

# MAHITHI MONTHLY SNIPPETS

JUNE 2022

## NAMMAKPSC SPECIAL EDITION



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# JUNE SNIPPETS

## STATE NEWS IN SHORT

- The joint committee appointed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to look into the causes of pollution in Ulsoor Lake has asked the civic body to modernise its slaughterhouse on Tannery Road by March 31, 2024.
- **Ananth Technologies** which designs and produces systems for Indian aerospace has set up a 15,000 square metre spacecraft manufacturing unit at KIADB Aerospace Park, Bengaluru, said to be the country's first such facility in the private sector. The manufacturing unit would be able to conduct assembly, integration and testing of four large spacecraft simultaneously
- The airport authorities have deployed 10 robot assistants called '**Temi**' on a pilot basis to assist passengers at the terminal-I of the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru. The robots will assist commuters in finding their boarding gate, shopping areas, baggage claim area, drinking water facilities and wash rooms, among others.
- **The phase II project of the coastal surveillance system** developed by the public-sector undertaking Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) will be operational along India's coastline by 2023 with the installation of 38 radar stations and four mobile stations.
- the Mysuru Division of South Western Railway will extend the concept of "**One Station One Product**" to 67 railway stations across Mysuru, Chamarajanagar, Hassan, Mangaluru, Madikeri, Tumakuru, Shivamogga, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Davangere and Haveri districts coming under its jurisdiction.
- **Rashtrothana Sahitya**, an affiliate of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, has been selected for the best publisher award with a cash prize of ₹1 lakh for 2021 by the The Kannada Book Authority (KBA).
- Two incubators supported by the departments of Electronics, IT, BT, and Science and Technology have bagged the top rankings, as per an annual survey that covered 40 bio-spectrum initiatives across the country in the public sector.
- The **138th birth anniversary of Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar**, the erstwhile ruler of Mysuru, was celebrated in Mysuru
- The Sir M Visvesvaraya Terminal is the country's **first largest air-conditioned rail concourse**, which will give passengers an airport kind of experience. The railway terminal, modelled after the Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru
- A five-year-long **research initiative on tribal health** was launched in Chamarajanagar district. Its aim is to conduct research, innovation and training on genetic diseases and hemoglobinopathies among the tribal communities
- **The Indian Institute of Science (IISc)**, Bengaluru, is the fastest rising South Asian University among the coveted **QS World University Rankings** top 200 varsities, having gained 31 places while four IITs have also figured in the category attaining a higher rank compared to the previous edition
- Considering the overwhelming response for its **Manvantara**, a unique initiative for cultivating reading habits and critical outlook among people in general and children in particular, the **Koppal district administration** has announced the second edition: **Manvantara 2**.

- Karnataka Minister of Energy, Kannada and Culture Sunil Kumar along with British High Commissioner to India Alex Ellis launched an electric vehicle awareness portal called '**EV Jagruthi**'.
- Former Karnataka High Court judge **Bhimanagouda Sanganagouda Patil** was sworn in as the **Lokayukta of Karnataka** on June 15.
- The State Government has decided to demand **national project tag for Upper Krishna**. The Union Government has already declared Upper Bhadra as a national project. The tag will facilitate flow of funds from the Union Government to the project. It will help the expansion of irrigation in the command area.
- **Mysuru hosted the main event of the 8th edition of International Day of Yoga (IDY)** with a mass yoga demonstration after a gap of two years. It was the first International Day of Yoga (IDY) public event after the outbreak of COVID-19. There have been no yoga demonstrations in public in India since 2020 due to curbs on mass gatherings owing to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Karnataka had conceived the idea of **palm oil mission** about 35 years ago, though it did not succeed due to various reasons. Experts suggest that Karnataka should revive the mission as it has a conducive environment for oil palm cultivation which can also contribute to increasing farmers' incomes.
- The Karnataka State government signed two **memoranda of understanding (MoUs)** with the objective of strengthening the economic activities of women self-help groups (SHGs) and facilitating organic farmers to sell their produce directly to consumers.
- Karnataka has recorded the highest ever pre-authorisations (1.55 lakh) under the **Ayushman Bharat-Arogya Karnataka**, its flagship health insurance scheme, in May this year.
- Researchers at Indian Institute of Science (IISc.) have developed a new graphic processing unit (GPU) based machine learning algorithm called **Regularised, Accelerated, Linear Fascicle Evaluation (ReAl – LiFE)**, which will help to obtain a better understanding and in the prediction of connectivity between different regions of human brain.



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- To improve sanitation and to create awareness on cleanliness in villages for holistic development of rural regions, the **Kalaburagi Zilla Panchayat** will launch “**Swachh Shukrawar**” programme in the district in July.
- Karnataka government has identified 1,000 acres of land at Kalaburagi and Vijayapura for the textile project. Large and Medium Industries Minister hinted that a Mega Integrated Textile Park under the **PM-MITRA scheme** would come up in Kalaburagi district.
- Governor Thawarchand Gehlot inaugurated the State’s **first disabled-friendly park in Jawaharlal Bal Bhavan (JBB), Cubbon Park**, built for children with disabilities by Mindtree and Bal Bhavan Society.
- The Karnataka government has selected the former Chief Minister S.M. Krishna, Infosys founder N.R. Narayana Murthy, and former Indian badminton player Prakash Padukone for the **Kempe Gowda International Award**, instituted in honour of Kempe Gowda, founder of Bengaluru.
- Gurulinga Kapse, veteran writer and translator has won the **Central Sahitya Akademi’s** annual translation award for the year 2022
- The “**One Health**” **pilot project** aimed at improving national and State-level resource allocation and policy ecosystem on early prediction, detection, and diagnosis of zoonotic diseases through increased quality, availability, and utility of data evidence, was launched in Bengaluru
- Highlighting the **SAMVAD model by NIMHANS**, a recent paper published in The Lancet Regional Health - Southeast Asia has said that this model is the way forward to strengthening the nation’s response to child and adolescent mental health (CAMH) issues.
- **Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL)** signed an **MoU with Defense Initiatives (DI)**, Belarus, and Defense Initiatives Aero Pvt. Ltd., India, a subsidiary of DI Belarus, for supply of Airborne Defense Suite (ADS) for the helicopters of the Indian Air Force (IAF). The cooperation between these companies is also aimed at exploring various business opportunities for India and global markets for ADS
- The Karnataka government has issued an order renaming the **Department of Primary and Secondary Education as the ‘Department of School Education and Literacy’**.
- The **Kempegowda International Airport (KIA)** has achieved 250-million passenger mark since the launch of its services 14 years ago.

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### NATION NEWS IN SHORT

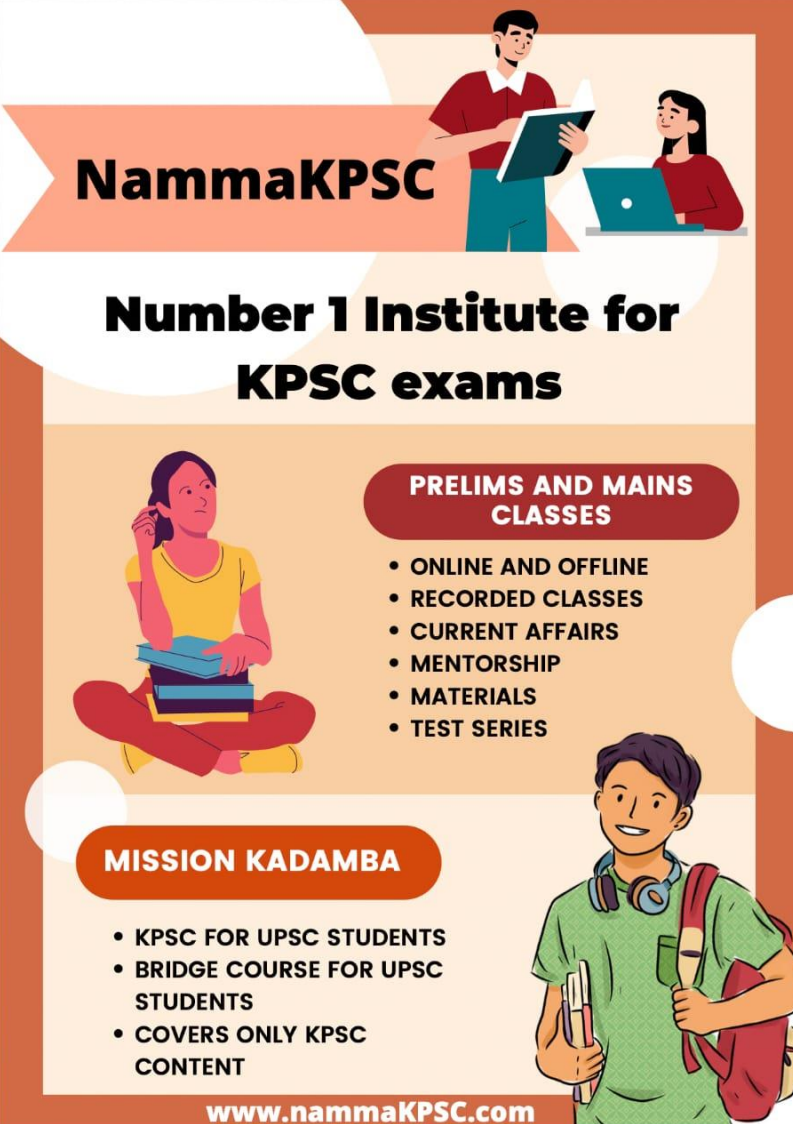
- The Central government has revised the premium rates for **Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)** and **Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)**, premium for both schemes that includes revising PMJJBY from Rs. 330 to Rs. 436 and PMSBY from Rs. 12 to Rs. 20
- The Tamil Nadu government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) for obtaining life certificate from pensioners through doorstep services of the Postal Department.
- The Union health ministry released detailed guidelines on surveillance, identification, confirmation, and treatment of the **monkey pox viral infection** in the country.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the headquarters of the **Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe)** at Bopal in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, on June 10. IN-SPACe, approved by the Union Cabinet in June 2020, will be the nodal

agency that will allow space activities and use of Department of Space-owned facilities by non-government private entities and ensure greater private participation in the sector.

- **The Har Ghar Dastak campaign 2.0** commenced across the country to ensure complete Covid-19 vaccination of all eligible beneficiaries, with special focus on inoculation of those in the 12-14 age group and precaution dose for those above 60.
- The Supreme Court directed that every protected forest, national park and wildlife sanctuary across the country should have a **mandatory eco-sensitive zone (ESZ)** of a minimum one km starting from their demarcated boundaries.
- The West Bengal government has bagged the **SKOCH award for 'ease of doing businesses**
- Preparations are afoot for the 90th **Interpol General Assembly** that is to be held in the National Capital later this year. The arrangements for the event are being made by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in coordination with other government agencies.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged bank chiefs to make it easier for people to avail loans through a new **Jan Samarth portal**, a repository of a dozen credit-linked government schemes.
- Three out of every four river monitoring stations in India posted alarming levels of **heavy toxic metals** such as lead, iron, nickel, cadmium, arsenic, chromium and copper according to the **State of Environment Report 2022**.
- The **Chilika Lake, Asia's largest brackish water lagoon**, has 176 fishing cats, according to a census conducted by Chilika Development Authority (CDA) in collaboration with The Fishing Cat Project (TFCP).
- A research team of the Shadpada Entomology Research Lab (SERL) of Christ College Irinjalakuda, has found a **rare species of Osmylidae** or lance lacewing from Janakikadu in Kozhikode district.
- On the occasion of World Environment Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the **'Lifestyle for the Environment (LiFE) Movement'**, a global initiative, via video conferencing. The World Environment Day was observed on 5<sup>th</sup> June
- The Union Civil Aviation Minister, has said that the Government of India is exploring the possibility of inviting manufacturers of **Electric Vertical Take-off and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft** to set up base in India.
- India is set to deploy drones to gather atmospheric data that is currently collated by sending sensors through weather balloons released from at least 55 locations across the country twice every day.
- **Tamil Nadu Start-up and Innovation Mission**, popularly known as TANSIM among entrepreneurs, has launched an initiative called **'S2G Buy Day'** to link start-ups and the government.
- The State-level **'Suchitwa Sagaram, Sundara Teeram'**, an ambitious project aimed at making the sea and coast plastic-free was inaugurated in Kerala.
- The **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** voted unanimously to increase the repo rate by 50 basis points to 4.90% in a bid to slow inflation that it estimates will average 7.5% in the current April-June quarter.
- India has objected to a report, called the **Environmental Performance Index (EPI), 2022**, that places India last in a list of 180 countries on managing climate change, environmental health, and ecosystem vitality.



- Tamil Nadu has topped the **Fourth State Food Safety Index 2021-22** of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), replacing Gujarat, which slipped to the second spot among 17 large states, followed by Maharashtra on the third place.
- The use of coal as a fuel in industrial and domestic units will be banned in the National Capital Region from January 2023 but the ban will not apply to thermal power plants
- The State-level inauguration of the school weather station project of the **Samagra Shiksha** was held at Kollam School Kerala
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Biotech Startup expo 2022** at Pragati Maidan.
- The Agriculture Ministry unveiled India's first Covid-19 vaccine for animals. Developed by: the Hisar-based National Research Centre on Equines, The vaccine name: **Ancovax**,
- It Protects animals against the **Delta and Omicron variants of SARS-CoV-2**
- The **World Bank cut India's economic growth forecast** for the current fiscal to 7.5% as rising inflation, supply chain disruptions and geopolitical tensions taper recovery.
- Fitch Ratings revised India's outlook from '**negative**' to '**stable**' on, June 10, 2022, citing fading downside risks to medium-term growth thanks to a rapid economic recovery and easing of weaknesses in the financial sector.
- India remained on the **US treasury department's currency "Monitoring List"** of major trading partners as Washington placed India along with 11 other major economies that merit close attention to their currency practices and macroeconomic policies.
- **NLC India Ltd., (NLCIL), a Navaratna Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)** under the Ministry of Coal has planned to set up a **methanol project** using lignite with an investment of ₹4,400 crore in Neyveli.
- The Cabinet approved the **Agnipath scheme for temporary recruitment** to the armed forces. This scheme entails a recruitment process for individuals below the rank of officer, with the goal of deploying fitter, younger troops on the front lines, many of whom will be



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on four-year contracts. It's a game-changing project that will give the Army, Navy, and Air Force a more young image.

- India has witnessed the sharpest rise among the Asian economies, with a six-position jump from 43rd to 37th rank on the **annual World Competitiveness Index compiled by the Institute for Management Development**, largely due to gains in economic performance.
- The **Wayanad District Tourism Promotion Council (DTPC)** is preparing to launch kayaking, an adventure tourism-cum-sports activity, in more water bodies in the district. The sports activity is being experimented in a river for the first time in the district
- **Andhra Pradesh is set to take up transit oriented development (TOD)**, a form of compact, pedestrian and non-motorised vehicle (NMV) friendly development that promotes mixed land use along the mass transit corridors in the urban areas.
- Dragonfly enthusiasts have recorded the presence of a rare dragonfly that was hitherto unseen in Kerala. **Spiny Horntail discovered in Kottiyoor forests of Kannur**
- The **world's largest recorded freshwater fish, a giant stingray**, has been caught in the Mekong River in Cambodia, according to scientists from the Southeast Asian nation and the United States
- The **Noolpuzha Family Health Centre (FHC)**, which caters to the health care of the **State's second largest tribal grama panchayat**, has been selected for the **National Quality Assurance Certification (NQAC) process** for the second consecutive time.
- According to the **World Gold Council (WGC) report** titled '**Gold refining and recycling**', **India has emerged as the fourth largest** recycler in the world and the country has recycled 75 tonnes in 2021
- A public interest litigation (PIL) seeking to invalidate **Talaq-e-Hasan**, the **prescribed Islamic way of divorce**, has been filed in the Supreme Court. **Talaq-e-Hasan is pronounced with a gap of at least one month or one menstrual cycle**. The **Quran clearly mentions the process of Talaq-e-Hasan**, According to Surah Baqarah, verse 229.
- **Fasal Bhavantar Kawach** an Insurance scheme launched to protect **chilli farmers in A.P.** from price fluctuations. Syngenta India has entered into an exclusive agreement with the Agriculture Insurance Company of India (AIC) with an aim to safeguard farmers from unfavourable price fluctuations due to unpredictable market conditions.
- The World Bank has approved a project worth ₹1,000 crore for taking rain-fed farming to new heights in the hilly regions of Uttarakhand.
- Scientists have recorded four species of **azooxanthellate corals** for the first time from Indian waters. These new corals were found from the waters of **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**. **Azooxanthellate corals are a group of corals that do not contain zooxanthellae and derive nourishment not from the sun but from capturing different forms of plankton**
- A new species of spider **Pseudomogrus sudhii** discovered from the Thar desert of Rajasthan has been named after a Malayalee arachnologist Sudhikumar A.V., Head, Department of Zoology, Christ College, Irinjalakuda, and founder of the Centre for Animal Taxonomy and Ecology (CATE) in recognition of his contributions to the field of Indian arachnology.
- **Dutch Disease** in economics refers to a phenomenon wherein a country witnesses uneven growth across sectors due to the discovery of natural resources, especially large oil reserves
- Hyderabad-based Creasent Handicraft Artisans Welfare Association has filed an application for securing a **Geographical Indications tag** for **lac bangles** that are manufactured in the city.



- India will need \$223 billion of investment to meet its goal of wind and solar capacity installations by 2030, according to a new report by research company BloombergNEF (BNEF).
- **The Department of Biotechnology of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras** is organising a continuing medical education programme on 'Technological interventions to standardise the indigenous system of medicine in India', from June 20 to 25. The Ministry of Ayush is sponsoring the programme called **AYURTECH 2022-CME**.
- **The Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre** at the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences has been conferred with the '**World Congress on Disaster Management - Disaster Risk Reduction Excellence Award**' under the category of disaster preparedness for effective and efficient disaster risk management at New Delhi
- **Attorney General (A-G) K.K. Venugopal** has been re-appointed as the country's top law officer for a period of three months. An eminent advocate of the Supreme Court, who served as the Additional Solicitor General of India between 1979 and 1980, Mr. Venugopal was conferred the Padma Bhushan in 2002 and Padma Vibhushan in 2015.
- The month-long **Bonalu festivities** will kickstart on June 30 from the historic Sri Jagadamba Mahankali temple in Golkonda
- In a rare finding, an '**Adhikara Nandi**' idol was found at the Kasavagu Anjaneya Swamy temple in Mittapalli.
- Scientists have discovered the **world's largest bacterium in a Caribbean mangrove swamp**. Most bacteria are microscopic, but this one is so big it can be seen with the naked eye.
- Miners in the Klondike gold fields of Canada's far north have made a rare discovery, digging up the **mummified remains of a near complete baby woolly mammoth**
- The government's policy think tank **Niti Aayog** has recommended that measures should be taken to provide for social security, including paid leave, occupational disease and work accident insurance, support during irregularity of work and pension plans, for the **gig workforce in the country**, which is expected to grow to 2.35 crore by 2029-30.
- The World Bank has approved a \$250 million loan to support the Government of **India's road safety programme for seven States** under which a single accident reporting number will be set up to better manage post-crash events.
- India successfully test-fired its indigenously developed, nuclear-capable **Prithvi-II missile** during night time as part of a user training trial from a test range off the Odisha coast.



## INTERNATIONAL AND OTHER NEWS IN SHORT

- In a major boost to the domestic defence manufacturing capacity, the government has placed an order for a Rs 3,000-crore **Astra MK1 missile** designed and manufactured indigenously.
- The James Webb Space Telescope will begin with in-depth scientific observations. Among the investigations that are planned for the telescope's first year are two exoplanets classified as "**super-Earths**": the lava covered **55 Cancri e** and the **atmosphere-less LHS 3844 b**.
- **Hurricane Agatha** caused flooding and mudslides in Mexico
- **The Indian Navy decommissioned its two ships, INS Akshay and INS Nishank, after 32 years of service** including participation in Operation Talwar and Operation Parakram.
- Three days after restarting two cross-border trains stopped amid Covid-19 pandemic, therefore India and Bangladesh jointly flagged off a new passenger train – **Mitali Express**.
- Researchers have discovered what is now believed to be the largest plant in the world: an ancient specimen of an incredibly resilient sea grass that stretches across 180km and is estimated to be at least 4,500 years old. The single plant of **Posidonia australis** was discovered in the shallow waters of the World Heritage Area of Shark Bay in Western Australia.
- A successful training launch of an **Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile, Agni-4**, was carried out on June 06, 2022 from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha.
- NATO kicked off nearly a two-week **United States-led naval exercise on the Baltic Sea** with more than 7,000 sailors, airmen and marines from 16 nations, including two aspiring to join the military alliance, Finland and Sweden.
- **India and Vietnam signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** on mutual logistics support in presence of the two Defence Ministers during the ongoing visit of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to the Southeast Asian nation.
- The Union Cabinet signed a **MoU between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)** on cooperation in the field of industries and advanced technologies
- **Tokyo Paralympics champion Avani Lekhara won gold at the Para Shooting World Cup** with a world record score of 250.6 in women's 10m air rifle standing SH1 in Chateauroux, France
- **Mithali Raj**, the world's leading batter in women's cricket, with a slew of records, announced her retirement
- Several **West Asian nations** including Qatar, Kuwait, Iran, Bahrain, Oman, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the UAE as well as the 57-nation Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) took strong exception to the remarks denigrating **Islam and the Prophet Muhammed**.
- **Iran and Venezuela** signed a 20-year cooperation plan in Tehran as the two countries, among the world's top oil producers, grapple with U.S. sanctions that are crippling their exports.
- On the eve of the **12th ministerial conference (MC)** of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva, India said it will pitch for "fair, just and transparent discussions and outcome" at the multilateral body, amid persisting differences between the developing and the developed countries on a broad range of contentious issues.
- The Indian Coast Guard Region (East) inducted the **Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mark-III**, indigenously developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL), in Chennai

- **Amrita' oil barge** from the Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation (KSINC) is ready for service.
- The United Nations has designated **June 20 as World Refugee Day** to honour forcibly displaced people all around the world and celebrate their strength and courage. For the 2022 edition of World Refugee Day, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has decided to focus on the right of refugees to seek safety.
- China says it has successfully conducted a midcourse missile interception test, a move that could advance its ability to withstand foreign intervention as it presses its territorial claims.
- Days ahead of the inauguration of **the Padma Multipurpose Bridge**, the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has clarified that the landmark infrastructure project was not part of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The 6.15-km-long bridge has been under construction since 2014, and Dhaka said that the project was "entirely funded" by the Government of Bangladesh.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, U.S. President Joe Biden, Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett, and UAE President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan would attend the first-of-its-kind virtual summit of the **I2U2 grouping** next month for discussions of the food security crisis and other areas of cooperation.
- **Ruchira Kamboj**, who is currently serving as India's envoy to Bhutan, will succeed T.S. Tirumurti as the Indian ambassador to the U.N.
- **The 68th edition of the Nehru Trophy Boat Race (NTBR)** is likely to be held on September 4. The NTBR will also be the first race of this year's Champions Boat League (CBL). The NTBR and the CBL will be held after a pandemic-induced gap of two years. The race was last held on August 31, 2019.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi led India's participation at the **14th BRICS Summit**, convened under the Chairship of President Xi Jinping of China on 23-24 June 2022, in a virtual format.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Germany to attend **the G7 Summit at Schloss Elmau**, a century-old retreat in the Bavarian Alps.



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