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INTERNATIONAL

1) United Nations Relief and works Agency

- India contributed USD 2.5 million to the UNRWA for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.
- The UNRWA was established as a humanitarian agency in 1949.
- It is fully funded through voluntary contributions and grants from donor countries.

2) Imvanex vaccine

- European Commission has given permission for the Imvanex vaccine to be marketed as protection against Monkeypox, as recommended last week by the European Medicines Agency.
- Globally, over 16,000 cases of monkeypox have been reported from 75 countries. This vaccine is developed by Danish biotechnology company Bavarian Nordic.

NATIONAL

1) India's Ramsar sites increased to 54

- India's Ramsar sites increased to 54 as 5 new sites was added to the list.
- The list includes Karikili Bird Sanctuary (Tamil Nadu), Pallikaranai Marsh Reserve Forest (Tamil Nadu), Pichavaram Mangrove (Tamil Nadu), Pala wetland (Mizoram), Sakhya Sagar wetland (Madhya Pradesh).
- Ramsar Convention adopted in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.

2) Defence Acquisition Council

- Recently, Defence Acquisition Council approved arms procurement proposals worth Rs 28,732 crore.
- It is the highest decision-making body in the Defence Ministry for deciding on new policies and capital acquisitions for the three services (Army, Navy and Air Force) and the Indian Coast Guard.
- Minister of Defence is the Chairman of the Council.

3) Abdul Kalam

- 27th July marks the death anniversary of Dr. Kalam. He became the 11th President of India in July 2002.

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- He was responsible for the evolution of ISO's Polar Satellite launch vehicle. He was known as the Missile man of India.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) Global Energy Prize

- Indian-origin professor of engineering at the University of Houston, Kaushik Rajashekara has won the prestigious Global Energy Prize.
- Rajashekara was given the award in the New Ways of Energy Applications category for his contributions to transportation electrification and energy efficiency technologies while reducing power generation emissions.

SPORTS

1) 36th National Games

- 36th National Games also known as National Games Gujarat 2022, will be hosted by Gujarat. The Indian Olympic Association, announced that the games will be held on 27 September to 10th October 2022 in six cities of Gujarat.
- This is the first time the state is hosting a national sporting event. The National Games will have more than 34 sporting events in six different venues.

2) 'Vanakkam Chennai'

- AR Rahman has come up with the 'Vanakkam Chennai' (Welcome Anthem) for the upcoming International Chess Olympiad, 2022.
- Directed by Vignesh Shivan, the music video features chief minister MK Stalin, grandmaster Vishwanathan Anand, and music maestro AR Rahman, who has composed and sung the theme song.

3) ICC Women's ODI World Cup 2025

- International Cricket Council has confirmed that India will host the ICC Women's ODI World Cup 2025.
- The infrastructure is in place and will have a very successful edition of the World Cup. Bangladesh will host the 2024 Women's T20 World Cup, while the 2026 edition will be held in England.





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4) World Athletics Championship 2022

- Neeraj Chopra continues to create history as he won the silver medal in the men's Javelin throw event in the World Athletics Championship 2022.
- In his fourth attempt, he managed to record a throw of 88.13m, with this historic performance he became the only second Indian Athlete to win a medal at World Championship, after Anju Bobby George who won a bronze medal in Long Jump at the 2003 World Championship held in Paris.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem

- International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem is observed every year on July 26.
- The day is observed to raise awareness of the importance of mangrove ecosystems as "a unique, special and vulnerable ecosystem" and to promote solutions for their sustainable management, conservation and uses.