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1. 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.

2. 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**

3. PM Modi addresses plenary session of Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, Russia (Sept. 7, 2022)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered a video address on 7 September at the plenary session of the Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) 2022 being held in Russia's Vladivostok.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Prime Minister Modi was the chief guest at the EEF in **2019**.
- The Seventh Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) was held in the Russian Far Eastern city of **Vladivostok** from 5 September.
- It was attended by participants from more than **60 countries and regions**.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin addressed the EEF's plenary session on global processes and the development of Russia's Far East on 7 September.
- Theme of Eastern Economic Forum 2022 - **"The Path to a Multipolar World"**.
- This year's forum aims to shed light on global transformation led by the new economic model and provide a dialogue platform for all stakeholders.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***About Eastern Economic Forum :***

- It is a key international platform for establishing and strengthening ties within the Russian and global investment communities.
- It was established by Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin in 2015 to promote the economic development of Russia's Far East and to expand international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.

4. Indian-origin Suella Braverman appointed Britain's new Home Secretary (Sept. 7, 2022)

Indian-origin barrister Suella Braverman was appointed as Britain's new Home Secretary(Home Minister in Britain is known as Home Secretary) on 6 September.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- Suella Braverman has been an aide to former Indian-origin Home Secretary Priti Patel.
- She has served as the Attorney General in the Boris Johnson-led government.
- She is the daughter of Tamil origin mother Uma and Goan origin father Christy Fernandes.
- Her mother immigrated to the Britain from Mauritius, while her father immigrated to the Britain from Kenya in the 1960s.
- After the resignation of Indian-origin Priti Patel, the newly appointed Prime Minister of Britain, [Liz Truss](#), announced her appointment to this post.

5. Committed to deepen strategic ties with Mongolia: Rajnath Singh (Sept. 6, 2022)

Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh who is on an official visit to Mongolia said that New Delhi is committed to further deepening multifaceted Strategic Partnership with Mongolia.

Rajnath Singh is on a five-day visit to Mongolia and Japan beginning 5 September 2022 with an aim to expand India's strategic and defence ties with the two countries.

IMPORTANT FACTS -***Visit to Mongolia :***

His visit to Mongolia from 5-7 September 2022 is the **first-ever** tour to the East Asian country by an Indian defence minister.

He met the Mongolian defence minister **Saikhanbayar Gursed** in Ulaanbaatar on 6 September 2022.

The Minister also met President of Mongolia, **U. Khurelsukh**.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

India Mongolia relationship :

India and Mongolia share warm and cordial bilateral relations. Mongolia regards India as its “third” and a “spiritual neighbour”.

The bilateral relationship was upgraded to a Strategic Partnership in 2015 during the historic visit of Prime Minister Modi to the country.

India has provided a loan of **USD 1.236 billion** to Mongolia to build a 1.5 million metric tonnes oil refinery near **Sainshand** in southern Dornogovi province of Mongolia.

It is being constructed by India’s public sector Engineers India Limited.

Mongolia :

It is located in North Central Asia.

Capital: **Ulaanbaatar**

Currency: **Tugrik**

President: **Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh**

6. Liz Truss appointed as the 56th Prime Minister of Britain by Queen Elizabeth (Sept. 6, 2022)

96 year old United Kingdom Monarch, Queen Elizabeth II appointed Elizabeth Truss, popularly known as Liz Truss, as the 56th Prime Minister of the United Kingdom on 6th September 2022.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- She will now occupy **10 Downing Street** in London which is the official residence of the Prime Minister.
- She replaced the former Prime Minister Boris Johnson who had to resign over a party scandal. She was officially elected the leader of the Conservative party on 5th September defeating her rival [Rishi Sunak](#).
- Truss is the fourth Conservative party’s Prime Minister in six years. She faces a difficult time as the country faces a prospect of recession, double digit inflation and soaring energy cost.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -

- **Robert Walpole** is considered to be the first Prime Minister of Britain (1721-1742) and also the first Prime Minister in the world.

7. PM Modi and Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina jointly unveils Unit-I of Maitree Super Thermal Power Project (Sept. 6, 2022)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina jointly unveiled Unit-1 of Maitri Super Thermal Power Project after bilateral and delegation level talks in Delhi on 6 September.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The project is being constructed under India's concessional financing scheme.
- This will add 1320 MW to the national grid of Bangladesh.
- The first unit of the Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant will go into commercial operation early October.
- Unit-II of the power plant, also known as the Rampal coal-fired power project, is expected to be commissioned early next year.

India-Bangladesh delegation level talks :

- India-Bangladesh delegation level talks under the leadership of PM Modi and Hasina began at Hyderabad House in New Delhi.
- The Prime Minister of Bangladesh is on a four-day visit to India to strengthen the multi-faceted ties between the two countries.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -***Agenda of the talks :***

- The agenda for talks between the two countries included connectivity, energy, water resources, trade and investment, border management and security, development partnership and regional and multilateral matters.

Seven MoUs between India and Bangladesh :

1. Interim bilateral agreement on water sharing of the Koshiyara river
2. Signing of MoU on Scientific Cooperation between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India and Bangladesh Council of Scientific Industrial Research (BCSIR).

- MoU signed between National Judicial Academy, Bhopal and Supreme Court of Bangladesh to promote capacity building
4. Ministry of Railways signed an MoU with Bangladesh Railways, under which India will train personnel of Bangladesh Railways in Indian training institutes
5. MoU signed between ministries of both countries to cooperate in providing IT solutions to Bangladesh Railways
6. MoU signed between Bangladesh Television and Prasar Bharati
7. MoU between the two countries for promotion of cooperation in space technology and scientific and research

India - Bangladesh :

- Bangladesh and India share an international border of more than four thousand kilometres.
- The five states of India Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura and West Bengal touch the border of Bangladesh.
- The land boundary between the two sides has been amicably resolved with the ratification of the landmark Protocol to Land Boundary Agreement in 2015.
- Bangladesh accounts for the largest share of foreign tourist arrivals in India.
- In 2021-22, Bangladesh has emerged as the largest trading partner for India in South Asia and the fourth largest export destination for India.
- Bilateral trade between the two countries has increased from \$9 billion to \$18 billion in the last five years.

8. China became the first country to approve a needle-free, inhaled version of a Covid 19 vaccine. The vaccine has been developed by CanSino Biologics Inc. (Sept. 5, 2022)

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This is a developing new.

9. Mary Elizabeth Truss to be the new Prime Minister of United Kingdom (Sept. 5, 2022)

Mary Elizabeth Truss or Liz Truss has been chosen as the next Prime Minister of the [United Kingdom \(UK\)](#) by her Conservative party on 5 September 2022. She is the **third women** Prime minister of the UK after **Margaret Thatcher** and **Theresa May**. She will be the **56th Prime Minister of the United Kingdom**.

The ruling conservative party also known as **Tories** voted to elect their leader after the current **Prime Minister Boris Johnson** announced his resignation in July after months of scandal.

Liz Truss who was serving as the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs since 2021 defeated Rishi Sunak by getting 57% of the valid votes cast. She got 81,326 votes while Sunak got 60,399.

Rishi Sunak, former finance minister in the Boris Johnson government, is a person of Indian origin and married to the daughter of Infosys founder N. R. Narayana Murthy.

Boris Johnson will travel to Scotland to meet Queen Elizabeth on 6 September to officially tender his resignation. Truss will follow him and be asked to form a government by the monarch Queen Elizabeth II.

Truss will become the Conservatives' fourth prime minister since a 2015 election.

Truss takes over as the country faces a cost of living crisis, industrial unrest, a recession and war in Europe, where Britain has been a leading backer of Ukraine.

10. UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee will hold special meeting in India focused on new and emerging technologies (Sept. 5, 2022)

The United Nations has announced that the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee will hold a special meeting in India on 29 October 2022.

The theme of the Conference is: **Increasing threat posed by the misuse of new and emerging technologies.**

The Special meeting will focus on three areas where there is an increasing threat of abuse by the Terrorist namely

- (a) the Internet and social media,
- (b) terrorism financing,
- (c) unmanned aerial systems (UAS).

UN Security Council :

It is one of the 6 Principal organs of the United Nations. The Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

It consists of 15 members. Five members, the **United States, Russia, China, France and the United Kingdom** are permanent members with veto power.

The Remaining 10 members are elected by the General Assembly for two years. They do not have veto power.