

**❖ World Toilet Day**

- The United Nations observes World Toilet Day on November 19 annually. The main aim is to raise public awareness of broader sanitation systems such as wastewater treatment, stormwater management, and hand washing.
- The central message of World Toilet Day 2022 is that safely managed sanitation protects groundwater from human waste pollution. Currently, the world is seriously off track to meet the promise of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6.2: to ensure safe toilets for all by 2030.
- The 2022 theme is 'Making the Invisible Visible' and explores how inadequate sanitation systems spread human waste into rivers, lakes and soil, polluting underground water resources.

**❖ World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence.**

- The UN General Assembly has declared November 18 as the World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence.
- The new World Day is aimed at bringing global visibility to the trauma of child sexual abuse, with the hope that governments will take action to fight it. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), millions of children experience sexual violence each year.

**❖ Bandaru Wilsonbabu to take over as next ambassador to Comoros**

- Bandaru Wilsonbabu, presently the Indian ambassador to the Republic of Madagascar has been concurrently accredited as the next ambassador to the Union of Comoros.
- An Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer from the 2004 batch, Wilsonbabu earlier served as the joint secretary in the Eurasia division.
- Vice President Venkaiah Naidu visited Comoros in October 2019. It was the first state visit by an Indian political dignitary to the Union.

➤ Six MoUs were signed during the Vice President's visit. An MoU on defence cooperation between the two countries was also signed.

➤ Comoros is a founding member of the International Solar Alliance and part of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).

### ❖ **Mary Kom elected as the Chairperson of Athletes Commission of IOA**

➤ 2012 London Olympic bronze medal-winning boxer for India, Mary Kom was unanimously appointed as the chairperson of the Athletes Commission of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) on November 15.

➤ In the meantime, Table Tennis legend Achanta Sharath Kamal was elected as the vice-chairperson of the body.

➤ Returning Officer (RO) Umesh Sinha announced the list of 10 members of the commission. The list included Mary Kom, PV Sindhu, Gagan Narang, Achanta Sharath Kamal, Bajrang Lal, Mirabai Chanu, Rani Rampal, Shiva Keshavan, Bhavani Debi, and Om Prakash Karhana.

### ❖ **Meta India appoints new country head - Sandhya Devanathan**

➤ Meta has announced the appointment of Sandhya Devanathan as the new Vice President of Meta India.

➤ The appointment of Sandhya Devanathan has come days after the former India Chief Ajit Mohan announced to step down from the company to pursue another opportunity.

➤ Sandhya Devanathan is a global business leader with 22 years of experience and an international career in banking, technology, and payments.

➤ She has been associated with META since 2016.

### ❖ **Arun Kumar Singh to be next head of ONGC**

➤ BPCL's former chairman Arun Kumar Singh is likely to be the new chairman of India's top oil and gas producer ONGC.

## ❖ "Knight of the Legion of Honour 2022"

- Emmanuel Lenain (Ambassador of France to India) has conferred the Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour) to Sumeet Anand (President of FICCI).
- Reason: For contributions in the fields of business and industry, and promoting Indo-French education ties.
- Sumeet Anand is a founder of IndSight Growth Partners, and President of the Indo-French Chamber of Commerce & Industry.
- The Legion d'Honneur was created in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte.

## ❖ Uttarakhand HC to be shifted to Haldwani from Nainital

- The Uttarakhand High Court will be shifted from Nainital to Haldwani. This decision was taken in a cabinet meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami.
- Earlier in April 2018, the Uttarakhand government had passed The Uttarakhand Freedom Of Religion Act, 2018, under which "forced or fraudulent conversions done through force or allurement" are non-bailable offences and can lead to imprisonment up to five years.

## ❖ IFSCA signed MoU with the RBI for Collaboration in the Field of Regulation

- The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for collaboration in the field of regulation and supervision of regulated entities in their respective jurisdictions.
- The MoU opens up avenues for cooperation between the two regulators, thereby strengthening the safety, stability and soundness of respective financial ecosystems and nurturing environments conducive to optimal business development and economic growth
- IFSCA is a statutory authority established under the IFSCA Act 2019, headquartered at GIFT City, Gandhinagar. It was established with a mandate to develop and regulate the financial products, financial services, and financial institutions in the International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs).

➤ The IFSCA, being a unified regulator responsible for development and regulation of financial products, financial services and financial institutions in the International Financial Services Centre(s) (IFSC) established in India, is, inter-alia, entrusted with the responsibility of regulation and supervision of authorized banks and non-banking financial institutions operating in such IFSCs.

➤ The RBI is the central bank and monetary authority of India carrying on, inter-alia, the regulation and supervision of banks and non-banking financial institutions as well as undertaking other functions and exercising powers in accordance with various statutes.

### ❖ **Lance Naik Manju becomes Indian Army's first woman sky diver with 10,000 ft jump**

➤ Lance Naik Manju of Eastern Command from the Corps of Military Police became the first woman Soldier Sky Diver of the Indian Army.

➤ She jumped from a height of 10,000 ft from the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv.

➤ The Eastern Command called it an “inspiring act” that would set an example for other women in the Indian Army.

➤ Indian Army's first woman soldier skydiver Lance Naik Manju was trained by the skydiving training team of the Indian Army's Adventure Wing for the jump.

➤ Notably, earlier in May 2022, 26-year-old Abhilasha Barak from Haryana had also created history by becoming the Indian Army's first woman combat fighter.

➤ The Eastern Command is one of the six operational commands of the Indian Army and is headquartered in Fort William in the city of Kolkata in West Bengal. It was formed on November 1, 1920.

➤ Eastern Command is commanded by a three-star rank officer with the title General officer Commanding-in-chief. Lt. Gen. Rana Pratap Kalita is the current GOC-in-C of Eastern Command.

## ❖ Cambridge Dictionary Reveals Its 'Word Of The Year 2022', Inspired By Wordle

- The Cambridge Dictionary has revealed its word of the year for 2022 as "homer", saying that it was inspired by the global word game sensation, Wordle.
- The word "homer" was searched for nearly 75,000 times during the first week of May 2022, when it was an answer in the word game Wordle.
- "Homer" is an informal American-English term for a home run in baseball, Cambridge Dictionary.
- Not only homer, Cambridge Dictionary saw bursts of searches for many five-letter words in 2022.

## ❖ North East Olympic Games 2022

- The 2nd edition of the North East Olympic Games concluded in Shillong, Meghalaya.
- Manipur has emerged as the overall team champion with a total of 240 medals which included 88 Gold Medals, 75 Silver Medals, and 77 Bronze Medals.
- Assam took the second spot with a total of 203 medals which included 79 gold medals, 61 silver and 63 bronze medals.
- In this one week long edition of the sporting event, about 3000 participants from all around the North East states competed in 18 disciplines like football, shooting, basketball and others at 12 venues spread across Shillong.
- Nagaland will host the 3rd edition of the Northeast Olympic Games.

## ❖ Gulam Abbas Moontasir, Indian basketball legend, dies at 80

- After a prolonged illness, the former India basketball captain and Arjuna awardee, Gulam Abbas Moontasir, passed away aged 80 in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The legendary player inspires hundreds of young basketball players due to his aggressive playing style.

- A former India men's team captain, Moontasir led India in 1969 and 1975 Asian Basketball Championships and was selected in the Asian All-Star team in 1970.
- He became the first basketball player from India in 1970 to receive the Arjuna Award and continued playing till 1986 when he represented the Railways in the Federation Cup.
- He also made a place in popular culture and worked in a few Bollywood films.