

MAHITHI MONTHLY SNIPPETS

JULY 2022

NAMMAKPSC SPECIAL EDITION



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JULY SNIPPETS

STATE NEWS IN SHORT

- To mark **National Doctors' Day** that is observed on **July 1**, the State Health and Family Welfare Department has launched a **"Selfie with a doctor"** campaign. Every year, National Doctor's Day is observed on **July 1** in the memory of **Dr Bidhan Roy**, the former Chief Minister of Bengal, who was known for his selfless service to humanity.
- **The SJCE-STEP Startup Technology Business Incubator** at Mysuru launched a training programme to give a boost to Startups and innovators. The programme is supported by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, along with other ecosystem partners and about 15 startups, 6 innovators, 45 student fellows, 20 mentors and 10 investors will be part of the nearly four-month long programme
- The **third version of GST Prime**, an analytical system from National Informatics Centre (NIC) that will help increase tax compliance, was launched in Bengaluru by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai. • GST-Prime is a product by National Informatics Centre (NIC) to help the tax administrators of state/centre to analyse and monitor the tax collection and compliance in their jurisdiction.
- **Karnataka, which ranked low at 14th in India in the number of Ayushman Bharat Health Accounts (ABHAs)**, has set up an ambitious target of creating the unique health identity cards for the entire population in the next six months
- The Karnataka State government has issued a circular ordering all higher educational institutions and institutions under the Department of Collegiate & Technical Education (DCTE) to ensure the success **of the Union government's Har Ghar Tiranga campaign**.
- The **New Mangalore Port Authority** achieved yet another milestone when it received the **first mainline container vessel, MSC Erminia** at the Port on July 3. With a length of 276.5 mts and draft of 12.8 mts, the vessel was berthed at Berth No. 14 West, said a communiqué from the Port Authority. It carried 1,771 TEUs of 1,265 units of import containers.
- **Sini Shetty from Karnataka** was announced the **winner of Femina Miss India World 2022** title at the grand finale of VLCC Femina Miss India. At the ceremony, hosted at the Jio World Convention Centre, Rajasthan's Rubal Shekhawat emerged as Femina Miss India 2022 first runner-up and Shinata Chauhan from Uttar Pradesh was named Femina Miss India 2022 second runner-up.
- Researchers led by those from the National Centre of Biological Sciences, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bengaluru (NCBS-TIFR), have found **a new pathway that regulates nitrate absorption in plants**.
- Five months after Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced the reintroduction of Yeshaswini health scheme for farmers, there is still no clarity on how the scheme will be made available in a new form. • Yeshaswini, launched in 2003 by the State government, was one of the largest self-funded healthcare schemes in the country.
- In a move aimed at increasing green cover and providing a recreation area, an urban forest has been raised at Navalur located between Hubballi and Dharwad by the Forest Department and has been named after environmentalist Saalumara Thimmakka.

- Minister for Handloom, Textiles, Sugarcane Development and Sugar said that it has been planned to irrigate 10,000 hectares of farmland through the **Sri Yogeshwar Lift Irrigation Project in Navalgund** and Hubballi taluks.
- The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has reissued the draft notification of the Ecologically Sensitive Area (ESA) in Western Ghats, of which 20,668 sq. km is in Karnataka. The Centre has notified 46,832 sq. km spread across Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu while leaving out Kerala in the draft notification which has been rejected multiple times by the States concerned.
- Karnataka has bagged the “**Best Performer**” award in the DPIIT’s (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade) State/ Union Territory Startup ranking - 2021. The DPIIT has considered the State as an institutional champion, an innovative leader, a procurement forerunner, a capacity-building pioneer, and a founding leader.
- **Maitri**-A pilot project on distribution of menstrual cups as a hygiene device for adolescent girls was launched at B.R. Hills in Chamarajanagar
- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have developed a design framework to build next-generation analog computing chipsets that could be faster and require less power than the digital chips found in most electronic devices. Using a novel design framework, the team has built a prototype of an analog chipset called **ARYABHAT-1** (Analog Reconfigurable technology And Bias-scalable Hardware for AI Tasks).
- **The Bharat Gaurav train** connecting important pilgrimage centres in the north with Karnataka will be launched by the end of August. Approval has been given for the launch of the Bharath Gaurav train and **Karnataka will be the first State** in the country to launch the train.
- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai unveiled the logo of the **first-ever Bengaluru Design Festival** scheduled to be held from November 11 and launched the festival campaign. The festival will open up a lot of opportunities for all the stakeholders and put Bengaluru at the forefront as a design destination, be it learning, applying, activities or developing creative solutions.
- Veerendra Heggade of Dharmasthala **launches Vanashri afforestation scheme** in the Mysuru city The Vanashri programme initiated by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) to plant 25,000 saplings in the city during the year and shore up the green cover was launched.
- The Union Ministry of Mines has awarded both the mining leases of the Sandur Manganese & Iron Ores Limited (SMIORE) with the five-star Rating for the year 2020-21. The SMIORE has consistently been receiving the 5 Star rating for its Mining Leases without



a break ever since the Sustainable Development Framework (SDF) was introduced by the Union Ministry of Mines in 2014-15.

- Foundation for **the South India's first IFFCO nano urea (liquid)** manufacturing will be laid at Naganayakanahalli near Devanahalli
- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced that **Bhoochetana programme** of improving soil health will be reintroduced in Karnataka. Bhoochetana scheme had been started by the then Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa in 2009. The scheme focused on protection of soil health and improvement of crop yield through proper management of nutrients and fertilizers, it was needed now to ensure efficient utilisation of fertilizers and nutrients.
- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai launched '**one district-one skill**' programme aimed at rejuvenating the traditional skills practiced in Karnataka as part of World Youth Skills Day event. • The corporation has identified various traditional arts and skills of every district in the State and this programme is designed for technological upgradation and design intervention of these special skills.
- A total of 11 educational institutions from the State have figured in the top ten lists across all categories under the **National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)** which was released by the **Ministry of Education**. Three premier institutions in Bengaluru — **the Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** in the city has yet again ranked **second among higher education institutions** in the country, the **Indian Institute of Management, Bengaluru (IIMB)**, and the **National Law School of India University (NLSIU)** ranked as the top university in law category
- Though the Centre has given a target of **eradicating malaria by 2030**, the Karnataka government has taken it as a challenge to make the State malaria free by 2025, said Health Minister K. Sudhakar. • Generally, cases of malaria and dengue increase during the monsoon season and currently, there has been very heavy rain in 13 districts of Karnataka.
- The Mysuru-based Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) has proposed to launch the Language Repository of India and it may be named as "**Bharatiya Bhasha Sangam**".
- It will be a repository of languages, including languages from the Scheme for Protection and Preservation of Endangered Languages (SPPEL), Bhasha Mandakini, fieldwork data of around 160 languages, classical languages' texts, CIIL books and others.
- **Mobile app e-gurutu:** The Child Protection Directorate has developed a mobile app titled e-gurutu to rescue children who have taken to beggary, Social Welfare Minister Kota Srinivas Poojary said, and appealed to the public to pass on the information about children taking to beggary to the authorities concerned by calling the helpline 1098.
- **Aircraft engine maker Pratt & Whitney (PW)** said it will set up an engineering centre in Bengaluru, that is slated to commence operations in January 2023. The centre, which will be its first facility in Asia Pacific and fifth globally, will enable the firm to offer engineering services on contract to its domestic and international customers. PW's integrated global engineering operations currently has centres in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and Poland.
- **The new Karnataka Employment Policy, 2022-25**, has mandated investors to increase the number of jobs for locals while expanding their industrial units or setting up new industries in the State. • The vision is to ensure ample availability of the relevant workforce across Karnataka and provide job opportunities to a larger base of the State's workforce to reduce unemployment in Karnataka.

- A commission headed by K. Bhakthavatsala, former judge of the Karnataka High Court, to **study suitable political representation for other backward classes (OBCs) in urban local body (ULB) elections** submitted a report to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.
- Karnataka has bagged the top rank in NITI Aayog's India Innovation Index, 2022, which determines innovation capacities and ecosystems at the sub-national level. **The State has held this position, under the Major States category, in all three editions of the Index so far.**
- The country's sole **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)-recognised national flag** manufacturing unit of **Karnataka Khadi Gramodyog Samyukta Sangha, Bengeri, at Hubballi in northern Karnataka**, is not making preparations for the platinum jubilee celebrations of Independence. This is the unit which supplies the Tricolour to be hoisted atop the Red Fort. The Centre's amendment to the National Flag Code allowing flags made of polyester cloth, the Sangha has not even received half the usual orders. So far, it has orders for flags worth just around ₹ 1.2 crore, but the Sangha has raw material stock to supply flags worth ₹5 crore
- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai launched a slew of welfare measures, including the **Swami Vivekananda Yuvashakti Yojane** that aims at empowerment of rural youth, to mark first anniversary of his government.
- The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and the Indian Navy have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), **to collaborate on aviation research and development.**
- The Deputy Commissioner Nitesh Patil launched **Punyakoti Dattu Yojane**, the State government's cow adoption scheme, in Belagavi. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai launched the scheme portal recently. A mobile application will be developed to provide all necessary information to the public about the scheme. The scheme aims at **taking care of non-milch cattle and sick animals** and other animals condemned by farmers, with the cooperation of the public
- The '**Amrutha Bharathige Kannadada Aarati**', organised to mark the 75 th anniversary of Indian Independence by the Kannada and Culture Department came for praise from Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his 91 st edition of Mann Ki Baat
- A two-day workshop on climate-smart capital budgeting under the **Sustainable Cities Integrated Approach Pilot (SCIAP)** project of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), in association with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for the officials of the Mysuru City Corporation
- **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** has proposed tourism in the buffer zone to reduce pressure on the core area, or in reserves and in places where the tourist footfall has exceeded the carrying capacity of the notified tiger reserve. If all goes as planned, a safari will be introduced at two more places in the Nagarhole Tiger Reserve in Karnataka.



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NATION NEWS IN SHORT

- Modi to launch year-long celebrations to remember contributions of **Alluri Sitarama Raju**
- **The 500-year-old painting of Our Lady of Ransom** that adorns the main altar of the **Vallarpadam Basilica** has been reinstalled after restoration.
- **Single-use plastic (SUP) products are banned** in the whole country from July 1st. As the name suggests, it refers to plastic items that are used once and discarded. Single-use plastic has among the highest shares of plastic manufactured and used — from packaging of items, to bottles (shampoo, detergents, cosmetics), polythene bags, face masks, coffee cups, cling film, trash bags, food packaging etc
- In Odisha, scientists are now fine-tuning their research to make a presentation for the geographical **indications (GI) registry of Kai Chutney**. Applied under food category, the GI tag would help develop a structured hygiene protocol in the preparation of Kai Chutney for standard wider use. GI labels enhance the reputation and value of local products and support local businesses.
- **The Union Home Ministry has amended certain rules related to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), allowing Indians to receive up to ₹10 lakh in a year from relatives staying abroad without informing the authorities. The earlier limit was ₹1 lakh.**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled the **national emblem cast** on the roof of the new Parliament building. The emblem is made up of bronze with a total weight of 9,500 kg and is 6.5 metre in height. It has been cast at the top of the central foyer of the new Parliament building, and a supporting structure of steel weighing around 6,500 kg has been constructed to support the emblem.
- The Tripura government has decided to restart **the Vidyalaya Cholo Abhiyan** to bring back around 9,000 students aged between six and 14 who dropped out of 4,300 schools across the State during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) recently issued guidelines to prevent false or misleading advertisements. The guidelines are path breaking because they fill significant consumer protection gaps while explicitly outlining advertiser duties. The guidelines also try to discourage the promotion of illogical consumerism aimed at children.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a three-day summit in Varanasi that culminated with the adoption of the **Varanasi Declaration on higher education**.
- The legendary **Kannimara teak of the Parambikulam Tiger Reserve** is still growing in height and girth. Over the last five years, the centuries-old teak has grown by 1.85 metres in height and 9 cm in girth, sending promising signals of hope for one of the largest and oldest teak tree in the world.
- To bolster measurement of air pollution in rural India, **the Indian Institute of Technology-Kanpur**, is embarking on a \$2.5 million project (₹19 crore) to install nearly 1,400 sensors in rural blocks of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar
- The staff of Amaravati Boating Club (ABC), a private firm that organises leisure water sports at Bhavani Island in the Krishna River spotted a **red-eared slider** in the jetty area.
- Former NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant will be the new Sherpa of G-20, replacing Union Minister Piyush Goyal, as full-time sherpa is required for India's presidency.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired a **meeting of the Northern Zonal Council** in Jaipur, where security, road, transport, industries, water, power and other issues of common interests was discussed

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has put in place a **mechanism to facilitate international trade in rupees (INR)**, with immediate effect. However, banks acting as authorised dealers for such transactions would have to take prior approval from the regulator to facilitate this.
- The Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board and the Chettikulam Small Onion Farmers' Producer Association, Perambalur, have filed an application seeking Geographical Indications (GI) tag for **the Chettikulam small onion**.
- India ranks 135 among a total of 146 countries in the **Global Gender Gap Index 2022** and is the **worst performer in the world in the "health and survival" sub-index** where it is ranked 146.
- The fastest land animal in the world, declared extinct in the country in 1952, will find a new home in the **Kuno-Palpur National Park (KNP)** in Sheopur district,
- A wildlife sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh is getting ready to welcome its new inhabitants, African cheetahs, which are being brought under an **intercontinental translocation project**.
- About 20 km from Rairangpur lies **Gorumahisani**, which is India's first iron ore mine, and widely dubbed as **'mother mine' for empire of Tata Steel** that has grown to a global steel behemoth having crude steel capacity of 34 million tonnes per annum.
- Every person in India can be a minority in one State or the other. **Minority status of religious and linguistic communities is "State-dependent", the Supreme Court** said on July 18.
- The **Navy's Kilo-class submarine, INS Sindhudhvaj**, was decommissioned from service at Visakhapatnam after 35 years in service. With this, the Navy now has 15 conventional submarines in service
- Google celebrated the 113th birth anniversary of famous Malayalam poet **Balamani Amma** with a Doodle illustrated by Kerala-based artist Devika Ramachandran. "Balamani Amma's poems describing her love for children and grandchildren earned her the titles of Amma (Mother) and Muthassi (Grandmother) of Malayalam poetry
- The Lok Sabha passed **the Indian Antarctica Bill, 2022**. Such a law was necessary under India's obligations as a signatory to the Antarctic Treaty of 1963.
- The key objectives of the Treaty are to demilitarise Antarctica, establish it as a zone free of nuclear tests, the disposal of radioactive waste, to ensure that it is used for peaceful purposes only; To promote international scientific cooperation in Antarctica and to set aside disputes over territorial sovereignty.
- The **Anti-Maritime Piracy Bill, 2019** has been listed for consideration and passing during the Monsoon session of the Parliament. If passed, the Bill will bring the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) into domestic law and enable Indian authorities to take action against piracy on the high seas.
- Denying an unmarried woman the **right to a safe abortion** violates her personal autonomy and freedom", observed the Supreme Court while allowing an unmarried woman to seek abortion of her pregnancy of a term of 24 weeks which arose out of a consensual relationship.
- The occurrence of **uranium in groundwater** beyond the permissible limits was observed in around 409 samples against 14,377 samples analysed in 18 states, the Jal Shakti Ministry said.

- Adequate nutrients brought by substantial rain and a high abundance of the **plankton**, called **diatom Thalassiosira sp.** triggered the (bioluminescent) bloom of **Noctiluca scintillans**, says a study done by the National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR).
- India is preparing to auction off about 72 Ghz of airwaves to rollout 5G services in the country. However, the infrastructure needed for such a rollout requires existing radio towers to be connected via optical-fibre cables. The work of connecting the towers could prove to be a huge challenge for the country. The process of connecting radio towers with each other via optical fibre cables is **called fiberisation**.
- The Union Cabinet, approved the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in the field of **judicial cooperation, between India and Judicial Service Commission of Maldives**



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- China successfully launched the **first lab module** for its under-construction space station, the latest step in the country's ambitious programme to complete it by year's end
- Tamil movie "**Soorai Pottru**" bagged **national awards for the Best Feature Film**, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Background Score and the Best Screenplay at the 68th National Film Awards-2020.
- **Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra** made history winning the **javelin silver at the World Athletics Championships in Eugene, Oregon** Neeraj's 88.13m fourth attempt made him the country's first-ever silver medallist and the first male medallist at the Worlds, pushing Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch (88.09) to bronze.
- Grenada's defending World champion Anderson Peters retained his title with a massive 90.21m opener and then followed it with two more 90-plus throws (90.46 & 90.54) in what was perhaps the greatest series in Worlds history.

- **National record holder Annu Rani finished seventh with 61.12m in the women's javelin** throw final at the World Athletics Championships. She had posted an identical mark while finishing eighth at the last Worlds in Doha in 2019.
- **Telangana Forest staff will soon be equipped with 'wildlife evidence collection kits'** to be able to fight the illegal trade in body parts of wild fauna. The kits, supplied by the Wildlife Conservation Society-India as part of the existing collaboration with the Forest department, include protection gear such as surgical gloves, and masks, containers to store evidence, preservatives, sample collection equipment and notepad. The kits are accompanied by an illustrative guidebook titled, 'Biological Sample Collection for Wildlife Forensics', which aims to provide reference for law enforcement officials on best practices and procedures to be followed while collecting and preserving various kinds of samples found at wildlife crime scenes
- The Supreme Court has put a stamp of approval to the 'restrictive' conditions of bail and almost blanket powers of arrest, search and seizure under the **Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) Act**
- The **Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill 2022** seeks to enable India to reach its climate targets under the Paris Climate Agreement before 2030. In a bid to meet India's commitment to exceed its **Paris agreement climate targets**, the Centre plans to table the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill 2022 in the ongoing Monsoon session of Parliament.
- On July 26, Lok Sabha passed a bill to grant statutory cover to already established family courts in **Himachal Pradesh and Nagaland** and retrospectively validate actions taken by them.
- The odonates' checklist of Kerala has now grown to 182 with the discovery of a new damselfly species from the Western Ghats in the **Peechi Wildlife Sanctuary in Thrissur**.
- India has added five more Ramsar sites, or wetlands that are of international importance, bringing the number of **such sites to 54**. These are the **Karikili Bird Sanctuary, Pallikarandai Marsh Reserve Forest and Pichavaram Mangrove in Tamil Nadu, the Sakhya Sagar in Madhya Pradesh and Pala Wetland in Mizoram**
- **Global Tiger Day** is celebrated every year on **July 29th** as a way to raise awareness about this magnificent but endangered big cat. The day was founded in 2010, when the 13 tiger range countries came together to create Tx2 – the global goal to double the number of wild tigers by the year 2022
- Astronomers have observed the most massive known example of an object called a **neutron star, one classified as a "black widow"** that got particularly hefty by gobbling up most of the mass of a stellar companion.
- Built by 750 girl students of 75 schools across India, **AzaadiSAT** is all set for launch early next month on board the maiden flight of ISRO's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV).
- **Google announced** the launch of its popular '**Street View**' feature in India – after failing to bring the experience to India at least twice in the past decade following security concerns raised by government agencies over collection of data
- July 26 is observed as '**Kargil Vijay Diwas**' to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the war.

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INTERNATIONAL AND OTHER NEWS IN SHORT

- Malaysia has narrowed down on the Indian aircraft notwithstanding stiff competition from China's JF-17 jet, South Korea's FA-50 and Russia's Mig-35 and the Yak-130 plane
- According to the report, India's population stands at 1.412 billion in 2022, compared to China's 1.426 billion **The World Population Prospects 2022 by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division**, said that the global population is projected to reach eight billion on November 15, 2022.
- The latest news in the field of dark matter is a **dark matter detector experiment named LUX-ZEPLIN (LZ)** in South Dakota in the U.S.
- Indian soldiers patrolling on the Line of Actual Control (LAC), when they come face to face with Chinese soldiers, will soon be able to understand Mandarin and reply back instantly, with the help of a **600gm Artificial Intelligence**-based device developed by an Indian start-up.
- Iran and Belarus** could soon become the newest members of the China and Russia-backed **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)**.
- The holy city of Varanasi, showcasing India's culture and traditions over the ages, will be declared the **first "Cultural and Tourism Capital" of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation**.
- The legislative amendment was introduced by Indian-American Congressman Ro Khanna. The U.S. House of Representative passed a legislative amendment that **approves an India-specific waiver for punitive CAATSA sanctions**.
- The United Arab Emirates will invest \$2 billion to develop a series of **integrated food parks across India** under the framework of the four-nation grouping '**I2U2**'. The decision was announced after the leaders of the grouping — Prime Minister Narendra Modi, U.S. President Joe Biden, Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid and UAE President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan — held the first virtual summit.
- A **volcano on Japan's major western island of Kyushu**, called **Sakurajima**, erupted. Sakurajima is one of Japan's most active volcanoes and eruptions of varying levels take place on a regular basis. In 2019 it spewed ash 5.5 km (3.4 miles) high.

- **India and Oman** will carry out a nearly two-week military exercise beginning August 1, with a focus on counter-terror cooperation. The fourth edition of India-Oman joint military exercise, '**AL NAJAH-IV**', will take place in the Mahajan field firing ranges in Rajasthan from August 1 to 13.

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