

1ST SEPTEMBER TO SEPTEMBER 7TH CURRENT AFFAIRS

1st September Current Affairs

National & International Appointments

- Jaya Verma Appointed as Railway Board's First Female CEO and Chairperson
 - Jaya Verma Sinha has been appointed as the first female CEO and chairperson of the Railway Board by the Secretariat of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. She succeeds Anil Kumar Lahoti.
 - She also served as the Railway Advisor in the High Commission of India, Dhaka, Bangladesh, for four years.
 - Jaya Verma Sinha, who joined the Indian Railway Traffic Service in 1988, has worked in both Northern Railway and South-East Railway.

Defense

- Warship 'Mahendragiri' Launched in Mumbai
 - The warship 'Mahendragiri,' constructed at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, was launched in Mumbai.
 - The launch was officiated by Dr. Sudesh Dhankhar, marking the seventh ship of the Project 17A Frigates.
 - This technologically advanced warship is named after a mountain peak in the Eastern Ghats located in the state of Orissa, symbolizing India's commitment to its naval heritage.

National Affairs

- Government to Celebrate Sixth Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2023 in September
 - The Central Government will celebrate the sixth Rashtriya Poshan Maah in September 2023.
 - The primary objective is to comprehensively combat malnutrition by focusing on various life stages, including pregnancy and adolescence.
 - The campaign aims to promote nutritional awareness across India under the theme "Suposhit Bharat, Sakshar Bharat, Sashakt Bharat" (Nutrition-rich India, Educated India, Empowered India).

National Affairs

- President Launches "The Year of Positive Change" Theme by Brahma Kumaris
 - President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the state-level launch of the theme of the year, "The Year of Positive Change," by Brahma Kumaris in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
 - Brahma Kumaris are dedicated to spreading love, harmony, and peace worldwide.
 - She encouraged everyone to develop inner strength, engage in positive work, and surround themselves with positive thoughts and good company.

National & International Appointments

- UK PM Rishi Sunak Appoints Grant Shapps as New Defence Minister
 - UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak appointed Grant Shapps as the new Defence Minister.

- This decision followed the resignation of former Defence Secretary Ben Wallace.
- Grant Shapps, who previously held roles as Transport Secretary, Energy Secretary, and Home Secretary, is a strong supporter of Sunak as the Conservative Party leader.

Sports

- Neeraj Chopra Secures Silver in Javelin Event at Zurich Diamond League 2023
 - Neeraj Chopra claimed the second position with his final throw in the men's javelin event at the Zurich Diamond League 2023.
 - Jakub Vadlejch of the Czech Republic emerged as the winner, while Neeraj Chopra, who remained unbeaten this season, qualified for the Diamond League finals scheduled for September 17th in Eugene.
 - Neeraj had previously won the Diamond League trophy in 2022.

Banking & Finance

- Bandhan Bank Authorized by RBI to Disburse Civil Pension
 - Bandhan Bank has been designated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as an authorized pension disbursement bank for civil pensioners on behalf of the Central Pension Accounting Office (CPAO).
 - The bank will collaborate with the CPAO and the Ministry of Finance to implement the pension disbursement process.
 - The initiative aims to distribute pensions to central government employees in civil ministries and departments, excluding railways, posts, and defense.

National Affairs

- India and USA Collaborate to Launch RETAP
 - India and the United States jointly launched the Renewable Energy Technology Action Platform (RETAP) as part of the Strategic Clean Energy Partnership.
 - The initiative focuses on the development of green and clean hydrogen, wind energy, and long-duration energy storage solutions.
 - It aims to explore opportunities in geothermal energy, ocean/tidal energy, and other emerging renewable energy technologies, diversifying renewable energy avenues.

National & International Organizations

- Savart Introduces the First Fully Automated Investment Fund, 'The Ad Astra Fund'
 - Savart unveiled 'The Ad Astra Fund,' the world's first fully automated investment fund, in Hyderabad.
 - The fund's objective is to revolutionize traditional human-led investment research processes, enhancing the chances of achieving superior returns on investments.
 - It features end-to-end research automation, from identifying investment opportunities to making investment decisions, driven by their AI research system APART.

Banking & Finance

- PNB Launches GST Sahay App for Invoice-Based MSME Loans Up to Rs 2 Lakh
 - Punjab National Bank (PNB) has introduced the PNB GST Sahay App, allowing MSME borrowers to access loans up to Rs 2 lakh digitally using GST invoices.

- The app streamlines lending processes for micro, small, and medium-sized businesses.
- Key features include end-to-end digital lending, cost-effectiveness, direct loan disbursement, technology-driven assessment, loan range, and repayment options, along with integration with the GST profile, with a focus on MSMEs.

Agreement

- Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare Signs MoU with Private Sector
 - The Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) under the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare signed an MoU with Genpact India Private Limited in New Delhi.
 - The aim is to create employment opportunities for ex-servicemen of the Defence Services.
 - Genpact, a global leader in professional services, will offer meaningful career opportunities to veterans and provide skilled manpower, enabling a dignified second career for ex-servicemen.

National & International Organizations

- NPCI Launches India's Own Blockchain-Backed Open-Source Project 'Falcon'
 - The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) announced the launch of Falcon, an open-source project designed to simplify the management and use of blockchains based on 'Hyperledger Fabric,' supported on Kubernetes clusters.
 - The project's objective is to assist blockchain developers in deploying network and Web3 solutions efficiently, reliably, and automatically, utilizing distributed ledger technology.
 - Hyperledger Fabric is an enterprise-level permissioned blockchain network.

State Affairs

- Nagaland Becomes First State to Implement Aadhaar-Linked Birth Registration
 - Nagaland has become the first state in the northeastern region to implement Aadhaar-linked birth registration (ALBR).
 - The initiative aims to enable children to access various social welfare schemes designed for their welfare.
 - The focus is on streamlining birth registration by integrating it with Aadhaar enrolment for children aged 0 to 5.
 - The Directorate of Economics, Nagaland, has collaborated with UIDAI as a Registrar cum Enrolment Agency for Child Enrolment through the ALBR process.

SEPTEMBER 2nd Current Affairs

Science & Technology

- ISRO Successfully Launches India's First Solar Mission, Aditya-L1

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has achieved a successful launch of India's inaugural solar observatory mission, named Aditya-L1, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.
- This mission was carried out using the PSLV C57 rocket.
- Notably, "L1" in Aditya-L1 refers to Lagrange Point 1.
- The primary goal of this mission is to study the dynamics of the solar upper atmosphere, specifically the chromosphere and corona.
- Aditya-L1 will embark on a journey of approximately 125 days, roughly four months, to reach its designated observation point at L1, where it will unravel the mysteries of the Sun.

Honours & Awards

- Dr. R Ravi Kannan from India Receives the Ramon Magsaysay Award 2023
 - Dr. R Ravi Kannan, a surgical oncologist based in Assam, India, has been honored with the Ramon Magsaysay Award 2023 for his groundbreaking contributions to cancer treatment in Assam.
 - Before relocating to Silchar in 2007 to join the Cachar Cancer Hospital, he worked at the Cancer Institute in Chennai.
 - The Ramon Magsaysay Award, established in 1957, recognizes individuals for their commitment to governance with integrity, courageous service to the people, and practical idealism in democratic societies.

National & International Appointments

- Indian-Origin Economist Tharman Shanmugaratnam Wins Singapore Presidential Election
 - Tharman Shanmugaratnam, an Indian-origin economist and former Senior Minister, has emerged victorious in the presidential election of Singapore.
 - He secured over 70% of the votes in Singapore's first contested presidential election since 2011.
 - Tharman Shanmugaratnam served as Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister from 2011 to 2019 and has held various ministerial positions.
 - He becomes the third Indian-origin President of Singapore, following in the footsteps of Sellapan Ramanathan and Chengara Veetil Devan Nair.

National Affairs

- High-Level Committee Formed to Examine "One Nation, One Election"
 - The Government of India has established an eight-member high-level committee tasked with examining the "One Nation, One Election" concept.
 - Former President Ram Nath Kovind will serve as the committee's chairman.
 - Other committee members include Home Minister Amit Shah, Congress MP Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, former Rajya Sabha member Ghulam Nabi Azad, former Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission N.K. Singh, and others.
 - Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal will participate in committee meetings as a special invitee.

Sports

- Neeraj Chopra Secures Second Place in Men's Javelin at Zurich Diamond League
 - Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra claimed the second spot in the men's javelin event at the Zurich Diamond League Meeting.
 - He achieved this feat with a final round throw of 85.71 meters.
 - Jakub Vadlejch from the Czech Republic, a bronze medalist at the World Championships, clinched the first position.
 - Neeraj Chopra, the reigning Olympic champion, produced three legal throws of 80.79 meters, 85.22 meters, and 85.71 meters.
 - He has secured a spot in the Diamond League finals, scheduled for September 17 in Eugene, USA.

International Affairs

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Upcoming Visit to Jakarta, Indonesia
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit Jakarta, Indonesia, on September 6-7, 2023, at the invitation of H.E. Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia.
 - During this visit, PM Modi will participate in the 20th ASEAN-India Summit and the 18th East Asia Summit, which Indonesia is hosting as the current Chair of ASEAN.
 - The upcoming ASEAN-India Summit marks the first such summit following the elevation of India-ASEAN relations to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2022.

Honours & Awards

- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das Ranked as Top Global Central Banker
 - Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das has earned the distinction of being rated the top central banker globally by the US-based Global Finance magazine.
 - He received an 'A+' rating in the Global Finance Central Banker Report Cards for 2023.
 - Shaktikanta Das holds the highest position among three central bank governors who received an 'A+' grade.
 - This ranking is based on their performance in controlling inflation, achieving economic growth goals, maintaining currency stability, and managing interest rates.

International Affairs

- US State of Georgia Officially Declares October as 'Hindu Heritage Month'
 - Governor Brian Kemp of the US State of Georgia has issued an official proclamation declaring October as 'Hindu Heritage Month.'

- The objective is to celebrate Hindu heritage by highlighting its rich culture and diverse spiritual traditions that originate from India.
- Hindu Heritage Month (HHM) is a global initiative aimed at showcasing Hinduism as an ancient and enduring tradition.
- Hinduism holds the position of being the third-largest religion worldwide.

National & International Appointments

- Actor R Madhavan Nominated as President of FTII Pune
 - Popular actor R Madhavan has been nominated as the new President of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) in Pune.
 - In addition to his role as President, he will also chair the governing council of FTII.
 - This nomination follows the success of Madhavan's recent film, 'Rocketry: The Nambi Effect,' which received national recognition.
 - The film was honored with the prestigious Best Feature Film award at the 69th National Film Awards.

National Affairs

- Utkela Airport in Odisha Inaugurated by Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia
 - Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia officially inaugurated Utkela Airport in Odisha.
 - Developed as a regional airport under the UDAN scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India, this project had a cost of Rs 31.07 crore.
 - The airport features a runway measuring 917 meters (2,995 feet) in length and 30 meters in width.
 - With the addition of Utkela Airport, Odisha now boasts five airports, enhancing regional connectivity.
 - Starting from August 31, 2023, IndiaOne will operate flights on this route.

SEPTEMBER 3rd Current Affair

Sports

The Indian Men's Hockey team secured a thrilling victory over Pakistan in a penalty shootout during the final match, clinching the inaugural Men's Hockey 5s Asia Cup 2023 held in Salalah, Oman. This historic win not only earned India the gold medal but also secured their spot in the FIH Men's Hockey5s World Cup Oman 2024. Notably, this marked India's first-ever win against Pakistan in the Hockey 5s format. Hockey India President, Dilip Tirkey, extended his heartfelt congratulations to the team for this remarkable achievement.

National Affairs

In a significant development for public health, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the Amrita Patel Centre of Public Health in Anand, Gujarat. Highlighting India's leadership in the global healthcare sector, Mandaviya emphasized the government's commitment to enhancing the nation's health infrastructure. The minister is on an official visit to Gujarat and is scheduled to attend various programs in Surat later in the day.

National & International Organizations

Amazon has taken a significant step to bolster its logistics operations by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with India Post and forging a partnership with Indian Railways for a dedicated freight corridor. This strategic move aims to create an integrated, cross-border logistics solution, streamlining deliveries and providing greater support to Amazon's seller partners. This initiative was unveiled as part of "Smbhav," an event by Amazon designed to educate MSMEs about the opportunities enabled by technology.

Banking & Finance

PhonePe has ventured into the stock broking sector with the launch of its new mobile application, "Share(dot)Market," operating under its subsidiary PhonePe Wealth Broking. This innovative app aims to elevate discount broking by offering market intelligence and quantitative research-based WealthBaskets, all through a scalable technology platform. The platform will be available as both a mobile app and a dedicated web platform, enabling retail investors to trade stocks and engage in intra-day transactions.

1. Mastercard has introduced the ALT ID (Alternate Identification Number) solution in India, enhancing the security of guest checkout transactions on e-commerce platforms. This initiative simplifies payments for both merchants and cardholders, ensuring a secure and efficient online shopping experience. The ALT ID solution is a custom-made capability developed by Mastercard, offering an alternate identifier for actual card numbers provided by cardholders during guest checkout transactions.

Defense

Titagarh Rail Systems Limited achieved a significant milestone with the launch of its first Diving Support Craft (DSC) from its shipyard in Titagarh, West Bengal. The DSC is poised to play a crucial role within the Indian Navy's Southern Naval Command Clearance Diving Teams, providing essential support for underwater repair, maintenance, and salvage operations within designated harbors. This project aligns seamlessly with the Government of India's 'Make in India' initiative.

1. GalaxEye Space, an IIT Madras-incubated space tech startup, unveiled a drone-based synthetic aperture radar (SAR) system. This technology precedes their planned satellite launch in 2024 and is aimed at providing all-weather imaging data from space. GalaxEye's

upcoming satellite launch in Q3 2024 is among the latest endeavors by Indian space tech startups preparing to venture into space.

Important Dates

National Skyscraper Day, celebrated on September 3 each year, serves as a day to marvel at architectural wonders and engineering feats, particularly skyscrapers. The theme for National Skyscraper Day 2023 is "Go on and try to tear me down; I will be rising from the ground." Skyscrapers symbolize a city's economic prowess, and cities with more skyscrapers tend to witness increased business activity.

Obituaries

The world of Tamil Cinema mourns the loss of veteran actor and comedian RS Shivaji, who passed away at the age of 66 in Chennai. RS Shivaji had a remarkable career and was known for his collaboration with actor Kamal Haasan and Raaj Kamal Films International. Beyond acting, Shivaji contributed to various aspects of filmmaking, including assistant direction, sound design, and line production. He left an indelible mark on the Tamil film industry.

National Affairs

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has granted approval for the merger of Tata Group airlines Vistara and Air India. This merger positions Air India as the leading domestic and international carrier in India, boasting a combined fleet of 218 aircraft. With this consolidation, Air India becomes India's largest international carrier and the second-largest domestic carrier. The merger aligns with Tata Sons Chairman N. Chandrasekaran's efforts to streamline the conglomerate's operations for enhanced efficiency.

SEPTEMBER 4TH CURRENT AFFAIRS

Honours & Awards

1. P.V. Satyanarayana Honored with Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award

- P.V. Satyanarayana, Principal Scientist at the Agricultural Research Station, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Andhra Pradesh, has been presented with the 8th Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Award.
- He has been recognized for his significant contributions to the development of high-yielding rice varieties known for their resilience against pests and environmental challenges.
- Additionally, he has played a pivotal role in the development of fine-grain varieties and hybrid rice, which have brought about a transformative impact on agriculture across India.

Sports

Avinash Sable Qualifies for 3000m Steeplechase Final at Xiamen Diamond League

- India's Avinash Sable has secured qualification for his first-ever Diamond League Final by finishing fifth in the men's 3000m steeplechase race at the Xiamen Diamond League 2023 in China.
- Morocco's Soufiane El Bakkali, the reigning Olympic and world champion, clinched victory at the Xiamen track.
- Samuel Firewu of Ethiopia secured second place, while Amos Serem of Kenya claimed the third spot.
- Commonwealth Games champion Abraham Kibiwot of Kenya finished in fourth place.

National Affairs

Delhi Metro to Offer 'Tourist Smart Cards' at Select Metro Stations

- The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation has initiated the sale of 'Tourist Smart Cards' through dedicated counters at select Metro stations.
- This initiative aims to facilitate the transportation needs of G20 delegates and international visitors who wish to explore the prominent tourist destinations in the capital city upon their arrival in Delhi.
- 'Tourist Smart Cards' will be available in two categories: One-Day Validity and Three-Day Validity, offering unlimited rides within the Metro network.

Defense

Second Edition of Naval Commanders' Conference 2023 Commences in New Delhi

- The second edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference 2023 has commenced in New Delhi.
- The conference serves as a platform for Naval Commanders to engage in institutionalized interactions with senior government officials.
- The discussions are geared towards advancing various inter-ministerial initiatives aimed at ensuring the development of a safe and secure maritime environment.
- Commanders will also review projects with a strong emphasis on enhancing indigenization through the "Make in India" initiative, aligning with the goal of achieving self-reliance by 2047.

International Affairs

Kathmandu-Kalinga Literary Festival Concludes in Lalitpur, Nepal

- The three-day-long Kathmandu-Kalinga Literary Festival has successfully concluded in Lalitpur, Nepal.
- The festival was inaugurated by Nepal's Minister for Foreign Affairs, NP Saud.

- It featured literary talents from India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, showcasing a diverse range of literature and other art forms.
- Notable personalities such as Professor Avadhesh Pradhan, actress and writer Divya Dutta, Prof Madhav Prasad Pokharel, and actress Manisha Koirala were honored with the Yashaswi Sahitya Samman.

Banking & Finance

Credit Outstanding in Real Estate Surges by 38% to Reach Rs 28 Lakh Crore in July

- According to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), bank lending to the commercial real estate segment recorded a substantial 38% increase in July 2023 compared to the previous year.
- Outstanding loans in this segment surged to Rs 4.07 lakh crore as of July 28, 2023, compared to Rs 2.94 lakh crore on July 29, 2022.
- In the housing sector, bank loans experienced a 37% growth, reaching Rs 24.3 lakh crore by the end of July 2023 from Rs 17.7 lakh crore in 2022.

Banking & Finance

Sebi to Regulate Financial Influencers to Ensure Accurate Information

- The rise of financial influencers who charge substantial fees for social media posts has prompted the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) to propose measures to regulate their activities.
- The objective is to ensure that investors receive accurate and unbiased financial information.
- These measures aim to preserve authenticity, reduce fraudulent activities, and enhance transparency in the financial space.

Banking & Finance

Uday Kotak Resigns as CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank Effective September 1

- Uday Kotak has announced his resignation from the position of Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Kotak Mahindra Bank, effective from September 1.
- He will continue to serve as a non-executive director of the bank.
- Dipak Gupta, the Joint Managing Director at Kotak Mahindra Bank, will succeed him as the new CEO.

Honours & Awards

Shanta Thoutam Honored with World Innovation Award at BRICS

- Shanta Thoutam, Chief Innovation Officer of Telangana, has been honored with the World Innovation Award at the first BRICS Innovation Forum hosted in Moscow.
- The award recognizes her outstanding contributions to Sustainable Development Goal-4, which focuses on inclusive and equitable quality education for all.

- Shanta Thoutam, as a panelist at the Cloud City Conference, highlighted Telangana's initiatives and achievements in the field of open data.

National Affairs

Government Exempts LPG Imports from Agri Cess

- The government has granted an exemption from the 15% agriculture cess on imports of LPG (Liquified Petroleum Gas), liquified propane, and liquified butane, effective from September.
- The imposition of a 15% agri cess on these imports was introduced by the government in July 2023.
- This exemption ensures parity between the private sector and the public sector in terms of the Agriculture Infrastructure Development Cess and the Basic Customs Duty on Domestic LPG sold to household consumers.

SEPTEMBER 5TH CURRENT AFFAIR

Summits & Conferences

- The 43rd ASEAN Summit in Jakarta Scheduled for September 5th to 7th
 - The 43rd Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit is set to take place from September 5th to 7th in Jakarta.
 - Leaders of ASEAN member countries will convene to discuss strategies for ensuring the bloc's continued significance and central role in the evolving regional landscape.
 - The summit aims to strengthen ASEAN integration and foster collaboration in vital areas such as the digital and green economies.

Banking & Finance

- Airtel Commits to Procuring 23,000 MWh of Renewable Energy for Nextra Data Centers
- Bharti Airtel has made a significant commitment to acquire 23,000 MWh of renewable energy by Q4 FY 23–24 to power its data center subsidiary, Nextra.
- This initiative is aimed at reducing the company's carbon footprint and promoting sustainability.
- Airtel will secure stakes in Continuum Green's project company through an open access route, which will supply green energy from solar and wind projects to six Nextra Edge data centers located in Madhya Pradesh.

Banking & Finance

- RBI Grants Approval to Bajaj Auto's Subsidiary for NBFC Operations
- Bajaj Auto has received a Certificate of Registration from the RBI for its subsidiary, Bajaj Auto Consumer Finance, allowing it to commence operations as a non-banking finance company.

- Bajaj Auto Consumer Finance will provide non-banking financial services without accepting public deposits.
- The application for an NBFC license was submitted to the RBI on July 9, 2023.

National & International Appointments

- Gabon's Military Leader, Brice Oligui Nguema, Sworn in as Interim President
- Brice Oligui Nguema, the leader of Gabon's military junta, has been inaugurated as the interim President of the nation.
- Gabon becomes the sixth Francophone country to experience military rule in recent years, raising questions about the influence of former colonial power France on the continent.
- The coup in Gabon has led to its suspension from the African Union, drawing condemnation from the United Nations and France.

Banking & Finance

- Indian Bank Collaborates with OneCard to Launch Innovative Mobile-First Premium Credit Cards
- Indian Bank, a prominent public sector bank in India, has partnered with OneCard to introduce cutting-edge mobile-first, contactless, metal co-branded credit cards.
- This collaboration empowers users with comprehensive digital control over their credit card interactions, including real-time transaction tracking, expense management, EMI conversions, reward redemptions, repayments, budget planning, and seamless payments, all within a single app.

Banking & Finance

- IDFC First Bank Enhances Digital Rupee App with UPI QR Code Compatibility
- IDFC FIRST Bank has introduced a new feature that integrates UPI QR Codes with its Central Bank Digital Currency app, the IDFC FIRST Bank Digital Rupee.
- This integration aims to promote the use of the digital rupee and enhance its accessibility.
- The new feature simplifies the acceptance of payments made with the digital rupee by merchants through existing UPI QR codes at various retail locations.

Banking & Finance

- First WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit 2023 Outcome Presented in Gujarat Declaration
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has released the outcome of the first WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit 2023, encapsulated in the "Gujarat Declaration."
- This declaration reaffirms global commitments to indigenous knowledge, biodiversity, and traditional, complementary, and integrative medicine.
- WHO emphasizes the need for rigorous scientific methods to better comprehend, assess, and, when appropriate, apply holistic and context-specific approaches to healthcare.

National Affairs

- Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Launches Three-Year Partnership with Meta
- Dharmendra Pradhan, India's Education Minister, inaugurated a three-year partnership between his ministry and Meta in New Delhi.
- The partnership, known as "Education to Entrepreneurship," aims to impart digital and marketing skills to students, educators, and entrepreneurs.
- The primary objective is to enhance the capabilities of the talent pool and seamlessly connect students and youth with cutting-edge technologies.

National Affairs

- Inauguration of Visakhapatnam Port's International Cruise Terminal
- The International Cruise Terminal at Visakhapatnam Port is poised to become a pivotal gateway for both domestic and international cruise tourism along India's eastern coast.
- This world-class facility promises to offer a transformative experience to tourists while fostering economic growth and benefiting local communities.
- The terminal features a 180-meter berth and four mooring dolphins, making it a valuable addition to the region's tourism infrastructure.

Defense

- Hyderabad-Based Company Unveils India's First AI-Powered Anti-Drone System
- A Hyderabad-based robotics company has introduced an advanced autonomous anti-drone system that utilizes artificial intelligence.
- This system offers protection for critical facilities, including nuclear sites and oil rigs, and extends its coverage to entire cities, effectively countering various types of drones.
- It is claimed to be the world's only anti-drone system capable of safeguarding against micro, mini, small, large, and extra-large drones.

National Affairs

- Marut Drones' AG-365S Becomes India's First DGCA-Certified Dual-Usage Drone
- AG-365S kisan drone, India's first Multi-utility Agriculture small Category Drone, has received the prestigious DGCA-approved type certificate.
- AG-365S boasts a remarkable endurance of 22 minutes and is equipped with high-end sensors for smooth operations.
- Marut Drones, in collaboration with prestigious institutions across India, is already known for its Multipurpose Medium category agricultural drone and multiple Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPTOs).

State Affairs

- Meghalaya Adopts AI-Enabled Technology to Clean Up Umiam Lake
- Meghalaya has embraced artificial intelligence-enabled robotic technology to maintain the cleanliness of its picturesque tourist destination, Umiam Lake.

- This innovative solution efficiently collects significant quantities of waste from Umiam Lake, which was formed as a result of a dam construction project.
- The AI-enabled robotic boat, in collaboration with the Smart Village Movement and the Hong Kong-based technology firm Clearbot, has been successfully deployed.

National Affairs

- 'Koraput Kalajeera Rice' in Odisha Receives GI Tag
- Odisha's renowned 'Koraput Kalajeera Rice,' celebrated for its unique aroma and nutritional value, has been granted Geographical Indications (GI) status.
- Often referred to as the 'Prince of Rice,' this highly aromatic rice closely resembles coriander seeds in appearance. - It is believed that this rice variety possesses medicinal properties, enhancing memory, controlling diabetes, increasing hemoglobin levels, and boosting metabolism.
- 'Koraput Kalajeera Rice' is predominantly grown in Tolla, Patraput, Pujariput, and Mohuli areas of the Koraput district.

SEPTEMBER 6TH CURRENT AFFAIRS

National & International Appointments

- Nasscom Appoints Rajesh Nambiar, MD of Cognizant India, as Chairperson
 - Rajesh Nambiar, the Chairman and Managing Director of Cognizant India, has assumed the role of Chairperson at Nasscom.
 - He succeeds Anant Maheshwari, the former President of Microsoft India.
 - In his new role, Rajesh Nambiar, alongside Nasscom President Debjani Ghosh, will collaborate with the Nasscom Executive Council, industry stakeholders, and the government to fortify India's position as a global technology hub while navigating the current volatile macro environment.

Schemes

- Himachal CM Sukhu Launches SABAL Yojna to Empower Specially-Abled Children
- Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu inaugurated the Mukhya Mantri Sporting Abilities, Rebuilding Aspirations, and Livelihood Scheme (SABAL).
- The scheme aims to cater to specially-abled children in approximately 400 schools across Hamirpur, Solan, and Shimla districts.
- Its primary objective is to enhance the lives of specially-abled children in the state by providing them with essential facilities and opportunities, as per a statement issued.

National Affairs

- Corning to Establish \$113 Million Gorilla Glass Plant in India
- US-based multinational technology company Corning has unveiled plans to establish a \$113 million Gorilla Glass manufacturing facility in the Indian state of Telangana.

- Telangana currently accounts for 6% of electronic production in India, with more than 250 companies employing over 50,000 people across various industry sub-segments in the region.
- This strategic investment is geared towards manufacturing Gorilla Glass for smartphones and other electronic devices.

Obituaries

- Former International Umpire Pilo Reporter Passes Away at 84
- Former Indian umpire Pilo Reporter, a pioneer who was among the first neutral umpires to officiate in Test cricket, has passed away in Mumbai at the age of 84, leaving behind a remarkable legacy.
- In addition to officiating in international matches, Reporter also played a role in 13 first-class matches, serving as a match referee in two instances.
- His umpiring journey began with the Delhi Test between India and England in December 1984.

National Affairs

- G20 Expansion: Arrival of G21 with the African Union
- The G20 Summit is set to make history by transforming into the G21 with the inclusion of the African Union (AU).
- This significant move, proposed by India, underscores the growing recognition of the importance of representing the global south.
- The AU, consisting of 55 diverse member countries, is slated to join the ranks of the world's 20 largest economies later this week.
- The AU also comprises eight regional economic committees, each with its own structure and role.

International Affairs

- OpenAI Chief Sam Altman Becomes the First to Receive Indonesia's 'Golden Visa'
- Indonesia has granted its inaugural golden visa to Sam Altman, the CEO of OpenAI, a pioneering firm in artificial intelligence.
- The aim is to incentivize high-profile foreign investors to contribute to the nation.
- The Indonesian immigration authority issued a 10-year visa to Altman, acknowledging his global renown and potential contributions to the country.
- He is set to benefit from priority security screening at airports and streamlined entry and exit procedures.

Honours & Awards

- Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani Top Fortune India Rich List for 2023

- Mukesh Ambani, the patriarch of Reliance Industries (RIL), has secured the top position on the Fortune India Rich List 2023, with a wealth of \$99.7 billion.
- Gautam Adani, the chairman of the Adani Group of companies, has secured the second position with a wealth of \$63.71 billion.
- The Mistry family of Shapoorji Pallonji Group holds the third position on the list with a wealth of \$34.6 billion.
- The Poonawalla family, with a wealth of \$32.9 billion, stands fourth.

Banking & Finance

- Hitachi Payment Services Launches India's First UPI-ATM in Collaboration with NPCI
- Hitachi Payment Services, a subsidiary of Japan-based Hitachi Ltd., has introduced India's inaugural UPI-ATM as a White Label ATM (WLA) called Hitachi Money Spot UPI ATM, in partnership with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). The ATM offers cardless cash withdrawals, eliminating the need for physical cards.
- A UPI-ATM enables users to withdraw cash from multiple accounts using the United Payments Interface app.
- WLAs are operated by non-banking entities.

Agreement

- Central Government Signs MoU with Adobe to Foster AI Learning for Children
- The Union Ministry of Education, under Dharmendra Pradhan, has entered into an MoU with global software major Adobe to promote creative expression in classrooms through the Adobe Express application.
- The objective is to provide schools across the country with free access to Adobe Express Premium and to enhance the professional development of educators.
- In an era of digitization and innovation, this partnership aims to set new standards and benchmarks for students.

Agreement

- Bharat Electronics Collaborates with Israel Aerospace for Short Range Air Defence Systems
- Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), the defense company, have signed an MoU to enhance cooperation in addressing India's requirements in the domain of Short Range Air Defence Systems.
- The aim is to bolster collaboration between the two companies in the field of Short Range Air Defence Systems.
- This initiative leverages IAI and BEL's capabilities and aligns with the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Make in India' policies of the Government of India.

Banking & Finance

- Paytm Launches First 'Card Soundbox' Enabling Credit and Debit Card Payments
- Paytm has introduced the Paytm Card Soundbox, a device that enables merchants to accept mobile and card payments, including Visa, Mastercard, American Express, and RuPay, through its Soundbox.
- The goal is to assist merchants in expanding their businesses by offering a "tap and pay" solution via credit and debit cards.
- This new in-store payments option also provides audio-based confirmations using Paytm Soundbox.
- The Paytm Soundbox features a 4W speaker for clear payment alerts.

Banking & Finance

- Indian Bank Collaborates with IBM to Deploy New Front-End Banking Apps
- Indian Bank has partnered with Nasdaq-listed IBM to implement future-ready infrastructure that enhances scalability and agility.
- The objective is to accelerate the bank's modernization efforts by providing flexible and secure infrastructure for deploying new front-end banking applications.
- Under their 'Project Paradise' initiative, the bank aimed to consolidate its front branch servers for better manageability and availability at Data Centers and Disaster Recovery centers.

National & International Appointments

- Vanuatu Parliament Appoints Sato Kilman as Prime Minister
- Vanuatu's parliament has elected Sato Kilman as the nation's new Prime Minister, replacing Ishmael Kalsakau.
- Kilman, a former Prime Minister and leader of the People's Progressive Party, secured the position of Prime Minister with the support of 27 out of 50 lawmakers in a secret ballot. Alatoi Ishmael Kalsakau is a Vanuatuan politician who served as Prime Minister of the Republic of Vanuatu from 4 November 2022 until 4 September 2023.

SEPTEMBER 7th Current AFFAIRS

State Affairs

- India's inaugural solar city in Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh, was inaugurated by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.
- Objective: To annually reduce approximately 13,747 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions in Sanchi Solar City.

- Additionally, eco-friendly amenities have been introduced in Sanchi to attract tourists while curbing environmental pollution, including battery-operated e-rickshaws, garbage vehicles, and electric vehicle charging stations.

Agreement

- The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with Union Bank of India and Bank of Baroda to co-finance renewable energy (RE) projects.
- Objective: Collaborate with these banks to co-lend and syndicate loans for emerging and established RE projects, extending support to new and existing customers, particularly in tier-2 and tier-3 cities and rural areas.

National Affairs

- At Bharat Mandapam, the venue for the G20 summit in Delhi, the world's tallest Nataraja statue has been installed.
- The 28-foot-tall statue, weighing 20 tonnes, was crafted in a record seven months by sculptor Radhakrishnan Sthapathy and his team in Tamil Nadu's Swamimalai district.
- Made from Ashtadhatu (eight metals) using traditional casting methods, this statue adds cultural significance to the G20 summit location.

Obituaries

- N Valarmathi, the scientist whose distinctive voice was synonymous with ISRO's launch countdowns, has passed away.
- Her final announcement was during the launch of India's successful mission, Chandrayaan-3.
- Valarmathi's voice guided ISRO launches for nearly six years, and she played a crucial role in the success of numerous missions.

National Affairs

- The new building for the Army headquarters Thal Sena Bhawan in Delhi Cantonment, inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, adheres to GRIHA-IV (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) norms.
- This initiative aims to reduce the carbon footprint and unite various sections of the Army headquarters under a modern and eco-friendly infrastructure.

Banking & Finance

- SBI and several other Indian banks have introduced Unified Payments Interface (UPI) interoperability for the Digital Rupee application.
- Users of the Digital Rupee app can now make payments for everyday expenses by scanning any QR code.
- This move promotes digital transactions and enhances convenience for customers.

National Affairs

- Union Minister for Education Dharmendra Pradhan launched the Malaviya Mission-Teachers Training Programme by the University Grants Commission (UGC) in New Delhi.

- This program offers tailored training for teachers, enhancing their skills and capacity-building in higher educational institutions.

Honours & Awards

- Satyajit Majumdar, the dean of the School of Management and Labour Studies at Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai, received the prestigious Dr. V G Patel Memorial Award 2023.
- Recognized for his exceptional contributions to promoting entrepreneurship in India, he is hailed as the Father of the Entrepreneurship Movement in the country.

National Affairs

- The Technology Development Board (TDB) has collaborated with Aloe Ecell Pvt. Ltd., a startup based in Lucknow, to support the commercialization of eco-friendly 1.5V AA size Aloe Vera-based batteries.
- With a value of Rs. 2.98 crores, TDB's substantial contribution of Rs. 1.91 crores in the form of a soft loan aims to bolster green innovation.

National Affairs

- India has extended its support to member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) to enhance their legal capabilities.
- The 10th meeting of the Ministers of Law and Justice of SCO countries in September 2023 focused on cooperation in legal and judicial spheres, including organizing conferences and legal cooperation forums to facilitate knowledge exchange.