

#### ❖ World Coconut Day

- World Coconut Day is observed on September 02 every year since 2009. It is observed for promoting this tropical fruit and bringing awareness regarding its health benefits.
- The theme of World Coconut Day 2022 is ‘Growing Coconut for a Better Future and Life’.
- The WCD also commemorates the formation of the Asian Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), which aims to promote, coordinate and harmonize all activities of the coconut industry.

#### ❖ Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2022

- Ministry of Women and Child Development is celebrating 5th Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2022 from 1st to 30th September 2022. This year, with the main focus on “Mahila aur Swasthya” and “Bacha aur Shiksha”, Poshan Maah is to be started as Poshan Panchayat through Gram Panchayats.
- Pregnant and lactating women, children below six years of age and adolescent girls will be given special attention in this month-long Poshan Maah. Along with this, they will be made aware about the importance of nutrition through sensitization campaigns, outreach programs, and camps.
- Under this program, the importance of rainwater harvesting will be emphasized among women at Anganwadi centers as well as information related to traditional food items for healthy mother and child in tribal areas will be provided.
- Under the state level activities, ‘Amma ki Rasoi’ of traditional nutritious dishes will also be operated. Also, extensive efforts will be made to integrate traditional foods with local festivals during Poshan Maah.

➤ POSHAN Abhiyaan was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the occasion of International Women's Day on March 8, 2018. POSHAN stands for "Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition" Abhiyaan. This mission was announced in Budget 2021-2022.

### ❖ **Dr. Vasudha Gupta appointed as Director General of News Services Division of All India Radio**

➤ Senior Indian Information Service officer Dr. Vasudha Gupta has been appointed as the Director General of the News Services Division of All India Radio.

➤ A 1989-batch Officer Dr. Vasudha Gupta has served in various capacities in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for over 32 years long career.

➤ Before her appointment as Director General of the News Services Division of All India Radio, she was serving as Director General, Press Information Bureau (PIB).

➤ Principal Director General of News Services Division and Director General of All India Radio N Venudhar Reddy superannuated today.

➤ N Venudhar Reddy, a 1988 batch IIS officer, who retired today as Principal Director General, had worked in various capacities in his around 34-year long career. Earlier, he served as Joint Secretary in the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management.

### ❖ **Govt appoints Rajesh Kumar Srivastava as interim chief at ONGC**

➤ State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd (ONGC) on August 31 appointed Rajesh Kumar Srivastava as the interim new chairman.

➤ He is the third interim chief who has been appointed in last 17 months, as the government has not made a full time appointment yet.

➤ Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is without a regular chairman and managing director since April 2021.

➤ Subhash Kumar, the then senior-most director on the company board and the director for finance, was named officiating head after Shashi Shanker superannuated on March 31, 2021.

- ONGC has been without a full-time chief since Shashi Shanker retired as chairman and managing director (CMD) in March 2021
- The government also appointed M V Iyer as the interim chairman at GAIL following the retirement of the incumbent.
- ❖ **Andhra Pradesh signs MoU with Parley for the Oceans**
- Andhra Pradesh government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the 'Parley for the Oceans', a U.S.-based company that works for plastic-waste management.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister says that in the coming six years ₹16,000 crores will be invested in the state.
- The program also brings employment for more than 20,000 locals with a minimum of at least ₹16,000 per month.
- The recycling and upcycling of plastic waste will be done in the "Parley Super Hubs" set up by the Parley for the Oceans.
- The MoU between Andhra Pradesh and Parley for the Oceans aims to improve the sanitation and waste management system and deploy AIR (Avoid Intercept & Redesign) plastic stations in 500 places.
- ❖ **MoU for promotion of 'One Herb, One Standard'**
- Recently an MoU has been signed between Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homeopathy (Ministry of AYUSH) and Pharmacopoeia Commission of India (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) to achieve "One Herb, One Standard".
- The primary objective of this MoU is to develop collaborative efforts between PCIM&H and IPC to promote public health while facilitating the development of herbal medicine standards.
- On June 4, 2020, the Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi approved the Pharmacopoeia commission. The cabinet has approved to re-establish the commission for Indian Medicine and Homeopathy under Ministry of AYUSH.

➤ The commission has been set up by merging Pharmacopoeia Laboratory for Indian Medicine and Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia Laboratory. The two central laboratories were established at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh in 1975.

➤ This commission is an autonomous body that operates under Ministry of AYUSH. It is in operation since 2010.

### ❖ **India-Nepal MoU on Biodiversity Conservation**

➤ Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Nepal on Biodiversity Conservation proposed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

➤ This MoU has been signed to strengthen and enhance coordination and cooperation between the two countries in the fields of forestry, biodiversity conservation and climate change.

➤ The shared Indo-Nepal border of over 1,850 km touches five Indian states – Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. India and Nepal are already cooperating on a number of wildlife-related issues, but this will strengthen bilateral cooperation and strengthen the management of important cross-border wildlife habitats.

➤ The joint border of India and Nepal includes many border wildlife habitats. For example, the Valmiki Tiger Reserve in Bihar connects to the Chitwan National Park and Parsa Wildlife Sanctuary in Nepal. Similarly, Dudhwa Tiger Reserve in Uttar Pradesh shares its boundary with Shukla Phanta National Park in Nepal. Thus, this MoU is expected to have a significant focus on the management of the marginal landscape.

### ❖ **India surpasses China, UK to become 10th largest life insurer globally**

➤ The life insurance sector has grown at a CAGR of 11% from 2017-2022 and is estimated to grow at a CAGR of 9% in the next 5 years, highlighted the latest report tracking the performance of the industry by Benori Knowledge, a new-age provider of custom research and analytics solutions.

➤ The finding of the report shows that the life insurance penetration rate in India has grown to 3.2% in December 2021 from 2.8% in December 2019, almost at par with the global average

of 3.3% and makes India the 10th largest life insurance market globally, ahead of China (at 2.4%) and the UK (at 3%).

➤ Italy's Poste Italiane is the strongest insurance brand, followed by LIC of India, Mapfre of the US, and Poste Italiane of Italy.

### ❖ "Rural Backyard Piggery Scheme" - Meghalaya

➤ Meghalaya Chief Minister "Conrad K Sangma" said the state's "Progress" scheme aims to ensure that the farmers earn a sustainable livelihood through different livestock farming activities.

➤ Launching the ambitious flagship programme for the farmers - "Rural Backyard Piggery Scheme" under National Livestock Mission at Byrnihat in Ri-Bhoi district, the Chief Minister said that the government through different welfare schemes is successfully providing income generation opportunities and economic prosperity to the farmers.

➤ He informed that Meghalaya acquires 18,000 MT of pork from different States and there is a huge shortfall in supply and demand, through the piggery scheme the state envisions addressing the shortage of pork supply.

➤ He informed that the flagship programme "Progress" has been conceptualised by the government to ensure the prosperity of grassroots families through livestock intervention which includes piggery, poultry, etc.

➤ Under Rural Backyard Piggery Scheme - phase 1, the government has earmarked Rs 15.18 crore under which four high-yielding improved varieties will be distributed to 6000 families.

### ❖ India's first indigenously developed qHPV against cervical cancer

➤ India gets its first cervical cancer vaccine, Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus vaccine (qHPV) on 1 September.

➤ The most awaited vaccine has been launched by the Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology Jitendra Singh at IIC Delhi.

- The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) had on 12 July granted market authorisation to Serum Institute of India (SII) to manufacture an indigenously-developed vaccine against cervical cancer.
- Cervical cancer in India ranks as the second most frequent cancer among women between 15 and 44 years of age.
- The revolutionary step for the Indian demography will now help prevent cases of cervical cancer.
- The qHPV vaccine CERVAVAC has demonstrated robust antibody response that is nearly 1,000 times higher than the baseline against all targeted HPV types and in all dose and age groups.
- When cancer starts in the cervix, it is called cervical cancer. It occurs most often in women over age 30. Long-lasting infection with certain types of human papillomavirus (HPV) is the main cause of cervical cancer. When cervical cancer is found early, it is highly treatable and associated with long survival and good quality of life.

### ❖ **New Zealand All-rounder Colin de Grandhomme Retires from International Cricket**

- New Zealand all-rounder Colin de Grandhomme announced his retirement from international cricket.
- De Grandhomme retires with an impressive record, especially in the Tests. He represented New Zealand in 29 matches, scoring 1432 runs at 38.70 and picking up 49 wickets. He featured in 18 wins, playing a key role in the inaugural ICC World Test Championship campaign against India in Southampton.
- The Zimbabwe-born player made his debut in 2012 and played in 29 Tests.

### ❖ **Oscar-Winning Pixar Animator Ralph Eggleston Passes away**

- Oscar Award Winning & a longtime Pixar animator Ralph Eggleston Passed away at the age of 56 in California, United States of America (USA).
- Eggleston was born in Louisiana, United States (US) in 1965

- His work as an artist has been seen in numerous Pixar films including “Monsters, Inc.,” “Finding Nemo,” “Wall-E,” “Cars,” “The Incredibles” and “Inside Out.”
- He won the animated short film Oscar for writing and directing the 2001 Pixar film “For the Birds & it won the Academy Award for best animated short in 2002.
- He won his first Annie Award for best individual achievement in production design due to his work on the Pixar classic “Toy Story.”
- He won Annie Awards for “Finding Nemo” in 2004, “Inside Out” in 2015
- In 2019, he won a Winsor McKay Award for his lifetime career achievements. He was also honored with the VIEW Visionary Award in 2019.