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## INTERNATIONAL

### 1) World Press Freedom Index, 2022

- World Press Freedom Index, 2022 is published by Reporters Without Borders, a non profit organisation.
- Index highlights degree of freedom that journalists, news organisations and netizens have in each country, and government's efforts to respect such freedom.
- Evaluation includes 5 indicators: Political context, legal framework, economic context, socio cultural context and safety.

### 2) SOFIA mission

- Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy. NASA is planning to shut down SOFIA telescope that found water on Moon.
- SOFIA is a 2.7-meter infrared telescope inside Boeing airplane, flying at an altitude around 40k feet above the surface.
- SOFIA is joint collaboration between NASA and German Space Agency

## NATIONAL

### 1) Smart Cities Mission

- Bhopal, Surat, Bhubaneswar, Udaipur, Ahmedabad, Varanasi and Indore are set to be declared India's first set of smart cities under Smart Cities Mission.
- These cities are selected based on the completion of projects like Bhopal completing 92% of projects, followed by Surat, Udaipur and others. The mission period ends in June 2023.
- It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, launched in 2015, which covers 100 cities to be developed as smart cities.

### 2) Kisan Drones

- Conference on "Promoting Kisan Drones: Issues, Challenges and the Way Ahead" was inaugurated by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- Kisan drone have an unmanned tank filled with insecticides and nutrients.
- Drones are expected to carry capacity of 5 to 10 kg. Drone Kisan Yatra was launched to promote chemical-free farming in India.

### 3) Statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in North America





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- Recently, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was inaugurated at the Sanatan Mandir Cultural Centre in Markham, Canada. It is the first in North America.
- It was praised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as “a benchmark for relations between the two countries.”

## STATE NEWS

### 1) 'Mukhyamantri Mitaan Yojana'

- Bhupesh Baghel, chief minister of Chhattisgarh, has launched 'Mukhyamantri Mitaan (Mitaan stands for a friend) Yojana'
- Under the Scheme, the residents of Chhattisgarh can avail around 100 public services at their doorstep.

## BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

### 1) India's 100th unicorn

- Fintech firm “Open” became India's 100th unicorn.
- Unicorn is used to describe any privately held company that has touched a valuation of more than \$1 billion.
- These Unicorns are from sectors such as software, education, logistics, online commerce and financial technology with diverse business models.

### 2) Sin Goods

- Government is planning to subsume sin goods into GST, compensating states after the five-year GST compensation period ends.
  - Sin goods are the goods on which the government imposes sin tax- a special tax placed on goods and services that are seen to be socially detrimental.
- Examples of Sin goods: Taxes on Alcohol, Tobacco Products etc.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 1) 2022 International Dark Sky Week

- International Dark Sky Week (April 22-30) is an annual event hosted by International Dark-Sky Association.
- It's objective is to raise awareness about the negative impact of light pollution and celebrate the night sky.

