

MAHITHI MONTHLY SNIPPETS

AUGUST 2022

NAMMAKPSC SPECIAL EDITION



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August snippets

STATE NEWS IN SHORT

- The farmers in the villages of Saidur, Kanale and Hirenallur gram panchayats grow a **flood-resistant traditional variety called Nereguli**. Though the yield is less compared to other varieties of paddy, this variety has higher rate of tolerance to flood.
- The renowned **Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary in Srirangapatna** has been declared a **Ramsar site** underlining its status as a wetland of international importance.
- **This is also the first and the only Ramsar site in Karnataka** though India's tally of such sites stands at 64
- In addition to **egg, banana, and shenga chikki in midday meals**, the State government now plans to add millets like **ragi and jowar** to the diet of government and aided schoolchildren. As a part of providing regional and nutritious food, the **Department of School Education and Literacy** plans to provide **ragi mudde for South Karnataka** students and **jolada rotti for North Karnataka** students, along with rice and sambar in the midday meals
- Modifying the **Arogya Bandhu scheme guidelines**, the State government has now **limited the continuation of the scheme in only 12 Primary Health Centres (PHCs)** that are 15 km away from the highway. This follows the recommendations by a committee set up to examine the feasibility of the scheme in September 2021.
- Karnataka Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar has invited interested citizens to submit **logo designs for the State government's "Namma Clinics" initiative**
- The government has decided to open 438 "Namma Clinics" in urban centres across the State including one each in every ward of BBMP
- On the lines of National Institute for Transformation of India (NITI Aayog), the Karnataka government restructured the **Karnataka State Policy and Planning Commission (KSPPC) as the State Institute for Transformation of Karnataka (SITK)**.
- This is aimed at increasing the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) and removing regional imbalances in development indicators. ₹150 crore would be allocated annually to SITK for its effective functioning.
- **R Balasubramaniam, chairman of the State Committee on Youth Policy**, submitted a draft of the Karnataka Youth Policy (KYP) 2022, to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.
- The focus areas of the policy include **education and training, employment and entrepreneurship, health and well-being, sports and fitness, arts and culture, value-based leadership development, restructuring the department, yuva budget, youth advisory group, and three C's approach — fostering coordination, cooperation, and collaboration** — to ensure convergence; and establishing a state-level convergence committee for youth empowerment.

- A **hero stone inscription in Kannada** belonging to the 10th century CE, with reference to Rashtrakuta King Krishna III, was discovered in the fields of a village in Krishnagiri district of Tamil Nadu, recently.

KAS BATCH



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- **United Way Bengaluru (UWBe), an NGO focused on social issues signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Women and Child Development (WCD) Department of the Government of Karnataka for strengthening Anganwadi centres in the state.** The move was aimed at ensuring quality childhood care and development among children up to six years and enhancing the quality of Anganwadi centres across the state, According to UWBe, the initiative would focus on improving nutrition and healthcare services in Anganwadi centres; enhancing pre-school experience of children at Anganwadis and improving the overall quality of Anganwadi workers/teachers so they can better equip the children for schooling

- **Karnataka ranked second in the Goods and Service Tax collection in the month of July 2022.** The State contributed ₹9,795 crore, a growth of 45% from the previous month. The GST collections in July, recorded at ₹ 1,48,995 crore, are the second-highest mop-up ever. The states that have contributed the most are Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh
- **Belagavi Smart City has won the top award in the inclusiveness category** in the prestigious United Nations and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) Smart Solutions Challenge for Inclusive Cities. Belagavi has been placed in the first position for its Multi-Dimensional Inclusiveness in Education and Healthcare.
- In a major setback to the State government, the High Court of Karnataka set aside the constitution of a **separate Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB)**, under the direct control of the Chief Minister, in 2016 by withdrawing the powers vested with the **Karnataka Lokayukta (KL) police wing** to probe all cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 against public servants
- **Volvo Group** has set up an RO plant at **Robertsonpet, KGF in Kolar** district, to offer safe and clean drinking water to people in this area as bore well water contains **high levels of fluoride and TDS (Total Dissolved Solids)**. The plant would dispense 6,000 litres of drinking water a day to cater to the requirement of over 3,000 people in the locality.
- The **International Day of the World's Indigenous People** was observed in Mysuru on August 9th. South Central Zone Cultural Centre, Nagpur, Ministry of Culture, Government of India in association with the All India Folk and Tribal Art Parishat, New Delhi, has organised a three-day **Adivasi Nruthya Mahotsav (tribal dance festival)** in Mysuru to showcase the rich tribal art and culture practiced in the country.
- **B. Muthuraman**, former chairman of Tata International and Tata Steels, has been appointed as the first **chairperson of the board of governors of the University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE)**. On the recommendation of the State government, the Governor of Karnataka has appointed Mr. Muthuraman as the chairperson for a period of four years.
- The State Cabinet approved the **Karnataka Aerospace and Defence Policy 2022-27** to attract investment of ₹45,000 crore in the next five-year period and extend concessions for investors in the sector. Earlier, the government formulated Aerospace and Defence Policy in 2013.

Aim of the policy

- Attracting more investments and to establish Karnataka as the preferred investment destination for Aerospace and Defence manufacturing
- Promote development of indigenous and advanced technologies.
- Promoting development of manufacturing facility for space-related applications,
developing world class-skilled manpower

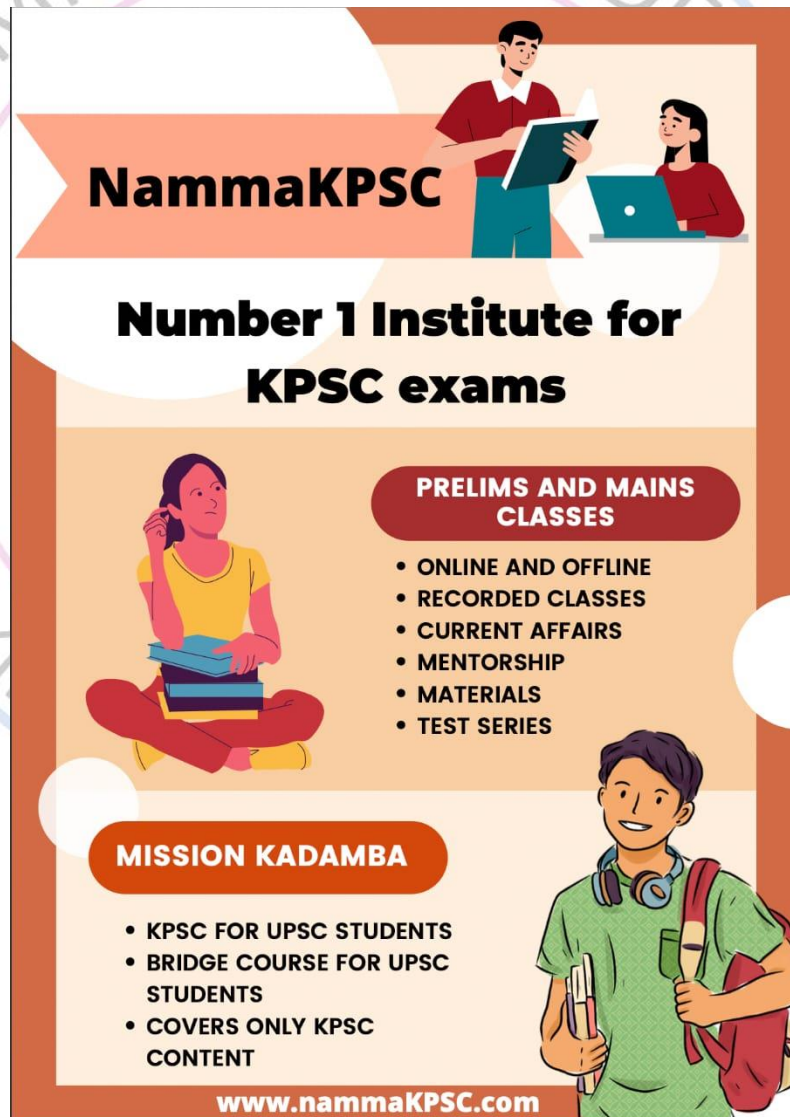
- With agriculture accounting for about 84% of water consumption and the estimated **water demand** set to reach **1,859 tmcft by 2025**, the State Cabinet approved the Karnataka Water Policy 2022 for effective management of water resources.

The objective of Jal Niti

- to facilitate safe and optimal use of water resources of the state for drinking water, health, food, energy, environmental and other social purposes.
- The Cabinet approved a new scheme for development of aspirational taluks to address regional imbalances in the State. It included 49 indicators assigned by NITI Aayog following completion of the tenure of the **Special Development Plan (SDP) launched as per the D.M. Nanjundappa Committee report** on regional imbalances in the State.
- National award-winning **Sugama Sangeetha singer Shivamogga Subbanna** passed away. Mr. Subbanna became popular with the rendering of songs written by Jnanpith Award-winning Kannada writer Kuvempu. He became a household name in Karnataka after he sang Baarisu Kannada Dindimava, written by Kuvempu. He went on to receive a national award for the song Kaadu Kudure Odi Banditta in the film Kaadu Kudure. He was the first Kannada playback singer to get a national award.
- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said the Karnataka government will extend **a 2% for sportspersons in jobs in all departments**. Till now, only **police and forest departments** were providing 2% quota for sportspersons in the recruitment for jobs.
- The proposed **gaur safari in Shivamogga** district will soon become a reality as nine gaurs from Mysuru zoo have been safely transported to the new facility in recent days, to facilitate the setting up of one of the new attractions. The Indian Gaur safari is coming up on the outskirts of **Shivamogga at Tyavarekoppa** where other safaris exist and are very popular.
- Minister in charge of Mysuru district S.T. Somashekar, who is the Minister for Cooperation, announced in Mysuru that the **Yeshasvini health insurance scheme** will be re-launched on October 2 on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary. The Yeshasvini Co-operative Farmers Health Care Scheme provides cost-effective medical facilities to farmers across the state courtesy cooperative societies registered with the Department of Cooperatives. This scheme targets informal workers in the lower-middle income and middle-income groups. In other words, any peasant in Karnataka can have, provided he or she is a member of any cooperative society.
- **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited** will set up an office in **Kuala Lumpur** to tap business opportunities in Malaysia and the entire Southeast Asian region
- the Karnataka government has advanced the date of '**Sadbhavana Dina**' to **August 18, 2022**, while it was earlier observed on **August 20 to coincide with former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's birth anniversary**.

- India's elite protection force, **the Special Protection Group**, which guards very very important persons (VVIPs), including the Prime Minister and Central Ministers, is the latest entrant in the list of agencies trying to induct the **Mudhol hounds**.
- The 107th birth anniversary of former **Chief Minister D. Devaraj Urs** was observed
- **Pink Samosa, an initiative to help women entrepreneurs with finance and mentoring**, was launched in Belagavi. The first meeting pledged ₹50 lakh for entrepreneurs. The meeting focused on providing technical, financial, legal and marketing support to women working from home
- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai unveiled a **vision document** that, according to the State government, aims to **outline a long-term plan for the holistic development of the healthcare sector in the State**. It is touted as **India's first-of-its-kind comprehensive healthcare vision document** at a '**Doctors' day**' event at the Vidhana Soudha.
- **Hitachi Energy, a technology player** that offers advanced solutions for a sustainable energy future globally, set up a **new facility to manufacture power quality products** (devices that test and check the quality of power) at **Doddaballapur on the outskirts of Bengaluru**.
- The former **Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa** inaugurated the **Savarkar Rath Yatra in Mysuru** with a call to counter the "negative propaganda" against Hindutva ideologue V.D. Savarkar in the State by spreading his message.
- A new attraction awaits tourists visiting **Mysuru zoo** as **red-necked wallabies** that were recently added to the zoo's vast animal collection, have been put on display ahead of Dasara festivities. The wallabies – one male and two female - were received in June this year from **Czech Republic** under an animal exchange programme.
- The State Government has finalized **five monuments** under the **Adopt a Monument scheme** announced by the Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai in his Budget presentation earlier this year. The five monuments – approved for the first phase of the project - have been pruned from a larger list of 30 for adoption and this includes **Gagan Mahal at Anegundi in Koppal district, Tajbavadi (Bavi) at Vijayapura, Koppal Fort in Koppal district, Raja's Tomb at Madikeri and Srirangapatana Fort at Srirangapatana in Mandya district**.
- **Millet conclave** was held at Raichur and was inaugurated by chief minister. the international millet fair will be held in Bengaluru in January, 2023. **The programme was jointly organised by UAS Raichur and NABARD.**
- The **25th annual national convention of the Association of Pharmaceutical Teachers of India (APTICON)** will be held in Mysuru from September 2 to 4. The JSS College of Pharmacy is hosting it. APTICON is aimed at empowering academia for advancing pharmacy education among academicians, scientific leaders, and regulators to set future milestones for education. The scope of the conference is to address the educational and developmental needs to create competent pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists.

- Two teachers from Karnataka have got the **National Teachers Award-2022** from the Union Ministry of Education. **G. Ponsankari, Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV), Tumakuru, and Umesh T.P., GLPS, Amruthapura, Chitradurga district,** are the two teachers.
- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said that the State Cabinet has decided to extend the '**Raita Vidya Nidhi**' scheme to the **children of farm labourers** along with farmers' children.
- The authorities of **Goddess Chamundeshwari Temple** atop Chamundi Hills here have introduced **e-hundi facility (electronic hundi collection)** for the benefit of devotees visiting the temple.
- **Hyderabad Karnataka Education Society (HKES)** has been selected for the Best Education Society - 2021 award by the Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE). The award would be presented at the ISTE National Convention scheduled to be held in Goa



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NATION NEWS IN SHORT

- The **legality of Section 295(A)** was affirmed by a five-judge Bench of the Supreme Court. The court said that the **punishment under Section 295(A) deals with aggravated form of blasphemy which is committed with the malicious aim of offending any religious sensibilities**
- The Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana's tenure is drawing to an end in a few days. The **Ramana Collegium** has been particularly successful. The collegium, as a united front, was able to recommend numerous judicial appointments and scripted history by getting nine Supreme Court judges appointed in one go. Of the nine, Justice B.V. Nagarathna, is in line to be the first woman CJI in 2027. The collegium system was born out of years of friction between the judiciary and the executive. The hostility was further accentuated by instances of court-packing (the practice of changing the composition of judges in a court), mass transfer of high court judges and two supersessions to the office of the CJI in the 1970s.
- **Suresh Patel recently took the charge as new CVC.** CVC is a statutory body set up in 1964 on recommendations of Committee on Prevention of Corruption, to advise and guide Central Government agencies in field of vigilance. CV Commissioner consist of a chairperson and not more than two Vigilance Commissioners as Members.
- The Lok Sabha passed the **Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022**, which provides for the establishment of carbon credit markets and brings large residential buildings under the energy conservation regime
- **Senior able citizen for Re-employment in Dignity (SACRED): Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched SACRED** for purpose of bringing the **employment seeker senior citizens** through SACRED portal. Portal act as employment marketplace, to bring together both Job providers & Job seekers that will help Senior citizen to get themselves registered for emerging workplace demands.
- PM Modi remembered freedom fighters on **Quit India movement anniversary** **The decisive campaign against the British rule was launched in 1942 on Mahatma Gandhi's** call at the Bombay session of the Congress on August 8 in his famous "do or die" speech.
- An alarmed British government arrested the top leadership of the Congress but people embraced Gandhi's call.
- The highest levels of coral cover, within the past 36 years, has been recorded in the **northern and central parts of Australia's Great Barrier Reef (GBR)**, according to the annual long-term monitoring report by the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS).
- A study carried out by researchers from Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, undertook to characterise urbanisation in the region and also to understand where the **rock agama** reside in and around Bengaluru specifically
- **The Cantillon effect** refers to the idea that changes in the money supply in an economy causes redistribution of purchasing power among people, disturbs the relative prices of goods and services, and leads to the misallocation of scarce resources. The Cantillon effect is named after the 18th century French economist

Richard Cantillon who published his ideas in the 1755 book *Essay on the Nature of Trade in General*.

- Former West Bengal Governor **Jagdeep Dhankhar** was sworn in as the 14th Vice-President of India. he secured 528 votes against the Opposition's joint candidate Margaret Alva who got only 182 votes.
- **Justice Uday Umesh Lalit was appointed the 49th Chief Justice of India (CJI)** after President Droupadi Murmu signed his warrant of appointment. Justice Lalit will be the **second CJI who was directly elevated to the apex court Bench from the Bar.** **Justice S.M. Sikri was the first lawyer to be elevated directly to the top court Bench** in March 1964 and went on to become the 13th CJI in January 1971.
- The Supreme Court refused to consider the question of derecognising political parties who **promise freebies**.
 - What are Freebies?
Political parties promise to offer free electricity/water supply, monthly allowance to unemployed, daily wage workers, and women as well as gadgets like laptops, smartphones, etc. in order to secure the vote of the people. The states have become habituated to giving freebies, be it in the form of loan waivers or free electricity, cycles, laptops, TV sets, and so on.
- The Union Cabinet approved an extension to the **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban** so that the houses sanctioned under the scheme can be completed. The scheme was launched in 2015 with the aim of constructing over 112 crore homes in urban areas by August 15, 2022. The Cabinet approved an extension till December 31, 2024 so that the houses already sanctioned are completed.
- **The Madhavaram Mofussil Bus Terminus (MMBT)** could well become the **first terminus to earn the "Net Zero Carbon Emission"** status in the **Tamil nadu State**.
- In a major breakthrough, two institutes of Agri research body ICAR have developed an **indigenous vaccine for Lumpy Skin Disease** in cattle which has spread across many States in the last few months. The LSD disease was reported for the first time in India in **2019 from Odisha**. In the initial years, it was mainly restricted to the eastern part of our country. Later on, it rapidly spread to almost all the states in the country. The outbreaks recently (June-July-August 2022) being reported are extensive and lethal with a mortality of up to 15%, particularly those being reported in the Western part (Rajasthan) of the country. LSD is primarily a disease in cattle
- In a first, an **indigenous artillery gun, the Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS)**, will be used along with the usual 25-Pounders for the 21-gun salute during the Independence Day celebrations at Red Fort this year
- **The Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022** provides legal sanction to law enforcement agencies for "taking measurements of convicts and other persons for the purposes of identification and investigation of criminal matters".
- The Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry launched the '**SMILE-75**' initiative for comprehensive rehabilitation of persons engaged in begging in 75 identified municipalities as a part of the celebrations of 75 years of Independence. The initiative is part of the Ministry's ongoing **SMILE project (Support for Marginalised**

Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise) for which ₹100 crore has been allocated till 2025-2026.

- India experienced severe working-hour and employment losses in 2020 and 2021, and Indian youth employment deteriorated in 2021 compared to 2020, according to the Global Employment Trends for Youth 2022 report released by the International Labour Organisation



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- An Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent left for Malaysia to participate in a four-day bilateral exercise '**Udarashakti**' with the **Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF)**. This continues the recent trend of India's expanding defence and security cooperation with South East Asian countries
- The **south London home where Dadabhai Naoroji**, a prominent member of the Indian freedom struggle and Britain's first Indian parliamentarian, lived for around eight years at the end of the 19th century has been honoured with a **commemorative Blue Plaque**.
- With tur dal prices surging since mid-July and reports coming in of some traders creating artificial supply squeeze by restricting sales, the Centre has invoked the **Essential Commodities Act of 1955** to ask States to monitor and verify the stocks available with such traders.
- **World Elephant Day was celebrated on 12th August** bringing into focus the challenging task of ensuring the jumbos' conservation amidst habitat destruction and disturbance and the resultant increase in human-elephant conflict.
- **Rakesh Jhunjhunwala passes away** : Known as "**India's Warren Buffet**" for his ability to pick up low-priced quality stocks much before they become high performers, Mr. Jhunjhunwala was a cult figure in the Indian capital market. Retail

investors followed his investment pattern. Also known as the “**Big Bull**”, he was always bullish about the Indian growth story. His latest investment was in low-cost airline Akasa Air which started flying operations last week.

- Dr. Pawar virtually launched the **‘Paalan 1000’ National Campaign and Parenting App at the Early Childhood Development Conclave in Mumbai**. ‘Paalan 1000’ focuses on the **cognitive development of children in the first two years** of their life. The app will provide practical advice to caregivers on what they can do in their everyday routine and will help clear doubts.
- The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences of the **Indian Institute of Technology, Madras**, has launched a **Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems**.
- The **Kerala State government launched the Lucky Bill App** to encourage consumers to upload invoices in a bid to curb tax evasion
- Government unveiled **the manthan platform** to drive collaboration between the industry and research institutes to implement technology-based social impact innovations and solutions in the country.
- The Railways conducted a test run of its longest freight train, **Super Vasuki**, with 295 loaded wagons carrying over 27,000 tonnes of coal, on August 15, as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.
- **The portal — NIDAAN or the National Integrated Database on Arrested Narcotics offenders — has been developed by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)**. A first-of-its-kind database of arrested narcotics offenders has been made operational for use by various central and State prosecution agencies tasked to enforce anti-drugs laws in the country
- The **Telangana government** has recently launched “**Chenetha Bheema**”, a life insurance scheme for handloom and powerloom weavers, the first-of-its-kind scheme for the welfare of weavers’ families.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India has achieved its target of **blending 10% sugarcane-extracted ethanol in petrol**, ahead of schedule. India is one of the world’s biggest oil importing nations **Blending ethanol with petrol to burn less fossil fuel while running vehicles is called ethanol blending**.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on August 16 handed over several indigenously-developed equipment and systems to the Army which includes **Future Infantry Soldier as a System (F-INSAS)**, **new generation anti-personnel mine ‘Nipun’**, rugged and automatic communication system with enhanced capabilities, upgraded sights system for tanks, advanced thermal imagers and state-of-the-art high mobility infantry protected vehicles and assault boats.
- government has revived the **windfall tax on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF)** exports at ₹2 per litre, raised the export tax on diesel from ₹5 a litre to ₹7, and slashed the central excise levy on domestically produced crude oil to ₹13,000 per tonne as opposed to ₹17,750 levied a fortnight ago. A windfall tax is a one-off tax imposed by a government on a company. When a company benefits from something that they are not responsible for, the financial gain that ensues is called windfall profits.

- Expanding further outside India, the indigenously developed real-time payments solution the **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** will foray into the **United Kingdom market** starting with QR code-based transactions
- On August 11, Finnish Meteorological Institute researchers published their study in the **Communications Earth & Environment journal**, concluding that the **Arctic is heating four times faster than the rest of the planet**. The warming is more concentrated in the **Eurasian part of the Arctic, where the Barents Sea north of Russia and Norway is warming at an alarming rate** — seven times faster than the global average.
- A group of researchers has discovered a new species of bent-toed gecko from **Agasthyamalai hills in the Western Ghats**. The species has been given the common name **Aravind's ground gecko** after noted **malacologist** N.A. Aravind.
- Chemists in the United States and China said they had finally found a breakthrough method to degrade the polluting compounds, referred to as **PFAS**, using relatively low temperatures and common reagents. "Forever chemicals" used in daily items like non-stick pans have long been linked to serious health issues — a result of their toxicity and extreme resistance to being broken down as waste products.
- The manufacture of the **AK-203 assault rifles** by the Indo-Russian joint venture at Amethi, Uttar Pradesh is set to begin by year-end and the manufacturing equipment required for it will be dispatched from Russia shortly. As per the contract, over 6.1 lakh AK-203 assault rifles costing over ₹5,000 crore will be manufactured by a Joint Venture, **Indo-Russian Rifles Private Ltd (IRRPL), at Korwa, Amethi in Uttar Pradesh**
- Weavers owning spinning wheels will get an annual sustenance under the **YSR Netanna Nestham**. The scheme aims to provide financial assistance to the handloom weavers so that they can improve their handloom works.
- The campus of Dravidian University echoed with the performance of artisans from various parts of South India, marking **the World Folklore Day celebrations**. The term 'folklore' was first coined on August 22, 1846, when William John Thoms combined the words '**folk**' and '**lore**.' He defined the word as the "traditional knowledge of a people." Because of this, countries worldwide chose to celebrate their folklore and folk traditions on **August 22** every year.
- Kerala has soft launched '**Kerala Savari**', to ensure decent service to passengers along with fair remuneration to auto-taxi workers. It is operated by the Motor Workers Welfare Board under the aegis of the Labour Department.
- The Supreme Court has directed the Centre to increase coverage under the **National Food Security Act (NFSA)** so that "more and more needy persons and citizens get the benefit" under the 2013 law which entitles rural and urban poor to subsidised foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System.
- The **Indian Institute of Technology Madras' annual Carbon Zero Challenge 2022** competition will focus on sustainability innovations and eco ventures. The Theme for **CZC 2022 is CZC for 'CRC' (or) 'Circularity in Resources Conservation.'**

- **Wildlife Trust of India (WTI)**, a nature conservation organisation, will launch a 'save the Whale Shark campaign' in Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshadweep on the occasion of International Whale Shark Day on August 30.
- on August 15, 1972, that the **Postal Index Number (PIN)** was introduced in India. Hence the pin code of India turns 50 this august. The idea was to give a unique identity to all physical addresses of the country in terms of the delivery jurisdiction of the post offices. This code was expected to help in bypassing the challenge of inaccurate addressing and ensure accurate and fast delivery by post offices
- The **Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM)** has chosen ideas of 14 start-ups in the hardware sector and other innovators from the State for the **NIDHI-PRAYAS grant**, a **flagship initiative of the Department of Science and Technology (DST)**, Government of India, to foster indigenously developed innovations and products.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the pedestrian-only 'Atal Bridge' on Sabarmati river in **Gujarat's Ahmedabad city** This iconic bridge, having an eye-catching design and LED lighting, is nearly 300 meters long and 14 meters wide in the middle
- In an order on August 24, the Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers issued a memo announcing the implementation of the "**One Nation One Fertiliser**" scheme under which a single brand and logo for fertilisers will have to be used by all manufacturers under the Centre's fertiliser **subsidy scheme** newly renamed as a **Prime Minister's scheme- "Pradhanmantri Bhartiya Janurvarak Pariyojna" (PMBJP)**
- The Appointments Committee of the cabinet on August 25, 2022 appointed **Dr. Samir V. Kamat** as Secretary, Department of Defence Research and Development and Chairman, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). Incumbent DRDO Chairman Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy has been appointed as Scientific Adviser to Defence Minister.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved former Chief Economic Adviser **Krishnamurthy Subramanian** for the post of Executive Director (India) at the International Monetary Fund for a period of three years starting November 1, 2022, or until further orders. Mr. Subramanian, who is currently a Finance Professor at the Indian School of Business, will replace Surjit S. Bhalla who was appointed to the role in 2019.

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INTERNATIONAL AND OTHER NEWS IN SHORT

- India formally commenced cooperation with the **Bahrain-based multilateral partnership, Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)**. CMF is a multi-national naval partnership to promote security, stability and prosperity across approximately 3.2 million square miles of international waters, which encompass some of the world's most important shipping lanes.
- In a first, a U.S. Navy Ship, **Charles Drew**, arrived in India for carrying out repairs and allied services at the **Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Shipyard at Kattupalli**, Chennai, adding a new dimension to the fast expanding Indo-U.S. strategic partnership.
- The 13th Edition of the **Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise "Ex Vajra Prahar 2022"** commenced at the Special Forces Training School (SFTS), Bakloh in Himachal Pradesh on August 8.
- Continuing the series of military exercises with countries in the Indo-Pacific, the Indian Air Force (IAF) will join 16 other nations, including Quad partner countries, later this month for **Exercise Pitch Black**, the **biennial exercise hosted by the Australian Air Force**. The participants this year are Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Indonesia, India, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, UAE, the U.K. and the U.S.
- The 12th edition of biennial DefExpo**, which was postponed in March amid war in Ukraine, is scheduled to be held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, in October 18-22
- Scotland becomes first country to make period products free for all.**
- A law has taken effect in Scotland to ensure period products are available free of charge to anyone who needs them.

- Indian companies are importing significant volumes of **petroleum coke from Venezuela for the first time**, as the OPEC nation boosts exports not specifically targeted by U.S. sanctions.
- The apex body of the sport, **FIFA, suspended the country's top administrative organisation, the All India Football Federation**, for "undue influence from third parties".
- **India and the Philippines** have vowed to expand their ties in sectors like civil aviation, fintech, education, defence, and security. The decision was taken at the 13th India-Philippines Foreign Office Consultations and the fourth Strategic Dialogue that took place in Manila.
- The cooperation between the **navies of India and the U.S.** is one of the most dynamic and significant components of the bilateral defence ties, underlining that the defence sector has emerged as a major pillar between the two countries, especially in the context of the Indo-Pacific.





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TAHASILADR



CHETHANA Y
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Ast Superintendent



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TAHASILADR



SHILPA H R
Ast Director



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Ast Superintendent



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