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## CURRENT AFFAIRS BOOSTER

24 – 05 – 2022

TUESDAY

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## IAS/PCS/SSC/BANK/RAILWAY



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## 1. Piyush Goyal to lead India at WEF's Davos meeting



The annual meeting of the World Economic Forum began in Davos, Switzerland. The Indian delegation will be led by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal during the five-day meeting. The event will help cement India's position as an important and relevant player in creating the global narrative, especially as it prepares to assume the G20 presidency next year.

### key points:

- Several industry executives will also participate in the discussion of the World Economic Forum.
- The World Economic Forum will also serve as a forum to promote India as a desirable investment destination due to its strong economic growth and stable macroeconomic indicators.
- Mr. Goyal will also visit the United Kingdom on the 26th and 27th of this month to discuss progress in FTA negotiations with the UK government and businesses.
- The Prime Ministers of India and the United Kingdom agreed to hold a summit on Diwali 2022 to finalize the Free Trade Agreement between the two countries.

### Attendees:

- Minister of Commerce and Industry: Piyush Goyal
- Minister of Health and Family Welfare: Mansukh Mandaviya
- Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas: Hardeep Singh Puri

- Chief Ministers and senior ministers of Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Telangana will be the members of the delegation.

## 2. Anthony Albanese elected Prime Minister of Australia



The leader of Australia's Labor Party, Anthony Albanese, was sworn in as the country's new Prime Minister. After nine years, Albanese claimed victory in the election, ending his wait for power, with Anthony Albanese becoming the country's 31st prime minister. Outgoing Prime Minister Scott Morrison, who is leading the Liberal-National coalition, has conceded defeat. The 59-year-old new prime minister was sworn in at a brief ceremony at Government House in Canberra. Other members of his team taking office include Secretary of State Penny Wong, who will join the Albanians at the Quad summit, Treasurer Jim Chalmers and Finance Minister Katy Gallagher.

## 3. Odisha won the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship title



Odisha women's team won their maiden senior national gold medal by defeating Karnataka 2-0 in the final of the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship. Earlier, Hockey Jharkhand had defeated Hockey Haryana 3-2 in the third-fourth place match. The 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

However, solid defensive performances from both sides ensured that the match went into halftime with a 0–0 scoreline. Punam Barla (34') opened the scoring in the third quarter as Odisha took the lead. Ashim Kanchan Barla (59') sealed the game with a late goal as Odisha beat Karnataka 2-0 to claim the championship.

#### 4. India's Inequality Status Report Released



Dr. Bibek Debroy, Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, launched the Status of Inequality Report in India (EAC-PM). The Institute for Competitiveness wrote the research, which provides a comprehensive examination of the level and types of inequality in India. The study combines data on inequality in health, education, household characteristics and labor market sectors. Inequality in these areas, according to research, makes the population more vulnerable and leads to multidimensional poverty.

State Inequality Report Key Points: Significant progress has been made in strengthening the capacity of health infrastructure, with a special focus on rural areas. In 2005, there were a total of 1,72,608 health centers in India; There will be 1,85,505 by 2020.

- Between 2005 and 2020, states and union territories such as Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Chandigarh expanded the number of health centers (including sub-centres, primary health centers and community health centres).

According to the findings of NFHS-4 (2015-16) and NFHS-5 (2019-21), 58.6% of women underwent antenatal check-up in the first quarter of 2015-16, which increased to 70% in 2019-21. Within two

days after birth, 78.1% of mothers received postpartum care from a doctor or ancillary nurse, and 78.1% of infants received postpartum care. However, dietary deficiencies are associated with obesity, underweight and anemia (especially in children and adolescent girls). However, as the report indicates, nutritional deficiencies in terms of the prevalence of overweight, underweight and anemia (especially among children, adolescent girls and pregnant women) are major concerns that require urgent attention. In addition, inadequate health coverage, leading to out-of-pocket costs, has a direct impact on poverty rates.

#### Status of inequality report data:

- The report looks at five main factors that determine the nature and experience of inequality.
- It is divided into two parts: economic aspects and socio-economic manifestations.
- Income distribution and labor market dynamics, as well as health, education and household characteristics are among them.
- Current status in terms of infrastructural capacity, areas of concern, successes and failures and The end is devoted to explaining the effect on inequality.
- The research broadens the narrative on inequality by providing a thorough analysis that affects the country's diverse ecosystem of deprivations, with a direct impact on population well-being and overall development.
- It is a research that looks at how inequality affects society at the intersections of class, gender and geography.
- The report goes beyond wealth projections, providing only a partial view to emphasize income distribution forecasts for the years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20.

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- The report emphasizes that wealth concentration as a measure of inequality does not reveal changes in household purchasing power, and instead focuses on income distribution for the first time to explain capital movement .

- Extrapolation of the income data from PLFS 2019-20 revealed that a monthly salary of Rs 25,000 is already in the top 10% of total earnings, reflecting some degree of income discrepancy.

- The top 1% earn 6-7% of all income, while the top 10% get a third. Self-employed workers (45.78 per cent) had the largest percentage of self-employed workers in 2019-20, followed by regular paid workers (33.5 per cent), and casual workers (33.5 per cent) (20.71 per cent).

- The lowest income group also has the highest percentage of self-employed workers. The unemployment rate in the country is 4.8 percent (2019-20), while the worker population ratio is 46.8%.

Attendees:

- Dr. Poonam Gupta, Director General, NCAER and member of Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, Dr. Charan Singh, Chief Executive of Foundation for Economic Growth and Welfare (EGROW) and Professor Suresh Babu of IIT Madras were on the panel at the event.

## 5. Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates North East Research Conclave 2022



The Union Minister for Education and Skill Development Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched the North East Research Conclave (NERC) 2022 at IIT Guwahati. In his remarks, Shri Pradhan said that

the conference will enhance ties between industry, academia and policy makers, as well as revitalize the research, start-up and entrepreneurship ecosystem in the resource-rich North Eastern Region states and the country.

### key points:

- Discussing the importance of research, the Education Minister said that the goal of research should be to find solutions to the age-old problems of the country and urged everyone to work together and produce for the welfare of the most vulnerable. He said that NERC 2022 will be a global benchmark to meet the research and development aspirations of India and the world.

- Mr Pradhan urged the students and youth to "walk the path of duties and responsibilities" to help take the country to newer heights.

- Assam Chief Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma in his deliberations said that research and development is important for a fast developing country like India.

- He further added that in a progressive society, research and development has always been seen as a major building block as it is very important in the process of innovation and enhancing our knowledge and understanding.

- Entrepreneurs and research institutes can showcase their innovations at the North-East Research Conclave.

- This is a great effort for the North East as it brings together policy makers, industry leaders and researchers on a single platform. This mega event will have a significant impact on the educational sector of the region.

## 6. Anjali Pandey Wins CII EXCON Committed Leader Award

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Anjali Pandey, Engines and Components Business Unit Leader at Cummins India has been honored with the Committed Leader Award at CII EXCON 2022 in Bengaluru for her efforts to create a more diverse, equitable and inclusive workplace. Cummins views diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I) as a competitive advantage and therefore a business imperative.

## What initiative did Cummins India take?

- Cummins India has taken proactive measures to increase its female representation over the years, resulting in an increase in the gender diversity ratio from 5 to 32 per cent over the past two decades, a significant achievement for a construction organisation.
- Cummins has taken various initiatives to provide equal opportunities to women such as women in technology, gender balance during recruitment, ensuring pay equality, gender-neutral work centre, Cummins Women and Empowerment Network, flexible work arrangements and for new mothers Award-winning breastfeeding-friendly facilities, all of which are strongly supported by leadership.
- Diversity and inclusion is one of Cummins' core values and the organization's unwavering commitment to building a more dynamic workplace where all employees are motivated and encouraged to achieve their full potential.

## 7. Dr Jitendra Singh Launches 'BioRRAP' Portal for Biotech Researchers



In keeping with the ethos of One Nation, One Portal, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh unveiled a single national portal for biotech researchers and start-ups. BioRRAP will be used by all those seeking regulatory permission for biological research and development activity in the country. According to the minister, biotechnology has rapidly become a viable educational and career option for the Indian youth. There are currently over 2,700 biotech start-ups and over 2,500 biotech enterprises in operation in the country.

Dr Jitendra Singh while speaking after the launch of the portal said that India is on its way to become a global bio-manufacturing hub and will be among the top five countries of the world by 2025. He said the portal will allow stakeholders to view the approvals granted to a specific application using a unique BioRRAP ID. He lauded the unique gateway of DBT as a step towards making science and scientific research more accessible to Indians as well as ease of doing businesses

## 8. Indian teenager R Pragyanand defeated Magnus Carlsen for the second time in 2022



Indian GM Pragyanand registered his second win in 3 months over world champion Magnus Carlsen as he stunned the Norwegian in the Chessable Masters online rapid chess tournament. 16-year-old Pragyanand had defeated Magnus Carlsen for the first time in the online rapid chess tournament AirThings Masters in February.

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Carlsen was second on the leaderboard after China's Wei Yi on the second day of the tournament. World's youngest Grand Master Abhimanyu Mishra is also a part of the 16-member tournament. Praggnanandhaa won with black pieces to end a 3-match winning run at Carlsen's AirThings Masters in just 19 moves in a Terrash variation game.

## 9. Red Bull's Max Verstappen Wins Spanish Grand Prix



Formula One world champion Max Verstappen won the Spanish Grand Prix at Red Bull to overtake Ferrari's Charles Leclerc, who retired with an engine failure while taking the lead at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya. Mexican Sergio Pérez finished second, 13 seconds behind, but with the consolation of a bonus point for the fastest lap, was asked to pass on to his teammate for a third consecutive win behind Imola and Miami.

Britain's George Russell finished third for a revived Mercedes and went wheel-to-wheel with Verstappen in a thrilling display of defensive driving as he struggled for second place behind Leclerc.

## 10. Fourth edition of Indo-Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) launched



The fourth edition of the Indian Navy-Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) began. The

patrolling exercise began in the northern Bay of Bengal and will continue from May 22 to 23. Both the units will conduct joint patrols along the International Maritime Boundary Line. The previous IN-BN CORPAT was conducted in October 2020.

Indian Navy's indigenous warships, INS Kora and INS Sumedha as well as Bangladesh Navy warships BNS Ali Haider and BNS Abu Ubaida will touch the water during the patrol. Maritime patrol aircraft of both the navies will also undertake joint patrols along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) during the CORPAT. The regular operation of CORPATs has strengthened mutual understanding and increased interoperability between the two navies in countering international maritime threats at sea.

### ONE LINER

- Capital of Australia: **Canberra;**
- Australia Currency: **Australian Dollar.**
- Union Minister of Education and Skill Development: **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**
- Chief Minister of Assam: **Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma**
- Minister of State for Education: **Mr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh**
- When the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) has announced the postponement of the 2021 Asia Cup - **the year 2023**
- Recently the Monaco Grand Prix who won the Formula One trophy - **Max Verstappen**
- International Day for Biological Diversity is celebrated on - **May 22**
- Recently the state's Chief Minister announced Vatsalya Yojana - **Uttarakhand**

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- US President Joe Biden has appointed as a special envoy to North Korea- **Sung Kim**
- Recently the state government which has started the Sanjeevani project after the enthusiasm for the corona patients in the state- **Haryana**
- The former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, who died of a heart attack on 23 May 2021 - **Srikumar Banerjee**
- President of International Hockey Federation (FIH) who has been appointed- **Narinder Batra**

## QUIZ

**1. World Turtle Day is celebrated on which of the following day?**

- a. 10 January
  - b. March 12
  - c. 20 August
  - d. 23 May
- d. 23 May**

Every year 23 May is celebrated as World Turtle Day. World Turtle Day started in the year 2000. The day aims to protect turtles and their rapidly disappearing habitats around the world. This day is celebrated every year to create awareness about the oldest living reptiles in the world.

**2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurated India's first 5G testbed. How many crores has it been set up for?**

- a. 220 crores
  - b. Rs 320 crore
  - c. Rs 290 crore
  - d. Rs 140 crore
- a. 220 crores**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurated India's first 5G testbed. It has been set up for Rs 220 crore. It aims to enable the

telecom industry to test and verify their products within India and reduce their dependence on facilities abroad. This 5G test bed is an important step towards India's self-reliance in the field of modern technologies.

**3. International Biodiversity Day is celebrated on which of the following days?**

- a. May 20
  - b. 22 May
  - c. 12 January
  - d. March 10
- b. 22 May**

International Biodiversity Day is celebrated every year on 22 May. It refers to the different types of flora and fauna that make up the ecosystem. Conservation of ecosystem is important for natural balance and human survival. The theme of International Day for Biodiversity 2022 is 'Building a shared future for all life'.

**4. India celebrates National Anti-Terrorism Day every year on 21st May. This day is observed as the death anniversary of which former Prime Minister?**

- a. Rajiv Gandhi
  - b. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru
  - c. Atal Bihari Vajpayee
  - d. Indira Gandhi
- a. Rajiv Gandhi**

India celebrates National Anti-Terrorism Day every year on 21st May. This day is celebrated as the death anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Rajiv Gandhi was the sixth Prime Minister of India. He served as the Prime Minister of the country between 1984 and 1989. Rajiv Gandhi took over as the Prime Minister after the assassination of his mother and former Prime Minister of India, Indira Gandhi.

**5. International Tea Day is celebrated on which of the following days?**

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- a. 10 April                      b. 18 July  
c. 21st May                      d. 30 November

**c. May 21**

Every year, on 21 May, the United Nations celebrates International Tea Day. The resolution to celebrate International Tea Day was adopted by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in the year 2019. The main goal of this day is to promote sustainable production of tea and to raise awareness to fight poverty and hunger. India is the second largest tea producing country after China.

**6. Which country has banned its citizens from traveling to 16 countries including India amid rising cases of Kovid-19?**

- a. Japan b. China  
c. Russia d. Saudi Arab

**d. Saudi Arab**

Saudi Arabia has banned its citizens from visiting 16 countries including India amid rising cases of Kovid-19. Other countries include Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Yemen, Somalia, Ethiopia, Congo (DRC), Libya, Indonesia, Vietnam, Armenia, Belarus, Venezuela. According to the administration, not a single case of monkeypox has been reported in Saudi so far.

**7. Which country has started mandatory 21-day quarantine for patients suffering from monkeypox, becoming the first country to do so?**

- a. Belgium                      b. Armenia  
c. Belarus                      d. Venezuela

**a. Belgium**

Belgium has introduced a mandatory 21-day quarantine for patients suffering from monkeypox, becoming the first country to do so.

There have been 4 cases of monkeypox in Belgium and all the cases are related to a festival. The Belgian Institute of Tropical Medicine said that the risk of large-scale spread of infection in the country is low.

**8. Which Indian-origin businessman has been elected mayor of the 'London Borough of Southwark' for the second time?**

- a. Sunil Chopra                      b. Ratan Tata  
c. Gautam Adani                      d. Mukesh Ambani

**a. Sunil Chopra**

Indian-origin businessman Sunil Chopra has been elected mayor of the London Borough of Southwark for the second time. He is the first person of Indian origin to hold this position. He was its mayor in 2014-15 and its deputy mayor in 2013-14. The Labor Party led by Chopra defeated the Liberal Democrats in London Bridge and West-Bermondsey seats.