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# 1. UN warns 345 million people at risk of starvation (Sept. 16, 2022)

The United Nations World Food Program warned on 16 September that the world is facing a global emergency, because 345 million people are marching toward starvation.

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- David Beasley, executive director of the UN World Food Program, said 345 million people in **82 countries** are facing acute food insecurity.
- He said that **50 million people** in 45 countries suffer from **acute malnutrition**.
- This widespread and growing food insecurity is the result of direct and indirect effects of conflict and violence.
- Rising food, fuel and fertilizer prices have driven 70 million people near starvation since Russia invaded neighbouring Ukraine on February 24.

# United Nations World Food Program:

- It is the food-assistance branch of the United Nations.
- It is the world's largest humanitarian organization focused on hunger and food security and the largest provider of school meals.
- It aims to fulfil the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), with a priority on achieving SDG 2 for "zero hunger" by 2030.
- It was awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize in 2020** for its efforts to provide food assistance in areas of conflict.
- Founded 1961
- Headquartered Rome

# 2. South Korea fines Google and Meta for violation of privacy law ( Sept. 15, 2022 )

South Korea's Personal Information Protection Commission has fined Google 69.2 billion won (\$50 million) and Meta (earlier called Facebook) 30.8 billion won (\$22 million) for violation of privacy law violation.

Both the companies were found guilty of collecting and analysing behavioural information of the customer without obtaining their prior consent.

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

# Republic of Korea (South Korea):

- It lies in the Korean peninsula in East Asia.
- The Korean peninsula was divided into communist Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) and Republic of Korea (South Korea) after the Korean War in 1953.
- Capital: **Seoul**
- Currency: South Korean Won

# 3. H E Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco re-elected as the President of Angola (Sept. 15, 2022)

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has congratulated H E Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco on being re-elected as the President of Angola on 15 September.

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- Angola is an important friend of India and the people of both the countries enjoy cordial and friendly relations.
- With Lourenco securing another five-year term, the bilateral ties shared between India and Angola are expected to improve in terms of trade.
- He has served as the president of Angola since 26 September 2017.
- Prior to this, he was the Defence Minister from 2014 to 2017.
- In September 2018, he became the Chairman of the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola, the ruling party.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -**

#### About Angola:

- Angola is a country located in South-West Africa
- Capital Luanda
- Official Language Portuguese

### 4. 6th CICA summit to be held in Kazakhstan (Sept. 15, 2022)

Kazakhstan will be host the 6th Conference on Confidence Building Measures and Interaction in Asia (CICA) summit in October 2022.

The summit meeting will be held on 12-13 October 2022 at the Kazakhstan capital, **Nur-Sultan**.

The Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) is a multinational forum for enhancing cooperation towards promoting peace, security and stability in Asia.

The idea of convening CICA was first proposed by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan **Nursultan Nazarbayev**, on 5 October 1992, at the 47th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

27 countries including India, China, and Pakistan are members of CICA.

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

# **Summit meetings of CICA:**

- The First summit meeting was held in **Almaty, Kazakhstan** on 4 June 2022. It was attended by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- The second CICA summit was held in **Almaty, Kazakhstan** on June 17, 2006
- The third CICA Summit was held in **Istanbul, Turkey** on 8 June 2010
- The Fourth CICA Summit, was held in **Shanghai, China** on 21 May 2014
- The Fifth CICA Summit was held in **Dushanbe**, **Tajikistan**, on 15 June 2019.

#### **Full Form:**

CICA: Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia

# 5. Bhutan ratifies International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement ( Sept. 15, 2022 )

Bhutan on 14 September ratified the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement.

### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

• Bhutan's Ambassador to India Major General Wetsop Namgyal handed over the ratification document to Secretary ER Dammu Ravi in the presence of DG International Solar Alliance.

### International Solar Alliance:

- It is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization whose primary function is to promote solar development by reducing the cost of financing and technology.
- It is the nodal agency to implement 'One Sun, One World, One Grid'.
- It aims to transfer the solar energy generated in a specific region to meet the electricity demand of another region.

- It was launched by the Prime Minister of India and the President of France on 30
- November 2015 at the Conference of the Parties (COP-21) to the UNFCCC in France (Paris) along with 121 solar resource rich nations.
- Its key objectives include achieving a global potential of over 1000 GW of solar power generation capacity and mobilising about \$1000 billion to invest in solar energy by 2030.
- Member-**106 countries** have signed this Framework Agreement. 86 out of 106 countries have signed and ratified this Framework Agreement.
- Headquarters Gurugram, India

# 6. President Murmu to attend Queen Elizabeth Funeral (Sept. 14, 2022)

According to a statement released by the Ministry of External Affairs on 14 September 2022, President Droupadi Murmu will represent the government of India at the state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II.

She will be visiting London, United Kingdom on 17-19 September 2022.

The 96 year old <u>Queen Elizabeth II</u> of the United Kingdom died at her remote Highlands residence, Balmoral, in Scotland on 8 September 2022.

# 7. Bhupendra Yadav advocates improving the conditions workers at G20 Labour minister meeting ( Sept. 14, 2022 )

Union Minister of Labour and Employment Bhupender Yadav attended the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers' meeting at Bali, Indonesia. The G-20 Labour and Employment Ministers meeting was held on 13-14 September 2022.

### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- Speaking on the occasion the minister emphasized the need to focus on improving the employment conditions of the workers for a strong and resilient economic recovery.
- Indonesia is currently the chairman of the G-20 group and it will host the G-20 summit meeting on **15-16 November 2022 at Bali, Indonesia.**
- India will take over the chairmanship of G-20 from Indonesia at the Bali Summit.
- The G20, or Group of Twenty, is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies. It comprises 19 countries including Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, UK, USA and the European Union (EU).

# 8. Chinese President Xi Jinping on a first trip outside China in over two years ( Sept. 14, 2022 )

China has announced that the Chinese President Xi Jinping will be on an official visit to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan from Sep 14 - 16 and attend the summit meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in the Uzbek city of Samarkand.

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- India will take over the SCO Presidency from Uzbekistan at the summit.
- It is for the first time that President Xi is leaving China for abroad in the last two years since the onset of covid in China.
- It is not clear whether he will meet Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Uzbekistan on September 15-16 to attend the SCO Summit.
- Samarkand Summit would be the first in-person SCO summit since 2019.

# Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO):

- The Shanghai Cooperation Organization came into existence on June 15, 2001 after the expansion of the 'Shanghai Five'.
- The Shanghai Five was formed in 1996 by Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.
- After the entry of Uzbekistan into the organization in the year 2001, 'Shanghai-5' was named SCO.
- In the year 2017, India and Pakistan got the status of its member.
- SCO has four observer states ;Iran, Mongolia, Belarus and Afghanistan
- It has six dialogue partner states; Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Nepal, Turkey and Sri Lanka.

#### **Full From:**

**SCO**: Shanghai Cooperation Organization

#### 9. William Ruto sworn in as Kenya's president (Sept. 14, 2022)

William Ruto was sworn in as president on September 13, following the elections held on August 9 in Kenya, which has been facing political instability for the past few years.

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- Ruto defeated longtime Leader of the Opposition **Raila Odinga** by a narrow margin in the election held on 9 August.
- Odinga is a very popular leader in Kenya and he has contested the presidential election 5 times and this time he has to face defeat.
- Odinga was the Prime Minister of Kenya from 2008 to 2013.

- Ruto was the Vice President during the tenure of outgoing President **Uhuru Kenyatta.**
- Ruto takes power in a debt-ridden country that will challenge his efforts to fulfill promises made to Kenya's poor.

# About Kenya:

- President William Ruto
- Capital Nairobi
- Official Languages Swahili, English
- Currency Kenyan shilling

# 10. Digital Quality of Life Global Index - 2022 (Sept. 14, 2022)

The British Virgin Islands' based VPN service company released its Digital Quality of Life (DQL) Index 2022 on 12 September which included 110 countries.

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- **Denmark** topped the index for the second year in a row while the five worst-ranked countries are Ethiopia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Guatemala and Angola.
- Of the ten countries with the highest scores in the index, six are European countries.
- **India ranks 59th** in the overall parameters of the index.
- China has jumped 16 places to 22nd. Pakistan is at 97th position while Bangladesh is at 103rd position.

#### Five digital parameters :

- Internet affordability It measures how much time people have to spend to buy an internet connection. India has ranked 47th on this parameter.
- Internet quality The survey measures the speed and stability of mobile and broadband internet connectivity in a country. The report places India at 67th rank.
- **Electronic infrastructure** The survey measures the development and inclusion of electronic infrastructure in a country. India ranks **91st** on this parameter.
- **Electronic security** This parameter assesses how prepared a country is to combat cyber crimes and protect one's online privacy. India is on the **36th** spot on this parameter.
- **Electronic government** It seeks to gauge how modern and digitized a country's government services are by measuring the government's online presence and the use of

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artificial intelligence technology for the public good. India has ranked  $\bf 33rd$  on this parameter.