

MAHITHI MONTHLY SNIPPETS

SEPTEMBER 2022

NAMMAKPSC SPECIAL EDITION



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SEPTEMBER SNIPPETS

STATE NEWS IN SHORT

- Ahead of the unveiling ceremony of 108-feet bronze statue of **Bengaluru founder Kempe Gowda on the Bengaluru International Airport premises**, the State government has decided to launch a **45-day campaign** involving the public. The Kempegowda Development Authority has named the theme of this campaign as **‘Nada kattona Banni’**
- An **IISc team** has developed and tested a **novel virus-like particle (VLP)** – a non-infectious Nano scale molecule that resembles and behaves like the virus but does not contain its native genetic material – in a study published in *Microbiology Spectrum*.
- The State government announced monetary aid for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes patients who are suffering from rare diseases that require expensive surgeries.
- While several diseases are currently being covered under **Ayushman Bharat Arogya Karnataka (AB-Ark) health insurance scheme**, certain rare diseases that require expensive surgeries are not under the scheme hitting patients hard.
- As part of **Karnataka’s afforestation move**, a dense forest will be created on a patch of 11 acre of land at the 228-acre **Botanical Garden Project** that is coming up at **Doddasaggere, in Tumakuru** district.
- **Umesh Vishwanath Katti**, Karnataka’s Minister for Food and Civil Supplies and Forest and Ecology, passed away in Bengaluru following a massive heart attack
- The State government has decided to handover ration at the doorstep of pregnant women to ensure nutritious diet in six districts in Karnataka, even as demands came to extend it across all districts. The government has ordered delivery of rations to doorstep to six hilly districts under the **Matru Poorna Yojane**, which was launched in 2017 by the Siddaramaiah-led government to provide nutritious diet.
- The **Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike(BBMP)** started a programme called **“Wonder on Wheels”** across the city by procuring 10 buses from Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC).
- Coffee Board of India, a body that represents coffee growers and the coffee industry in the country, has decided to expand its reach by launching four premium coffees under the **‘India Coffee’ brand** as well as two affordable coffees under the **‘Coffees of India’ brand** on Amazon.
- **Hubballi Division of South Western Railway** launched **‘SwachhtaPakhwada’**, a fortnight-long cleanliness drive. the drive is being conducted with a view to bring about visible improvement in the level of cleanliness at various railway units such as stations, trains, offices, colonies, and others.
- As part of **National Sports Day** and 75th Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, a national seminar on **‘Augmenting elite sports performance’** is being held in Dharwad, September 17.

- The Hyderabad Karnataka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HKCCI) will be renamed as Kalyana Karnataka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KKCCI) on Kalyana Karnataka 75th Swatantra Mahotsava (Kalyana Karnataka Liberation Day) on September 17.
- The High Court of Karnataka has said that **the Karnataka State Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has no power** in law to issue direction to the State government to withhold the grants to educational institutions.
- The State Health Department is contemplating extending **the Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (Ka-BHI)** to all districts. Recognising the need to improve treatment and prevent neurological disorders in the community, the **Health Department in association with NIMHANS and Niti Aayog launched Ka-BHI in January**. NIMHANS has trained 100 doctors at the PHC level for brain health clinics in Bengaluru South, Kolar and Chickballapur districts, which were chosen for the pilot project.



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NATION NEWS IN SHORT

- The University Grants Commission (UGC) will soon launch a **single-window for submitting grievances** by merging the different portals and helplines that exist currently, with the aim to fastrack their resolution as well as monitor institutes that are slow in responding to them
- The **Integrated Pharmaceutical Database Management System 2.0 and Pharma Sahi Daam 2.0 app** were launched. IPDMS 2.0 is an integrated, responsive, cloud-based application developed by **NPPA** with technical support from **Centre for**

Advance Computing (C-DAC). Pharma Sahi Daam 2.0 app will have updated features like **speech recognition**, availability in Hindi and English, **share button and medicine bookmarking**.

- The Indian government has decided not to extend the anti-dumping duty imposed on **ammonium nitrate** imported from **Russia, Iran and Georgia**. An anti-dumping duty is a protectionist tariff that a domestic government imposes on foreign imports that it believes are priced below fair market value.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will commission the **first indigenous aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant**, at the Cochin Shipyard Limited in Kochi. Designed by the **Indian Navy's in-house Warship Design Bureau (WDB)** and built by the **Cochin Shipyard, a public sector shipyard**. Vikrant has been built with **state-of-the-art automation features** and is the **largest ship ever built in the maritime history of India**
- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to formally raise its **first unit of indigenous Light Combat Helicopters (LCHs) in Jodhpur** in the first week of October **coinciding with Air Force Day on October 8**.
- Last week, pictures of an unusually-shaped rainbow cloud that appeared over China were widely shared on social media. The cloud in question resembles a **pileus cloud**, and the phenomenon of bright colours appearing on a cloud is **called cloud iridescence**.
- The Department of Consumer Affairs, Legal Metrology Division has notified a **draft amendment** to the **Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules 2011**. As stated in the notification, the Department of Consumer Affairs Legal Metrology Division has observed that many manufacturers/packagegers/importers do not clearly label necessary declarations or prime constituents on the front of packaged commodities, which are deemed essential to be disclosed in order to protect consumer interests.
- The 2-km stretch from India Gate to Rashtrapati Bhawan **called Kartavya Path**, which was known as **Rajpath** till earlier this week, was inaugurated and the statue of **Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose** at India Gate was unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- President Droupadi Murmu virtually launched the **Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan**. The President will also launch the **Ni-kshay Mitra initiative** which forms a vital component of the 'Abhiyaan'.
- The Union Cabinet approved the '**PM Schools for Rising India**' (**PM SHRI**) scheme to turn existing government schools into model schools for implementation of the National Education Policy, 2022.
- In August 2022, India formally **updated its nationally determined contribution (NDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** which was made on October 2, 2015. The NDC was approved by the Union Cabinet on August 3. The updated NDC is a step towards **India's goal to reach net-zero emissions by 2070**.

- India has successfully completed six flight-tests of the **Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QRSAM)** system from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur off the Odisha coast, as part of evaluation trials by the Army.
- **'Taragiri', the third stealth frigate of project 17A** was launched by **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. (MDL) in Mumbai**. This ship has been built using an **integrated construction methodology** which involves hull block construction in different geographical locations and integration/erection on Slipway at MDL.
- Army chief General Manoj Pande visited the Ladakh sector to review **Exercise Parvat Prahar** and was briefed on operational preparedness by Commanders on ground.
- The military camp in Kibithu, Arunachal Pradesh has been renamed as **'Gen Bipin Rawat military garrison'** in the honour of the country's first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) who was killed in a chopper crash last December.
- India ranks **132 out of 191 countries** in the **Human Development Index (HDI) 2021**, after registering a decline in its score over two consecutive years for the first time in three decades.
- The Union Cabinet under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the addition of **four tribes** to the list of **Scheduled Tribes (ST)**, including those from **Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Chhattisgarh**. The Hatti tribe in the Trans-Giri area of **Sirmour district in Himachal Pradesh**, the **Narikoravan and Kurivikkaran hill tribes of Tamil Nadu**, and the **Binjhia tribe in Chhattisgarh**, which was listed as ST in Jharkhand and Odisha but not in Chhattisgarh, were the communities added to the list.
- Chief Minister M. K. Stalin, at the Madurai Corporation Primary School Aathimoolam II in Simmakal, Madurai, launched the **Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme** for students of **Class I to V** in government schools.
- The **UNESCO United Nations World Water Development Report** of 2022 has encapsulated global concern over the **sharp rise in freshwater withdrawal** from streams,



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lakes, aquifers and human-made reservoirs, impending water stress and also water scarcity being experienced in different parts of the world.

- The **National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2022**, was released, with 384 drugs in it across 27 categories. While 34 new drugs are on the list, 26 drugs from the earlier NLEM including common gastrointestinal medicines **Ranitidine and Sucralfate**, have been dropped.
- Pulling up the States for the delay in completion of the Narendra Modi government's flagship rural household scheme — **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin)** — the Union Ministry of Rural Development has come up with a set of penalties that the State governments will have to bear for any further delay. Opposition-ruled West Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Odisha, along with BJP-ruled Assam, are the leading four States who are far behind their targets.
- The PM, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated International Dairy Federation World Dairy Summit (IDF WDS) 2022 organised at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida. New Delhi.
- The Union Cabinet approved modifications in the scheme for development of the semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem, with a **uniform fiscal support of 50%** project cost for all technology nodes for setting up of semiconductor fabrication units. Given the niche technology and nature of compound semiconductors and advanced packaging, the modified programme will also provide fiscal support of **50% of Capital Expenditure in pari-passu mode** for setting up of compound semiconductors / silicon photonics / sensors / Discrete semiconductors fabs and ATMP/OSAT [Assembly Testing Marking and Packaging/ Outsourced Assembly and Test.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) notified the rules governing **The Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022**. The Act was passed in March by the Parliament. Until rules are notified, an Act cannot be implemented or come into force. The legislation would enable police and central investigating agencies to collect, store and analyse physical and biological samples including retina and iris scan of arrested persons.
- The Election Commission of India's (ECI's) ongoing drive to clean up the electoral space has now gone "**beyond RUPPs**" (**registered unrecognised political parties**) to cover recognised national and State parties. The EC has delisted or declared as inactive 537 registered unrecognised political parties since May for failing to comply with various rules and misusing the Income Tax exemption given to them.
- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has issued a draft notification on front-of-package labelling, which proposes "**Indian Nutrition Rating**" (**INR**) **modelled on the health star-rating system**. The draft of the amended Food Safety and Standards (Labelling & Display) Regulations, 2020 made public requires packaged food to display the prescribed format of INR by assigning a rating from 1/2 star (least healthy) to five stars (healthiest).
- The Union Cabinet approved the **National Logistics Policy** which aims to reduce the cost of logistics and bring efficiency by "streamlining processes, regulatory framework and skill development." Logistics broadly includes facilities crucial to trade: transport services for the movement of goods, storage facilities that are particularly essential for trade in perishable goods such as food items, fruits, and vegetables, and smooth functioning of government services that facilitate trade such as licensing and customs

- Wipro Ltd. has sacked some 300 employees for **'moonlighting'** as the IT services firm toughens its stand against staffers taking a second job after work hours. Moonlighting refers to a side job in addition to one's primary employment. In moonlighting, often such side jobs are taken by employees in secret, without informing the employer.
- The Mumbai Police have ordered the **prohibition of cattle transportation in the city to prevent the spread of the lumpy skin disease**. This means cattle cannot be moved out of the place they are being raised or transported to marketplaces. Lumpy skin disease is caused by the **lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV)**, which belongs to the genus **capripoxvirus**, **a part of the poxviridae family** (smallpox and monkeypox viruses are also a part of the same family).
- The government expenditure in India on **early childhood education (ECE)** for children between the age of **three years and six years is a mere 0.1% of the GDP**, and the average spend per child of ₹8,297 per annum is at least a fourth of desired levels, according to a new study.
- **InSight** detected seismic and acoustic waves from the impact of four meteorites and calculated the location of the craters they left. **The space rocks InSight tracked** - one landing in 2020 and the other three in 2021 - were relatively modest in size, estimated to weigh up to about 440 pounds (200 kg), with diameters of up to about 20 inches (50 cm) and leaving craters of up to about 24 feet (7.2 meters) wide. They landed between 53 miles (85 km) and 180 miles (290 km) from InSight's location. One exploded into at least three pieces that each gouged their own craters.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) said, that it has successfully demonstrated a **hybrid propulsion system** that uses a solid fuel and liquid oxidiser. The hybrid motor was tested at the ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC), Mahendragiri. The hybrid system is more efficient, **"greener" and safer** to handle and paves the way for new propulsion technologies for future missions, the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) which tested it with support from the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC).
- **The Union Home Ministry** has discontinued three police awards instituted in 2018 by then Home Minister Rajnath Singh. The three awards were given to the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) personnel, State police, Intelligence Bureau officials and home guards for exemplary work in internal security duty and investigation of criminal cases. the **"Police Antrik Suraksha Seva Padak"** for police personnel deployed in Jammu and Kashmir, Left Wing Extremism-affected areas and North East region, instituted on July 23, 2018The **"Utkrisht Seva Padak"** and the **"Ati Utkrisht Seva Padak"** instituted on July 23,2018 for "permanent police personnel and other permanent support staff working in CAPFs, State/Union Territory(UT) Police Forces, Central Police Organizations(CPOs), Assam Rifles, National Security Guards, Intelligence organisations of the Central Government/State/UT/CAPF, Home Guards and any other armed Police Force of the Union throughout the Indian Union, stands discontinued
- In a first, **both the Army and Air Force Day parades are set to move out of the national capital region**. While Air Force Day parade on October 8 will be held in Chandigarh, the Army Day parade on January 15, 2023, is scheduled to be held in the Southern Command area



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- The **Central government appointed veteran industrialist Ratan Tata, former Supreme Court judge K.T. Thomas, and former Deputy Lok Sabha Speaker Kariya Munda as trustees of the PM CARES Fund**, the Trust further decided to nominate other eminent persons for the constitution of Advisory Board to the PM CARES Fund. These eminent personalities included Rajiv Mehrishi, former Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Sudha Murthy, former Chairperson, Infosys Foundation, and Anand Shah, Co-founder of Teach for India and former CEO of Indicorps and Piramal Foundation .The PM CARES Fund, set up to deal with emergencies such as the Covid pandemic, saw its corpus grow nearly three-fold to ₹10,990 crore in the 2020-21 fiscal. The fund was set up as a public charitable trust “keeping in mind the need for having a dedicated national fund with the primary objective of dealing with any kind of emergency or distress situation, like posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and to provide relief to the affected”.

INTERNATIONAL AND OTHER NEWS IN SHORT

- **Britain’s longest reigning monarch, Queen Elizabeth II**, died on September 8 at the age of 96. Her death at her Scottish estate, Balmoral Castle, was announced by Buckingham Palace
- Russia hosted the **seventh Eastern Economic Forum (EEF)** Vladivostok from September 5 to 8. The four-day forum is a platform for entrepreneurs to expand their businesses into Russia’s Far East (RFE). The EEF was established in 2015 to encourage foreign investments in the RFE. The EEF displays the economic potential, suitable business conditions and investment opportunities in the region.
- Sri Lanka will revive its Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India and upgrade it to a “**a comprehensive economic and technological partnership**”, President Ranil Wickremesinghe has said, signalling Colombo’s willingness to revisit a stalled pact.
- Top officials of India and Nepal began a three-day meeting to discuss the issues related to the long-awaited **Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project** and other bilateral issues related to water resources. The Mahakali River basin, upstream from the proposed Pancheshwar High Dam site has drainage area of 12,100 Km². PMP has been identified as a huge storage scheme to be developed so as to maximize peak power benefit in the order of 6,720 MW (Pancheshwar High Dam-6480 MW and Rupali Gad Re-regulating Dam-240 MW) with an annual average energy production of 12,333 GWh.
- The Film Federation of India has chosen **Pan Nalin’s semi-autobiographical Gujarati drama Chhello Show** (Last Film Show) as India’s official entry for the 95 th Academy Awards in the Best International Feature Film Category. This is the second time after The Good Road in 2013 that a Gujarati film has made the cut for the prestigious awards. Last year, the Tamil drama Koozhangal (Pebbles), directed by filmmaker Vinodraj PS, was India’s official entry at the Oscars but didn’t make the shortlist. The last Indian film that made it to the final five was Ashutosh Gowariker’s Lagaan in 2001.
- **Award-winning filmmaker Vinay Shukla’s** feature length documentary, **While We Watched**, has won the Amplify Voices Award at the **Toronto International Film Festival** (TIFF-2022). **Titled Namaskar! Main Ravish Kumar in Hindi**, the “turbulent newsroom drama” chronicles the working days of broadcast journalist Ravish Kumar, as he “navigates a spiraling world of truth and disinformation The 94-minute documentary is a U.K.

production, and is produced by LONO Studio and BRITDOC Films. It received a standing ovation at the screening in Toronto.

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