SCO\)](#) Ministers responsible for Foreign Economy and Foreign Trade. The meeting was held virtually and was attended by the representative of SCO Secretariat and Heads of Delegations of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

She lauded the recent initiative of SCO, wherein City of Varanasi has been nominated as the first-ever SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital for the period of 2022-2023.

India took over the Presidency of the SCO from Uzbekistan after the Council of Heads of State of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation meeting held in the Uzbekistan city of Samarkand on 16 September 2022.

SCO is a regional organization consisting of China, Russia, India ,Pakistan and the four central Asian countries of Uzbekistan , Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan .

8. Narendra Tomar attends the G20 Agriculture minister meeting at Bali (Sept. 29, 2022)

The Union Agriculture and Farmer Welfare Minister **Narendra Tomar** led the Indian delegation at the G-20 Agriculture ministers meeting held in **Bali, Indonesia**, on 28-29 September 2022.

The Meeting was hosted by the Indonesian Agriculture minister **Syahrul Yasin Limpo**.

The meeting focused on discussing three priority issues;

- to Promote Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture and Food System;
- to promote Open, Fair, Predictable, Transparent and Non-Discriminatory Agricultural Trade to Ensure Availability and Affordability of Food for Everyone;
- Innovative Agriculture entrepreneurship through Digital Agriculture to Improve Farmers' Livelihoods in Rural Areas.

Indonesia is currently the chairman of G-20 group and all events related to the G20 are being held in Indonesia. The 17th G20 Heads of State and Government Summit will take place in November 2022 in Bali.

9. Government of India formally scraps the disinvestment of Central Electronics Limited (Sept. 29, 2022)

The central government has formally scrapped the 100% disinvestment of the Central Electronics Limited on 28 September 2022 and disqualified the successful New Delhi based bidder Nandlal Finance and Leasing limited.

On 29 November 2021, the government approved the 100% sale of Central Electronics Ltd (CEL) for Rs 201 crore.

The reason given by the government for canceling the deal was that Nandlal company failed to disclose that an insolvency case was pending against the company in the National Company Law Tribunals (NCLT) while it bid for the CEL.

Government of India Disinvestment target for the financial year 2022-23

- In the 2022-23 Union Budget the Government of India has set a disinvestment target of Rs 65,000 crores.
- In 2021-22 the total money raised by the Government of India through disinvestment was Rs 13,531 crore against the target of Rs 78,000 crore.

Central Electronics Limited

Central Electronics Ltd (CEL) is a Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSE) under the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Union Ministry of Science and Technology.

It was established in 1974, with an objective to commercially exploit indigenous technologies developed by National Laboratories and Research and Development Institutions in the country.

10. Armenia becomes the first country to buy Pinaka rocket system from India (Sept. 29, 2022)

India has signed a \$250 million agreement with the former Soviet republic of **Armenia** to supply indigenously developed multi-barrel rocket launcher **Pinaka** and other munitions. This is the **first time** the Pinaka system is being exported from India.

Earlier in 2020 India supplied four Swathi radars worth \$43 million to Armenia. These are weapon locating radars that can track incoming artillery projectiles and pinpoint the location of enemy gun positions for counter-action.

Pinak has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation and manufactured by Indian private firms. It is an artillery system where multiple rockets are fired simultaneously from a single platform. The Pinaka system has been deployed at the forward position in Ladakh along the border with China.

The government of India wants to increase its defence export and has set an export target of Rs 35,000 crore by 2025.

Armenia

It was part of the former Soviet Union which gained its Independence in 1991 after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. It is a European country in Transcaucasia.

Capital : **Yerevan**

Currency : **Dram**

Prime Minister: **Nikol Pashinyan**