

# 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023

#### **INTERNATIONAL**

# 1) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement

- India and the UAE are celebrating the first anniversary of their Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, signed on February 18, 2022.
- As part of continued efforts to boost bilateral trade, the UAE India Business Council UAE Chapter (UIBC-UC) was launched on February 18, 2023 by the UAE's minister of state for foreign trade Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi.
- Others present at the signing of the agreement included India's ambassador to the UAE Sunjay Sudhir, general counsel of India in Dubai Aman Puri, and founding members of the UIBC- UC.



## 2) Malabar multilateral naval exercise

- Malabar multilateral naval exercise will be hosted by Australia for the first time this year, which includes participation from India, Australia, Japan, and the United States.
- With Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Foreign Minister Penny Wong slated to visit India in early March, when new defence plans may be unveiled, the high level of bilateral interaction between the two countries will continue.

## 3) "Scaling Up Nutrition Movement,"

- Afshan Khan, an Indo-Canadian, has been named the coordinator of the "Scaling Up Nutrition Movement," according to UN Secretary-General António Guterres.
- According to Stephane Dujarric, a spokesperson for the secretary-general at the UN headquarters in New York, the Scaling Up Nutrition or SUN Movement is a country-driven project headed by 65 nations and four Indian states who are committed to ending all types of malnutrition by 2030.

























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- In her new assignment, Ms Khan will work to ensure the execution of the Scaling Up Nutrition strategy at the global level by building partnerships, and galvanizing engagement and commitment to end malnutrition in all its forms.

#### **NATIONAL**

## 1) Vikramaditya Singh Khichi

- The Reserve Bank of India appointed Vikramaditya Singh Khichi to a panel to advise the administrator of debt-ridden Reliance Capital (RCap), the apex bank said in a release.
- Khichi, former executive director of Bank of Baroda, has been appointed to Reliance Capital's advisory committee following the resignation of Srinivasan Varadarajan from the panel.

# 2) Uber signed an MoU with Tata Motors

- India's leading carmaker, to bring 25,000 electric vehicles onto the platform. The agreement between Uber and Tata Motors is the largest EV commitment yet between an automaker and a ridesharing platform in India.
- Tata Motors will begin deliveries of XPRES-T EVs to Uber fleet partners in a phased manner starting this month.
- The partnership will aid the electrification of Uber services across Delhi NCR, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Ahmedabad.



## 3) 18th UIC World Security Congress

- A 3-day long 18th UIC World Security Congress jointly organised by the International Union of Railways (UIC), Paris and the Railway Protection Force (RPF) began on 21 February.
- Theme of this year's Congress is "Railway Security Strategy: Responses and Vision for Future.























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#### **STATE NEWS**

## 1) mRNA (messenger ribonucleic acid) vaccine hub in Telangana

- Minister for IT and Industries KT Rama Rao informed that the World Health Organisation will set up an mRNA (messenger ribonucleic acid) vaccine hub in Telangana. mRNA is becoming a promising technology to address a growing number of infectious diseases.
- Minister for IT and Industries KT Rama Rao informed about various steps being taken by the state government to promote the life sciences sector the government has a target of making the industry worth USD 100 billion from USD 50 billion in 2021 and the workforce from the existing four lacks to eight lacks in the next five years.

# 2) 'Krushi Odisha 2023'

- Governor of Odisha Prof. Ganeshi Lal launched India's first AI Chatbot for the Agricultural sector 'Ama KrushAI' at the valedictory session of 'Krushi Odisha 2023'.
- Ama KrushAI chatbot will help the farmers with the best agronomic practices, inform them about government schemes, and loan products from more than 40 commercial and cooperative banks.
- Ama KrushAI will run under a pilot project involving more than 10,000 farmers and will be implemented in full-fledged in the next two months.
- Addressing the gathering, the Governor urged farmers to take advantage of different schemes announced by the state government to promote agriculture and help the state prosper.

#### 3) Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde as the real Shiv Sena

- The Election Commission recognized the faction led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde as the real Shiv Sena and allocated it the bow and arrow symbol.
- In the order, the Election Commission informed that 40 MLAs backing Shinde got nearly 76% of the votes polled in favor of the 55 Shiv Sena candidates who had won their seats in the 2019 Maharashtra Assembly polls.
- On the other hand, the Uddhav Thackeray faction's 15 MLAs got 23.5% of the votes polled, the threemember poll body said in a unanimous order.
- 13 MPs of the Shinde faction got 73% of the total votes cast in Shiv Sena's favor in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, while only 27% of the votes went to MPs from the Thackeray camp.

#### 4) Prime Minister GatiShakti regional workshop

- The first Prime Minister GatiShakti regional workshop for the Western and Central Zone was held in Goa. The workshop featured discussions on use cases of National Master Plan adoption by Central Ministries & State Departments for planning and acted as a platform for mutual learning among the States and Central Ministries/Departments.

























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- Sumita Dawra, Special Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry and senior government officials from Central Ministries and State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh were present on the occasion.

## 5) 33rd Police-Public Mela

- Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the 33rd Police-Public Mela at Gulshan Ground, Jammu.
- LG Manoj Sinha informed that the Police-Public Mela has emerged as a powerful platform for police officers and the public to interact and celebrate the shared heritage.
- He commended the Jammu and Kashmir Police Wives Welfare Association for carrying out numerous initiatives around the year to address the concerns of the families of martyrs and serving personnel.



## 6) Brett Schickler

- Brett Schickler had never before considered the possibility of becoming a published novelist. But, after finding out about the ChatGPT artificial intelligence initiative, Schickler believed he had been given a chance.
- Schickler produced a 30-page illustrated children's e-book in a couple of hours using the AI programme, which can produce text blocks from straightforward instructions, and made it available for purchase through Amazon.com Inc.'s self-publishing division in January.

#### 7) Delhi has outlawed the use of bike taxi services

- Delhi has outlawed the use of bike taxi services, including those offered by well-known applications like Ola, Uber, and Rapido.

























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- The Delhi Transport Department issued the order banning the use of bike taxis on the grounds that doing so is against the law. The department ordered the bike taxi business owners to immediately cease operations.

#### **SPORTS**

## 1) Mobile Premier League Sports

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India is close to agreeing to a deal with German sporting goods giant Adidas to pay Rs 350 crore as the team's uniform sponsor.
- Adidas will take the place of Killer Jeans manufacturer Kewal Kiran Clothing Ltd, which stepped in as a temporary sponsor last month after the original sponsor Mobile Premier League Sports (MPL Sports) backed out of the agreement in the middle of it.

# 2) 24th NordWest Cup 2023 at Bad Zwischenahn in Germany

- After winning the 24th NordWest Cup 2023 at Bad Zwischenahn in Germany and defeating German IM Ilja Schneider, Indian chess player Vignesh NR became the 80th Grandmaster of India.
- The Chennai boy reached the milestone after crossing 2500 in the live ratings. Vignesh's elder brother Visakh NR had become India's 59th GM in 2019. Thus, Visakh and Vignesh become India's first brothers who are Grandmasters.



#### **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

# 1) Poet V. Madhusoodanan Nair

- Poet V. Madhusoodanan Nair has been selected for the Jnanappana Award 2023 instituted by the Guruvayur Devaswom.
- The award carries ₹50,001, a gold locket of Guruvayurappan and a citation. It will be presented to the poet by Minister for Higher Education R. Bindu at a cultural meet to be held at Melpathur Auditorium, Guruvayur.

























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- Madhusoodanan was selected for the prestigious award considering the overall contribution he made to the field of literature. The award consists of a Rs 50,001 cash prize, 10 gram gold locket with an image of Sree Guruvayoorappan, a citation, and a memento.

#### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

## 1) World Scout Day

- World Scout Day is observed annually on February 22 by millions of Boy Scouts worldwide. It honours Lord Robert Baden-Powell, who founded the Boy Scout Movement, on the day of his birthday.
- The day is observed by National Scout Organizations all over the world through events including fundraising campaigns, food drives, and other types of volunteer work.

## 2) World Organization of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

- Every year on February 22, the World Organization of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) observes World Thinking Day.
- The goal of the day is to collect money for the 10 million girl scouts and guides who are active in more than 150 countries while also celebrating sisterhood, solidarity, and women's empowerment.
- On World Thinking Day, female scouts are also encouraged to build enduring bonds with one another that prioritise loyalty and respect.













