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1. CBI launches Operation GARUDA (Sept. 29, 2022)

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on 29 September launched a multi-phase **'Operation GARUDA'** to dismantle drug networks with international linkages.

Important facts

- The CBI has initiated this to coordinate enforcement operations in International Courts of Justice through Interpol and the Narcotics Control Bureau, with a special focus on the Indian Ocean region.

About Operation GARUDA

- The goal of the Garud campaign is to take action against drug dealers, their production areas and those who help in this work on the basis of international intelligence.

- During the operation, searches, seizures and arrests have been made in several states and union territories of the country.

- Apart from this, the police of Union Territories including Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Delhi and Manipur have also taken action.

- Around 6,600 people were screened and 127 new cases were registered during this special drive.

- During the operation 5 kg heroin, 33 kg ganja, more than 3 kg charas and several intoxicants have been recovered.

- Around 175 people have been arrested.

2. Sports Minister Anurag Thakur to launch Clean India 2.0 Programme on 1st October (Sept. 29, 2022)

Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Thakur will launch **Clean India 2.0 Programme** on 1st October 2022.

Important facts

- This one month long nationwide program will be started mainly to collect single use plastic waste and create awareness among the people.

- The program is being organized in all villages across the country through a network of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), affiliated youth clubs and National Service Scheme affiliated institutions.

- Following the success of last year's Clean India Drive, 10 million kilograms of waste (plastic, e-waste and other waste) will be collected and disposed of this year with the support and voluntary participation of citizens.

- Hotspots for waste collection will be tourist places, educational institutions, bus stands/ railway stations, national highways, historical and heritage buildings, religious places, hospitals and water resources etc.

- Through this campaign, the mantra of "Clean Kaal: Amrit Kaal" will be given and through public participation, this program will be made a mass movement.

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4. Cabinet approves redevelopment of three railway stations (Sept. 29, 2022)

The Union Cabinet on 28 September approved the **redevelopment** of three railway stations at **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT), Mumbai, Delhi, Ahmedabad.**

Important facts

- The total cost of this redevelopment project is **Rs 10,000 crore.**

- New Delhi Railway Station will integrate train services with buses, auto and metro rail services.

- The redesign of Ahmedabad Railway Station is inspired by the **Sun Temple of Modera.**

- The heritage building of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus will not be changed, the buildings around it will be redeveloped.

- The redevelopment of these three stations is part of an overall redevelopment plan for **199 stations** with a total cost of **Rs 60,000 crore.**

- The projects will be implemented on **Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC)** basis instead of Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

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6. NASSCOM Foundation, DXC Tech to offer digital-skilling to over 1 million people (Sept. 29, 2022)

NASSCOM Foundation on September 28 announced its partnership with **DXC Technology** to open resource centres for imparting digital skills to rural communities in **20 aspirational districts.**

Important facts

- It will focus on skilling Indian youth as part of an eight-month project that is expected to collectively benefit 1 million people.

- It will address the digital divide, especially in **Tier-II and Tier-III** cities where there are access barriers to technology.

- 20 resource centers for digital literacy and e-governance will be set up in aspirational districts of seven states namely **Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.**

- These centres will help in providing need-based information, e-resources and digital services that will impact citizens' lives in alignment with the **United Nation's 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.**

- Resource centers will be equipped with digital resources such as computers and printers, online resources such as subscription channels, and physical resources such as books, magazines and newspapers to make digital tools accessible to the entire community.

- Communities will also be linked to appropriate government schemes and e-governance services apart from receiving training in digital skills.

- Through this initiative, youth in India will receive advanced technical training that will improve their employability skills to meet the market demands and 60% of the beneficiaries will get placement facilities after completing the course.

National Association of Software and Services Companies- NASSCOM

- It is a not-for-profit industrial association which is the apex body for the IT industry in India.

- It was established in 1988.

- Due to its significant efforts, India's IT (Information Technology) and BPO (Business Process Outsourcing) industry is getting a lot of support.

- NASSCOM has made unprecedented contributions to India's GDP, exports, employment, infrastructure and global visibility.

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8. R Venkataramani appointed as 15th Attorney General of India (Sept. 28, 2022)

The Union government has appointed senior advocate **R Venkataramani** as the 15th Attorney General of India for a period of three years.

Venkataramani will succeed 91-year-old **K K Venugopal,** whose term will end on September 30.

The development comes days after senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi declined to become India's Attorney General.

The first Attorney General of India was MC Setalvad (1950-1963).

Attorney General of India

Article 76 of the Indian constitution provides for appointment of Attorney general of India by the President of India.

Qualification

The person who is appointed for the post of Attorney general shall have the same qualification as required to become the **Judge of the Supreme Court of India.**

Term of Office

He holds office at the **pleasure of the President** of India. It means he can be dismissed any time by the President.

Functions

He is the **first law officer** of the Government of India.

He gives legal advice to the President of India.

He can appear in **any court of India** on behalf of the government of India.

He is the only person apart from a minister who can participate in the **proceedings of any house of the Parliament** without being its member. However he cannot vote in the Parliament.

9. Union Cabinet approves sharing of Kushiyara River between India and Bangladesh (Sept. 28, 2022)

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi on 28 September 2022 , has given its ex-post facto approval for a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of the Republic of India and the Republic of Bangladesh on withdrawal of upto **153 cusecs of water** each by India and Bangladesh from common border river **Kushiyara.**

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 6th September, 2022 between the Ministry of Jal Shakti, and Ministry of Water Resources, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh during the visit of the **Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to India**.

This MoU will enable Government of Assam to withdraw upto 153 cusecs of water from the common stretch of Kushiyara river during dry season (1st November to 31st May) for their consumptive water requirement.

A Joint Monitoring Team shall be set up by both the countries to monitor the withdrawal of water by each side during the dry season.

India and Bangladesh share **54 rivers** including Ganges, Teesta, Manu, Muhuri, Khowai, Gumti, Dharla, Dudhkumar and Kushiyara and others.

Kushiyara River

- It is a branch of the **Barak River**. The Barak River rises in Manipur Hill in Manipur and after flowing through Mizoram it enters Assam.
- The river next splits into two branches, the Surma (north) and the Kushiyara (south), which enter Bangladesh and turn southwest.
- The Kushiyara River forms the boundary between **Assam and Sylhet district of Bangladesh.**

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