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1. Second India-Japan 2plus2 Ministerial Dialogue begins in Tokyo (Sept. 8, 2022)

The 2nd India-Japan 2022 Ministerial Dialogue began in Tokyo on 8 September.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** and External Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** attended the second India-Japan 2+2 ministerial dialogue along with their Japanese counterparts in Tokyo on 8 September.
- **Rajnath Singh** said, there has been significant progress in Indo-Japan bilateral relations in recent times.
- India and Japan are set to complete **70 years of diplomatic ties** in December this year and the two countries will hold an event to mark the occasion in New Delhi in December.
- The meeting reflects the commitment of both the countries towards strengthening bilateral security and defence cooperation.
- It also demonstrates the strength of the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership.
- During the talks, the two sides will review bilateral cooperation in various fields and decide the way forward.

India's '2+2' format of dialogue :

- It is a format of the meeting of the Foreign and Defence Ministers of India and its allies on strategic and security issues.
- India has 2+2 dialogues with four major strategic partners - the **US, Australia, Japan and Russia.**
- Apart from Russia, three other countries are also India's partners in the Quad.
- The '2+2' dialogue with Japan was launched in **2019** to further deepen bilateral security and defence cooperation.
- The first Ministerial 2+2 Dialogue with Japan was held in **New Delhi** in December 2019.

2. US President Joe Biden nominates Indian-American attorney Arun Subramanian to US District Judge in New York (Sept. 8, 2022)

US President Joe Biden on September 6 nominated Indian-American attorney Arun Subramaniam to be the US District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Subramaniam was the first South Asian judge to serve on the United States **District Court for the Southern District of New York** after being confirmed by the Senate.
- Subramaniam did his Juris Doctor (JD) from Columbia Law School in 2004 and a BA from Case Western Reserve University in 2001.
- Currently he is a partner at Susman Godfrey LLP in New York where he has worked since 2007.
- Subramaniam also served as a law clerk for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in the Supreme Court of the United States from 2006 to 2007.
- The Indian-origin attorney has expertise in matters relating to the False Claims Act, public entities, trafficking in child pornography, consumers and persons injured by unfair means.

3. Sheikh Hasina confers scholarships on descendants of Indian soldiers killed in Bangladesh Liberation War (Sept. 8, 2022)

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina conferred the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Student Scholarship at a function in New Delhi on 7 September.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- This scholarship was awarded for the first time to the descendants of soldiers, officers of the Armed Forces of India who were martyred or grievously injured during the historic liberation war of 1971.
- This scholarship was awarded to 100 - 100 students of class 10 and 12 which is a tribute to the Indian heroes who made supreme sacrifice for the country.
- The award is named after Hasina's father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.
- A total of 200 family members of Indian Army personnel have received scholarships.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***Liberation War of 1971 :***

- In the 1950s, Pakistan was ruled by a military-bureaucratic rule that ruled the entire country (East and West Pakistan) in an undemocratic manner.
- The Bengalis had no political representation in this system of governance.

- This dominance of West Pakistan was challenged by the Bengalis during the general elections of 1970.
- In the general election of 1970, the Awami League of East Pakistan's Sheikh Mujibur Rahman got a clear majority.
- West Pakistan was not ready for any leader of East Pakistan to rule the country.
- On March 26, 1971, West Pakistan launched Operation Searchlight in East Pakistan.
- As a result, lakhs of Bangladeshis had to take refuge in India.
- The Pakistani army had to face defeat due to the bravery of the 'Muktiwahini Sena' and Indian soldiers who fought for the independence of Bangladesh.
- On 6 December 1971, a new nation Bangladesh was born out of 13 days war with the intervention of India.

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5. President Droupadi Murmu to virtually launch Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan on 9 September (Sept. 7, 2022)

President Droupadi Murmu will virtually launch the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan on 9th September 2022 to reinvigorate the mission of TB elimination from the country by 2025.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi had given the call to end TB in the country five years ahead of the SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) target of 2030 at the Delhi End TB Summit in March 2018.
- During the event, President Murmu will also launch the **Ni-kshay Mitra** initiative, a portal to provide a platform for donors to provide various forms of support to those undergoing TB treatment.
- India has the largest population of TB patients in the world. According to the World Health Organisation 26% of TB cases in the world in 2020 was reported from India.
- Every year **March 24** is observed as World Tuberculosis Day in the world.

6. PM to inaugurate Kartavya Path and unveil the statue of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at India Gate on 8 September (Sept. 7, 2022)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Kartavya Path On 8 September 2022 in New Delhi. It was earlier called [Rajpath](#).

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- He will also unveil the statue of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at India Gate on the occasion. The jet black granite statue of Netaji, measuring a total of 28 feet will be placed under the Canopy near India Gate.
- The statue of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, which will be unveiled by the Prime Minister, is being installed in the same place where a hologram statue of Netaji was unveiled earlier this year on Parakram Diwas 23rd January by him.
- Every year **23 January** is observed as **Parakram Diwas** to mark the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

- These steps are in line with Prime Minister's second Panch Pran for New India in Amrit Kaal: remove any trace of colonial mindset.
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

During the 15 August 2022 speech the Prime Minister asked the Indians to take five pledges or **Panch Pran**. They are :

- To make India a developed country by 2047
- Remove Traces of Colonialism
- Take pride in Legacy
- Strength of Unity
- Fulfill duties as a Citizens

7. Piyush Goyal launches India US Startup SETU - Supporting Entrepreneurs in Transformation and Upskilling programme in San Francisco (Sept. 7, 2022)

The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goel launched the India US Startup SETU - Supporting Entrepreneurs in Transformation and Upskilling programme in San Francisco, United States on 6 September 2022.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

Aim of the Startup:

- Piyush Goyal said it will act as a bridge between Indian and American companies and will support entrepreneurs in transforming, upskilling and leveraging on the success stories of the Indian Diaspora in the US.
- The minister observed that some good ideas of startups don't take off for lack of mentorship, guidance, funds.
- The initiative would connect start-ups in India to US-based investors and start-up ecosystem leaders with mentorship and assistance in various areas including funding, market access and commercialization.
- The interaction will be supported through the mentorship portal under the Startup India initiative **MAARG, or the Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience, and Growth** program, which is a single-stop solution finder for startups in India.

What is MAARG ?

- It is a portal which has been launched by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the startups India initiative.
- The portal has been developed with the idea that a mentor shall be accessible to the startups, anywhere in the country.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

Points to remember :

- **January 16** is observed as Startup day as on this day in 2016 the government of India launched its flagship Startup India initiative. The first Startup day was observed in 2022.
- India has become the **third-largest Startup ecosystem** in the world after the US and China.
- Bengaluru based **Neobank Open** is the 100th Unicorn Startup in India.

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9. India donates 5000 tonnes of rice to Madagascar (Sept. 7, 2022)

Indian Ambassador to Madagascar Abhay Kumar presented 5000 tonnes of rice to President Andry Rajoelina of Madagascar at a donation ceremony held at the Presidential Palace in Antananarivo.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Earlier, India donated 15 thousand bicycles to Madagascar on the occasion of World Bicycle Day. World Bicycle day is observed on 3 June every year.
- President Rajoelina thanked the Government and people of India for the generous donation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

Madagascar :

- It is an island country off the South-East coast of Africa.
- It is the **fourth largest island** in the world after Greenland, New Guinea and Borneo.
- Capital: **Antananarivo**
- Currency: **Ariary**
- President: **Andry Rajoelina**

10. Number of demat accounts in India crosses 10 crore mark (Sept. 7, 2022)

According to data released by depository firms National Securities Depository Limited (NDSL) and Central Depository Services (CDSL), over 22 Lakh new accounts were opened in August, taking the figure to 10 crore and five lakh. In March 2020, the total number of demat account holders in India was four crore and nine lakh.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- CDSL is currently the largest depository in the country in terms of active demat accounts.

What is the need for a Demat account ?

- If a person wants to buy and sell securities (shares, bonds etc.) on the National Stock Exchange (NSE), Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) or other exchanges, he or she needs a trading account, demat account. Both the account has to be linked with the person's bank accounts.
- **Trading accounts** are needed for the purpose of buying and selling securities.

Then what is a Demat account ?

- Demat is an abbreviation of dematerialised. Dematerialised means which is not in physical form but in an electronic form.
- Market regulator securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has made it compulsory for the companies to issue securities in electronic forms only. Earlier they were issued in physical or paper forms.
- So a person who buys the securities needs a place where to deposit the securities.
- Here the facility is offered by Depository Participants (DP).
- The investor opens Demat accounts with a SEBI registered Depository Participants (DP) to keep their shares, bonds, debentures etc. in electronic form.
- The Demat account is linked with the trading account so that the investor can smoothly buy and sell the securities.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

Depositories Participants :

- They are financial institutions which are a member of Depositories and they offer the Demat account facilities to the investor. They could be banks, share broking companies etc.

Depositories :

- They are set up in India after the enactment of the Depositories Act 1996. They are licensed and regulated by SEBI.
- There are two Depositories in India and both are based in **Mumbai, Maharashtra.**
- They are **National Securities and Depositories Limited (NSDL)** and **Central Depositories Services India Ltd (CDSL).**
- NSDL was the first depository to be set up in India in August 1996.
- CDSL was set up in 1999.

What do they do ?

- They convert the securities (shares, bonds, etc) issued by companies into electronic form, enabling their buying and selling in the capital market (popularly known as share market). SEBI has made the dematerialisation of securities compulsory in India.