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# 1. Scientist and Entrepreneur Swati Piramal conferred France's highest civilian award (Sept. 17, 2022)

The visiting French Minister for Europe & Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna conferred the highest civilian award of France Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour) on scientist and entrepreneur Swati Piramal in Mumbai on 16 September 2022.

Earlier in August, 2022 the French government had announced that senior congressman and Lok Sabha MP from Thiruvananthapuram **Shashi Tharoor** has been chosen for the Knight of the Legion of Honour award.

Dr. Swati Piramal who is the Vice Chairperson of the Piramal group was awarded France's second Highest civilian award Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Merite (Knight of the Order of Merit) in 2006.

She was earlier honoured with Padma Shri by the government of India in 2012.

## **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

# Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur :

- The Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur (Knight of the National Order of the French Legion of Honour), was started by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802.
- It is the highest civilian award given by the French Government to a French national or any country's national for outstanding contribution to the recipient's field of expertise.
- The Legion has five classes, listed in descending rank: grand cross, grand officer, commander, officer, and knight, or chevalier (unlimited).

#### Which other Indians have received it:

- The first Indian to be awarded with the Legion of Honour was Maharaja Pratap Singh of Idar in 1918.
- Since then, more than 40 Indians have been honoured with the award.

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -**

## Some of the famous recipients are:

- JRD Tata (1983), Satyajit Ray (1987), Pandit Ravi Shankar (2000), Zubin Mehta (2001), E Sreedharan (2005), Amitabh Bachchan (2007), Lata Mangeshkar (2007), Shah Rukh Khan (2014), Kamal Haasan (2016), Ratan Tata (2016), Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (2016), and Azim Premji (2018).
- 2. Everest conqueror 'Santosh Yadav' to be the first women chief guest at RSS Dussehra event in Nagpur ( Sept. 16, 2022 )

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The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has invited the illustrious mountaineer Santosh Yadav to be the Chief Guest at its annual Dussehra function in Nagpur on 5 October 2022.

It is for the first time that RSS has invited **any female** as a **chief guest** at an event which will be addressed by the RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat.

The speech given by Mohan Bhagwat during the event is of importance and is widely tracked by many as it lays out its views on a variety of issues and also outlines the agenda for the RSS for the year.

The RSS has traditionally invited distinguished persons from different walks of life as its chief guest at the much anticipated event.

Former President Pranab Mukherjee, Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi have been among the chief guests.

### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

## Santosh Yadav:

• 54 year old Santosh Yadav was born in the Joniyawas village of Rewari district in Haryana. She is the first woman to scale Mount Everest twice, in 1992 and 1993.

# Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS):

- RSS was founded by Dr. **Keshav Baliram Hedgewar** at Nagpur on 27th September 1925 on Vijayadashami Day f.
- It claims to be the world's largest social organization. It is a right wing Hindu organization which aims to create a Hindu rashtra in India.
- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is considered to be the political wing of RSS.
- Its Headquarters: Nagpur, Maharashtra.

# 3. Gautam Adani becomes second richest man in the world (Sept. 16, 2022)

Indian billionaire Gautam Adani has now become the second richest person in the world, surpassing Amazon's Jeff Bezos and France's Bernard Arnault, according to the Forbes Real-Time Billionaires List.

## **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- Adani's wealth is estimated to be worth around \$155.7 billion.
- He is now only behind Elon Musk whose net worth is estimated at around \$273.5
  billion.
- Wealth of Adani jumped **\$5.5 billion or 3.64 per cent** on 16 September following a rally in Adani Group stocks, seven of which are listed on Dalal Street.

- **Bernard Arnault** is now the **third richest** in the world with his family's net worth of around **\$155.2 billion**.
- Adani has also surpassed **Amazon founder Jeff Bezos**, who is now in fourth place with a net worth of **\$149.7 billion**.
- Adani surpassed Mukesh Ambani as the richest Asian in February for the first time, surpassing Microsoft Corp's Bill Gates in August as the world's fourth richest person.
- Gautam Adani is the founder of conglomerate Adani Group, the largest port operator in India.

# Other billionaires in top 10 list:

• Bill Gates (\$105.3 bn), Warren Buffett (\$96.5 bn), Mukesh Ambani (\$92.6 bn), Google cofounders Larry Page (\$89 bn) and Sergey Brin (\$85.4 bn).

# 4. Tennis great Roger Federer to retire from professional Tennis ( Sept. 15, 2022 )

Roger Federer of Switzerland, regarded as one of the greatest male tennis players, has announced his retirement from professional tennis on 15 September 2022.

He said that the Laver cup to be held in London, England next week will be his last professional tournament.

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- The 41 year old has won **20 Grand Slam singles titles** in his career spanning over 24 years. He has won seven Wimbledon titles, five U.S. Open titles, six Australian Open titles and a single French Open in 2009.
- He also holds the record for **237 consecutive weeks** as world number one player on the Association of Tennis Professional (ATP) ranking.

# 5. 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**

# 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. Bhutan's King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck meets Narendra Modi in New Delhi (Sept. 14, 2022)

The visiting Bhutan's King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck met the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 14 September 2022 in New Delhi .He also met the Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra and National Security Advisor, Ajit Doval.

## **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

## India Bhutan Relationship:

• India Bhutan relation is guided by **1949 treaty of Perpetual Peace and Friendship**. Under this treaty India will guide Bhutan in its Foreign Affairs and will pay an annual subsidy to Bhutan . The government of India will not interfere in the internal affairs of Bhutan. The Treaty was revised in 2007.

## **Economic relations:**

- The trade between the two countries is governed by the India-Bhutan Trade and Transit Agreement of 1972.
- India is Bhutan's largest trading partner.
- India has constructed three Hydroelectric Projects (HEPs) in Bhutan: **Chukha**, **Kurichhu**, and **Tala**. These power plants are operational and Bhutan exports electricity to India.
- Recently, India has completed a 720 MW Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Power Project and both sides are expediting the completion of other ongoing projects including the 1200MW Punatsangchhu-1 & 1020MW Punatsangchhu-2.
- Bhutan was the first country to receive the Covishield vaccines under India's Vaccine Maitri Initiative.

# Kingdom of Bhutan:

- It lies in South Asia and it is a member of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).
- The Bhutanese name for Bhutan, Druk Yul, means "Land of the Thunder Dragon"

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -**

The King of Bhutan is also called Druk Gyalpo.

Capital: Thimphu

Currency: **Ngultrum** 

Prime Minister: Lotay Tshering

# 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. Mukul Rohatgi to be the Attorney General of India again (Sept. 14, 2022)

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi is set to become the Attorney General of India again. He is set to begin his second term as the country's top law officer from October 1.

## **IMPORTANT FACTS -**

- Current Attorney General **KK Venugopal's** term ends on September 30, and has refused to extend his term, citing his age.
- 91-year-old Venugopal was appointed as the **15th Attorney General** of the country on June 30, 2017, replacing Mukul Rohatgi.
- Rohatgi has given his consent to assume the top post following a request from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).
- Rohatgi was the Attorney General for the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance government between 2014 and 2017.
- Mukul Rohatgi is the son of former Delhi High Court judge, Justice Awadh Behari Rohatgi.
- Rohatgi completed his law studies from Government Law College, Mumbai and started practising law.
- He was nominated as Senior Advocate by the Delhi High Court in 1993 and later as Additional Solicitor General of India in 1999.

## Attorney General of India:

- The Attorney General of India is the top legal officer in the country.
- He/She is assisted by 2 Solicitor Generals & 4 Additional Solicitor Generals.
- According to the Constitution of India, Article 76 deals with the Attorney General of India and Article 165 deals with the Advocate General of the States.
- Appointment By President on Government advice