

# Weekly One Liners 09th to 15th of May 2022

## Pulitzer Prizes 2022 Announced: Complete List of Winners

The **106th class of Pulitzer Prize winners** in Journalism, Books, Drama and Music were announced. The Pulitzer Prize is an award for achievements in newspaper, magazine, online journalism, literature and musical composition within the **United States**. It was established in **1917** by provisions in the will of **Joseph Pulitzer**, who had made his fortune as a newspaper publisher, and is administered by Columbia University.

### Here's the full list of winners in journalism and their awards:

#### Public Service

- **The Washington Post** for its account of the assault on Washington on January 6, 2021.

#### Breaking News Reporting

- **The staff of the Miami Herald** for its coverage of the collapse of the Seaside apartment towers in Florida.

#### Investigative Reporting

- **Corey G. Johnson, Rebecca Woolington and Eli Murray** of the **Tampa Bay Times** for an expose of highly toxic hazards inside Florida's only battery recycling plant that forced the implementation of safety measures to adequately protect workers and nearby residents.

#### Explanatory Reporting

- **Staff of Quanta Magazine**, notably **Natalie Wolchover**, for reporting on how the Webb Space Telescope works.

#### Local Reporting

- **Madison Hopkins** of the Better Government Association and **Cecilia Reyes** of the Chicago Tribune for an examination of Chicago's long history of failed building and fire safety code enforcement.

#### National Reporting

- The staff of **The New York Times** for a project that quantified a disturbing pattern of fatal traffic stops by police.

#### International Reporting

- The staff of **The New York Times** for reporting that exposed the vast civilian tolls of US-led airstrikes, challenging official accounts of American military engagements in Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan.

#### Feature Writing

- **Jennifer Senior of The Atlantic** for a portrayal of a family's reckoning of loss in the 20 years since 9/11.

#### Commentary

- **Melinda Henneberger** of the **Kansas City Star** for persuasive columns demanding justice for alleged victims of a retired police detective accused of being a sexual predator.

#### Criticism

- **Salamishah Tillet**, contributing critic at large for **The New York Times**, for writing about Black stories in art and popular culture.

#### Editorial Writing

- **Lisa Falkenberg, Michael Lindenberger, Joe Holley and Luis Carrasco** of the Houston Chronicle for a campaign that, with original reporting, revealed voter suppression tactics, rejected the myth of widespread voter fraud and argued for sensible voting reforms.

#### Illustrated Reporting and Commentary

- **Fahmida Azim, Anthony Del Col, Josh Adams and Walt Hickey** of Insider for a comic on an Uyghur internment camp.

#### Breaking News Photography

- **Marcus Yam of the Los Angeles Times** for raw and urgent images of the US departure from Afghanistan.
- **Win McNamee, Drew Angerer, Spencer Platt, Samuel Corum and Jon Cherry** of Getty Images for comprehensive and consistently riveting photos of the attack on the US capitol.

#### Feature Photography

- **Adnan Abidi, Sanna Irshad Mattoo, Amit Dave and the late Danish Siddiqui** of Reuters for images of Covid's toll in India.

#### Audio Reporting

- **Staffs of Futuro Media and PRX** for "Suave" — an immersive profile of a man re-entering society after more than 30 years in prison.

### Here's the list for books, drama and music:

#### Fiction

- **The Netanyahu's: An Account of a Minor and Ultimately Even Negligible Episode in the History of a Very Famous Family**, by Joshua Cohen.

#### Drama

- **Fat Ham**, by James Ijames



### History

- Covered with Night, by Nicole Eustace and Cuba: An American History, by Ada Ferrer

### Biography

- Chasing Me to My Grave: An Artist's Memoir of the Jim Crow South, by the late Winfred Rembert as told to Erin I. Kelly

### Poetry

- frank: sonnets, by Diane Seuss

### General Nonfiction

- Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival & Hope in an American City, by Andrea Elliott

### Music

- Voiceless Mass, by Raven Chacon

### Special Awards and Citations

**The Journalists of Ukraine:** The Pulitzer Board awards a special citation to the journalists of Ukraine for their courage, endurance, and commitment to truthful reporting during Vladimir Putin's ruthless invasion of their country and his propaganda war in Russia. Despite the bombardment, abductions, occupation, and even deaths in their ranks, they have persisted in their effort to provide an accurate picture of a terrible reality, doing honour to Ukraine and to journalists around the world.

### Lionel Messi topped Forbes' highest-paid athletes list for 2022

**Lionel Messi** has topped the list of Forbes Highest-Paid Athletes 2022 with a reported income of **\$130 million**, followed by Basketball player, **LeBron James** with **\$121.2 million** while **Cristiano Ronaldo** was third with **\$115 million**. Messi had moved from Barcelona to Paris Saint-Germain in August 2021 and Cristiano Ronaldo rejoined Manchester United from Juventus in the same month. Forbes calculates the estimates based on prize money, salaries and bonuses, and sponsorship deals.

### The top 10 highest earners, collectively brought in \$992 million in pre-tax gross earnings over the last year.

1. Lionel Messi: \$130 million
2. LeBron James: \$121.2 million
3. Cristiano Ronaldo: \$115 million
4. Neymar: \$95 million
5. Stephen Curry: \$92.8 million
6. Kevin Durant: \$92.1 million
7. Roger Federer: \$90.7 million
8. Canelo Alvarez: \$90 million
9. Tom Brady: \$83.9 million
10. Giannis Antetokounmpo: \$80.9 million

### National Affairs

- A three-day **Utkarsh Mahotsav** is being organized by **Central Sanskrit University in New Delhi**. The objective behind organising the Utkarsh Mahotsav is to promote the Sanskrit language across the country and beyond. They will leave no stone unturned to promote the Sanskrit language across the country and abroad. The main theme of this Mahotsav is '**Global Orientation of Sanskrit Studies in the New Educational Era**' Vice-Chancellors of 17 Sanskrit Universities, Scholars and a large number of students participated in the event.
- **The Lokpal of India** will finally move into a swanky office at **World Trade Centre** in south Delhi's Nauroji Nagar, four years after being appointed as the country's first anti-corruption ombudsman to investigate complaints against public functionaries, including the Prime Minister, and almost a decade after the Act was passed by Parliament. According to the **Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT)**, the administrative **Ministry for the Lokpal**, the office, which spans two storeys and covers 59,504 square feet, was purchased for **Rs 254.88 crore**.
- Lok Sabha (LS) Speaker, **Om Birla** has launched the one-of-its-kind literary initiative **Kalam website** of the **Prabha Khaitan Foundation (PKF)** to support and encourage vernacular literature. The aim of Kalam is to popularize Hindi literature and provide a platform for veteran and young authors and poets to talk about their writings and love for vernacular literature.
- The **Ministry of MSME** has created a Centre for Experimentation, Innovation, and Design for the **Khadi Village and Industries Commission (KVIC)** with the goal of empowering Khadi Institutions across the country. The Center's mission is to create clothing, home goods, and fashion accessories that appeal to individuals of all ages. The goal of the **Khadi Centre of Excellence (CoEK)** is to make Khadi a worldwide, classic, and value-driven brand.
- **India** has been unanimously elected as the new Chair of the **Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA)** for 2022-2024 at the meeting of the Executive Board and General Assembly in Manila, Philippines. Commission on Elections, Manila was the current chair of AAEA. The new member of the Executive Board now includes **Russia, Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Taiwan and the Philippines**.
- With the excavation of a 5000-year-old jewellery-making factory, the **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)**, which has been working in **Rakhi Garhi, Haryana**, for the past 32 years, has produced one of its most significant findings yet. **Rakhi Garhi** is a village in Haryana's Hisar district and one of the oldest **Indus Valley Civilisation** archaeological sites.

- **RailTel**, a micro Ratna PSU, launched the **Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI)** scheme on Monday, providing access to its Public WiFi services across 100 train stations in 22 states. **PM-WANI** is a **Department of Telecom (DoT)** initiative to connect all silo Wi-Fi networks for simplicity of use and to increase broadband adoption among the general public.
- President of India, **Ram Nath Kovind** conferred **13 Shaurya Chakras** which included six posthumous to the personnel of the Indian Armed forces for their conspicuous courage displayed during operations. Army Chief General **Manoj Pande** was conferred with the **Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM)** for his distinguished service of exceptional order at a defence investiture ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan.
- **The government of India** has contributed **USD 800,000** to the **United Nations(UN)** as part of the initiative which aims to enhance public outreach of the organisation in **Hindi**. R Ravindra, India's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, handed over a cheque for the '**Hindi @ UN**' project to Mita Hosali, Deputy Director and Officer-In-Charge (News and Media Division), UN Department of Global Communications (DGC).
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** launched the **Madhya Pradesh "Startup Policy and Implementation Plan - 2022"** via video conferencing and also address the startup community during the **Madhya Pradesh Startup Conclave held in Indore**.
- A three-member **Delimitation Commission** redrawing the electoral map of **Jammu and Kashmir** allotted 47 Assembly seats for **Kashmir** division and 43 for **Jammu** in its final decision submitted barely a day before its two-year term was to end. After the panel, led by retired Supreme Court judge **Ranjana Prakash Desai**, approved the final verdict, giving Jammu six additional seats and Kashmir one more, a gazette notification was released. Jammu had 37 Assembly constituencies and Kashmir had 46 before the restructure, which increased the overall number of Assembly seats in the Union Territory to 90.
- **In Ayodhya**, a significant crossing will be developed and named for legendary vocalist **Bharat Ratna late Lata Mangeshkar**. The **Ayodhya** administration has been instructed by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to pick a significant crossing in the temple town and submit a proposal to the state government in the next 15 days to rename it after **Lata Mangeshkar**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** Chief Minister, **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** launched the second phase of the **Ladli Laxmi scheme (Ladli Laxmi scheme-2.0)**. The scheme is an innovative initiative to encourage girl children to pursue higher education and make them self-dependent. The scheme is being implemented by the government of Madhya Pradesh since 2007 to enhance the economic and educational status of the girls.
- In a few parts of **Kerala**, a new virus known as **tomato flu** has been detected after the covid-19 pandemic. Almost 80 children in **Kollam city** of Kerala have been diagnosed with tomato flu and it is spreading rapidly. All the cases that are confirmed have been diagnosed in **children below 5 years**. They have been admitted to the local government hospitals. The number of children admitted to the private hospitals is not yet been included in the tally it may be higher than 80 cases.

### States in the News

- The **government of Kerala** is set to launch an **Android App 'Shaili'**, aimed at diagnosing and controlling lifestyle diseases among the people in the state of Kerala. The app has been set up as part of the population-based screening project launched by the Health Department under the **Nava Kerala Karma plan**.
- The **Haryana State Government** launches the '**e-Adhigam**' scheme under which nearly **3 lakh students will be receiving tablet computers** to aid their online education. The state government has planned to provide the gadget to five lakh students. Chief Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** launched the Advance Digital Haryana Initiative of Government with Adaptive Modules (Adigham) scheme at Maharishi Dayanand University in Rohtak, Haryana.
- In **Manipur**, the **Poumai tribe** has declared that Poumai inhabited areas will be a **Drug-Free Zone** supporting the **State government's War on Drug campaign**. A huge delegation of the Poumai tribe by MLA and leaders of the students union and civil organization met Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today at Imphal and conveyed the resolution of the Drug-Free Zone in Poumai inhabited areas of the State.





- **Haryana** Agriculture Minister, **Jai Parkash Dalal** launched the '**Chaara - Bijae Yojana**', a scheme launched to provide financial assistance of **Rs 10,000 per acre (Upto 10 acres)** to farmers cultivating and supplying fodder to **Gaushalas (Cowsheds)**. The rationale behind the scheme is to address the State's fodder shortage and rising stray cattle. The Subsidy will be directly credited to the farmer's account under **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)**.
- **Chhattisgarh** has become the first state in the country to restore the **old pension scheme** in order to provide assured income to retired employees. The state issued Gazette notification to switch back to the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) from National Pension Scheme (NPS) will be effective from April 1, 2022.

### International Affairs

- **Rodrigo Chaves, Costa Rica's new president**, was sworn in, promising to tackle corruption and rebuild the country's economy. Last month, he won a four-year term in a runoff against former **President Jose Maria Figueres**, who was also stained by a corruption investigation.
- The Sri Lankan **president Gotabaya Rajapaksa** has declared a **state of emergency**. This is the second time that the president has declared an emergency in a month. The strikes and protests are increasing day by day because of the increasing economic crisis in Sri Lanka.
- **John Lee Ka-Chiu** has been confirmed as **Hong Kong's next chief executive**. He will replace **Carrie Lam**. He will be the first security official to hold the **Chief Executive position of Hong Kong** which witnessed years of political unrest and recent debilitating pandemic controls.
- **Yoon Suk-yeol** was sworn in as **South Korean president** in a huge ceremony at Seoul's National Assembly, taking office at a time of high tensions with nuclear-armed **North Korea**. The ceremony was attended by over 40,000 people, including officials from **the US and China**.
- **World's Largest Glass Bottom Bridge** was opened in **Vietnam**. It is called as **Vietnam's Bach Long pedestrian bridge**, which is **632m (2,073ft) long** and located **150m (492ft)** above a huge jungle. As per the reports, the Asian country has opened a glass-bottomed bridge suspended above a lush jungle. It surpasses a **526m Glass Bottom Bridge in Guangdong, China**.
- Another virus, **Monkeypox**, has made an appearance in the **United Kingdom**. The patient has a recent travel history from **Nigeria**, where they are suspected to have contracted the infection, before travelling to the UK, according to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), which confirmed the case.
- **The Rock**, the world's largest white diamond, was auctioned for 18.6 million Swiss francs (\$18.8 million), significantly less than the previous record for such a gem. **Christie's** auction house in **Geneva** sold the 228.31-carat stone, which was larger than a golf ball. **The Rock** had high aspirations of breaking the global record for a **white diamond**, which stands at \$33.7 million for a 163.41-carat rock sold in the Swiss city in 2017.
- **South Korea** became the first Asian country join in **North Atlantic Treaty Organization Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence**. South Korea's National Intelligence Service (NIS) is joined as a contributing participant in the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence.
- **Shri Bhagwant Khuba**, Union Minister of State for New and Renewable Energy, has arrived in **Munich, Germany** for **Intersolar Europe 2022**. In Munich, the Indian Union Minister will deliver a keynote talk at the investment promotion event **India's Solar Energy Market**. The **Indo-German Energy Forum (IGEF)** is organising the event.
- **Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Junior**, a son of late Philippine dictator **Ferdinand Marcos** claims the victory in the **2022 Presidential Election of the Philippines** with more than 30.8 million votes. A win would return the Marcos dynasty to power. Hundreds gathered to protest the results of the election.
- Following Russia's suspension due to allegations of horrendous rights violations by **Russian military** in **Ukraine**, the **United Nations General Assembly** unanimously opted for the **Czech Republic** to replace it on the world organization's primary **human rights council**.

### Agreements/MoUs Signed

- Air Works, an Indian maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) company, is partnering with the **Boeing Company** to conduct heavy maintenance checks on three **Indian Navy P-8I long-range maritime patrol aircraft** at **Air Works, Hosur**, demonstrating the success of the government's **Atmanirbhar Bharat** (self-reliant India) campaign.
- **Prasar Bharati**, India's national broadcaster, has signed an MoU with Madagascar's official **ORTM (Office de la Radio et de la Television)** for broadcasting cooperation and collaboration. Indian Ambassador **Abhay Kumar** and ORTM Director **General Jean Yves** signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The MoU intends to exchange programmes, investigate co-production of programmes, and exchange persons.
- The **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW)**, the Government of India, and the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under which UNDP will provide technical assistance to the Centre's ambitious **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)** and **Kisan Credit Card - Modified Interest Subvention Scheme**.

## Books and Authors

- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** has released a book titled '**INDO-PAK WAR 1971- Reminiscences of Air Warriors**' at the **37th Air Chief Marshal PC Lal Memorial Lecture** organised by the Air Force Association in New Delhi, Delhi. The book was edited by Air Marshal Jagjeet Singh and Group Captain Shailendra Mohan. The book features 50 Swarnim articles written by veterans narrating their experiences in detail.
- Vice President (VP) of India, **M Venkaiah Naidu**, released a book titled "**The Struggle for Police Reforms in India: Ruler's Police to People's Police**" authored by a former IPS officer, **Prakash Singh** in New Delhi. The book is published by Rupa Publications India Pvt Ltd.
- Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** has released the book "**Modi@20 Dreams Meet Delivery**" in New Delhi. The book presents different facets of the distinct thought process, the pioneering, pro-active approach and the quintessential, transformational leadership style that **Narendrabhai Modi** has come to be so closely identified with.

## Banking/Economy/Business News

- Indian Bank**, a public sector bank, has introduced its digital broking solution - '**E- Broking**', as a strategic move toward comprehensive digitalisation of its customer products. E-Broking, an instant and paperless demat & trading account opening service, is now available through the bank's mobile banking app, **IndoASIS**. The product was introduced in collaboration with Fisdom, the bank's financial technology partner.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has given its nod to **Equitas Small Finance Bank** and its parent company **Equitas Holdings Ltd's** merger plan, subject to certain restrictions. The **RBI's** no objection comes with strings attached. The merger is being carried out to comply with RBI small finance bank regulations, which require the promoter to cut his or her stake in the subsidiary to 40% within five years of the SFB's start-up (Small Finance Bank).
- HDFC Bank**, a private sector lender, has introduced **30-minute 'Xpress Car Loans'**, an end-to-end digital new car loan solution for both existing and non-customers. The bank has integrated its lending application with automobile dealers throughout India. It is the industry's first automotive lending experience, and it is expected to change the way automobile financing is done in India.
- ICICI Bank**, one of India's largest private sector banks, established a partnership with **Santander Bank** in the United Kingdom, aimed at making banking easier for businesses operating in both countries. The **ICICI and Santander UK Plc** signed a MoU in **Mumbai** to build a framework of partnership between the banks to satisfy the financial service needs of corporate clients operating along the India-UK corridor.

- Adani Wilmar Limited** became the largest **Fast Moving Consumer Goods Company (FMCG)** in India beating **Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL)**, after the announcement of its Quarter Four results for the financial year 2022 (Q4FY2022). AWL has reported total operating revenue of **Rs 54,214 crore** in the Financial Year 2022 whereas HUL reported a revenue of **Rs 51,468 crore** in the Financial Year (FY) 2021-22.
- L&T Infotech and Mindtree**, the two independently listed IT services companies under Larsen & Toubro Group announced a merger that would create **India's fifth-largest** IT services provider. The combined entity will be known as "**LTIMindtree**".
- At its facilities in **Prantij, Gujarat**, Nexcharge, a joint venture between India's **Exide Industries Limited** and Switzerland's **Leclanché SA**, has started mass production of lithium-ion battery packs. The plant, which covers six lakh square feet and has a 1.5 GWh installed capacity, comprises six totally automated assembly lines and testing facilities.
- Reliance Industries** become the first Indian company to record annual revenue of more than a whopping **\$100 billion**. The company has recorded a **22.5% rise** in net profit for the quarter ended **March 2022**. Reliance has recorded strong growth in retail, digital services, and the oil & gas business. The company has also reported the highest-ever quarterly **EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation)** of **Rs 33,968 crores (28% up)** year-on-year.
- On the final day of bidding, the insurance behemoth **Life Insurance Corporation of India's (LIC)** IPO, the country's largest ever, witnessed 2.95 times greater demand than the shares on sale, generating bids totalling **Rs 43,933 crore**.
- According to the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**, **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)**, India's flagship digital payments platform, has recorded **5.58 billion(bn)** transactions worth **Rs 9.83 trillion in April 2022**. This is the highest ever number of transactions recorded by UPI. The monthly UPI recorded a **3.33 %** increase in transaction volume from 5.4 billion transactions worth **Rs 9.6 trillion in March 2022**.



## Appointments/Resignations

- Oil giant **Saudi Aramco** has dethroned **Apple Inc.** to become the **world's most valuable company**, underscoring the recent surge in oil prices that have boosted the energy giant this year. Aramco traded near its highest level on record, with a market capitalization of about **\$2.43 trillion**, surpassing that of Apple for the first time since 2020. The iPhone maker fell 5.2% to close at \$146.50 per share, giving it a valuation of **\$2.37 trillion**.
- Bharti AXA Life Insurance**, a joint venture between **Bharti Enterprises**, one of India's largest business groups, and **AXA**, one of the world's largest insurance companies, announced the launch of its financial literacy campaign, '**InspiHE₹**'- enabling an empowered future, a special effort to propagate financial awareness among women as well as allow people to make good investment decisions for a stable future.
- The **central government** has released **Rs 7,183.42 crore** as a revenue deficit grant to **14 states** including **Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Punjab, Assam and Kerala**. The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance released the money. This is the 2nd monthly instalment of **Post Devolution Revenue Deficit (PDRD)** grant to states. The grant has been released as per the recommendations of the Fifteenth Finance Commission.
- India's retail inflation** surged to **7.79 per cent in April**, largely driven by rising fuel and food prices, government data showed. The consumer price-based inflation figure stayed well above the **Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) upper tolerance limit** for the fourth consecutive month. In April, the CPI inflation expanded at its highest pace in **eight years**. The previous high was recorded at **8.33 per cent in May 2014**. April's print was higher than 6.95 per cent in March and 4.23 per cent a year ago.
- The **Union Bank of India (UBI)** has launched an online platform, '**Trade nxt**', which enables corporate, and **MSMEs (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises)** to transact all cross-border export-import transactions from the comfort of their place, i.e. eliminates the need for companies to visit a bank branch for the same.
- Morgan Stanley** downgraded India's growth forecast to **7.6% from 7.9% for FY2023** amid a slowdown in global growth, higher commodity prices and risk aversion in global capital markets. This 7.6% forecast is a baseline forecast for India while its bearish and bullish growth projections are 6.7% and 8%, respectively.

- The **Union government of India** has notified the appointment of Justice **Sudhanshu Dhulia**, the chief justice of Gauhati High Court, and Justice **Jamshed Burjor Pardiwala**, a judge of the Gujarat High Court, as judges of the Supreme Court. The Collegium headed by Chief Justice of India **NV Ramana** had recommended their names for appointment on May 5.
- Pushp Kumar Joshi**, who recently took over as the interim chairman and managing director of **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL)**, has been appointed to the Board of the nation's third-largest oil refining and fuel marketing company. Joshi is also holding the additional charge of Director-Marketing of HPCL. Prior to this Dr Joshi was Director-HR of the Corporation from August 01, 2012.
- Alkesh Kumar Sharma**, a senior IAS officer, has been named Secretary of the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**. He was previously the Cabinet Secretariat's secretary (Coordination). **Alkesh Kumar Sharma** previously served as Kerala's additional chief secretary for industries from May 2020 to April 2021. Sharma served as the Managing Director of Kochi Metro Rail and the CEO of the Cochin Smart City Mission from September 2019 until April 2021.
- MACN is made up of over 165 member companies** that combined represent 50% of global tonnage. **Captain Rajesh Unni, Founder and CEO of Synergy Group**, one of the world's leading ship managers and one of India's major marine firms, says that while the shipping sector is becoming more open, more can and should be done to combat corruption. The shipping industry has to pull out all the stops against corruption after being elected Vice-Chair of the **Denmark-based Maritime Anti-Corruption Network (MACN)**.
- Election Commissioner **Rajiv Kumar** was appointed as the next **chief election commissioner**. He will assume charge on **May 15** after incumbent **Sushil Chandra** demits office on May 14, a notification issued by the Law Ministry.
- Actress **Deepika Padukone** has become the first-ever Indian brand ambassador of luxury brand **Louis Vuitton**. The news was announced by the French brand. The brand unveiled the role of a 36-year-old Bollywood actress during their new handbag campaign. It saw Padukone joining in actors **Emma Stone and Zhou Dongyu** for promotional shots.
- Chairman of Bajaj Finserv Limited, **Sanjiv Bajaj** has assumed the office of **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) President** for the year **2022-23** after replacing the **CEO of Tata Steel**, TV Narendran. The newly constituted National Council of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) at a meeting elected its new office-bearers for the year 2022-23.
- REC Limited**, (formerly **Rural Electrification Corporation Limited**) a Navratna company under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Power**, announced it has named **Ravinder Singh Dhillon** as **Chairman and Managing Director of the company**, with effect from May 10, 2022. He is serving as the CMD of Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC).



## Defence News

- The Indian Navy plans to purchase a specialised earth imaging satellite **Geo Imaging Satellite-2 (GISAT-2)**, this fiscal year as part of its modernisation and network-centric combat and communications programme. The satellite, if operational, is likely to improve the navy's operating capabilities in the **Indian Ocean** region, which is strategically and geopolitically crucial, especially given China's growing influence.
- At the Coast Guard Air Enclave at Nedumbassery in Kochi, the Coast Guard commissioned its second Air Squadron, 845 Squadron. The new Air Squadron was commissioned by Coast Guard Director **General V S Pathania** and is equipped with Advanced Mark III (ALH Mark III) helicopters produced in-house.

## Awards and Recognitions

- **Guruswamy Krishnamoorthy**, CEO of Penlon, a world-class British medical technology firm, is likely to receive **The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division) Award 2022 - Honorary Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE)** recognition from the Queen at Buckingham Palace, London, UK.
- The fifth Romain Rolland Book Prize – Romain Rolland Book Prize 2022 has been awarded to the Bengali translation of the French novel "Meursault, contre-enquête" (The Meursault Investigation). The award ceremony was organized by the French Institute in India. Meursault, contre-enquête is the debut novel of Algerian writer and journalist Kamel Daoud.
- West Bengal Chief Minister, **Mamata Banerjee** received the **Bangla Academy Award** for her "**relentless literary pursuit**". The award, introduced this year by Sahitya Academy, was presented to Banerjee for her book "**Kabita Bitan**", which pays tribute to the best writers of West Bengal. Mamata Banerjee's 'Kabita Bitan' was launched at the **2020 Kolkata Book Fair**. The book contains 946 poems written by the TMC supremo.
- Indian Architect Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi was bestowed with the prestigious Royal Gold Medal 2022. Royal Gold Medal, one of the world's highest honours for architecture, by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), London, United Kingdom (UK). The Royal Gold Medal is approved personally by Queen Elizabeth II of the UK and the award is given to a person or group of people who have had a significant influence either directly or indirectly on the advancement of architecture.
- Frank Wilczek, the Nobel Prize-winning theoretical physicist and author renowned for his boundary-pushing investigations into the fundamental laws of nature, was honoured with this year's prestigious Templeton Prize awarded to individuals whose life's work embodies a fusion of science and spirituality.

## Summit and Conference

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** used video conferencing to address the **Utkarsh Samaroh** in **Bharuch, Gujarat**. The event commemorates the district's 100 percent saturation of four main state government initiatives that will help give prompt financial support to individuals in need. **Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel**, Gujarat's Chief Minister, was among those in attendance.
- The **15th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP15)** of the **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)** is being held from 9<sup>th</sup> May to 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022. COP 15 is taking place in **Abidjan, a city in Cote d'Ivoire**. Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, **Bhupender Yadav** represented India at COP 15 summit. Theme of COP 15: Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has participated in the **Second Global COVID-19 Virtual Summit** on the invitation of the **President of the USA, Joseph R. Biden**. The summit was **co-hosted by the United States, Belize, Germany, Indonesia, and Senegal**. Theme of the summit: Preventing Pandemic Fatigue and Prioritizing Preparedness.

## Ranks and Reports

- The **National Statistical Office (NSO)** data has revealed that the unemployment rate for people above 15 years in urban areas slipped from **10.3% to 8.7%** between **October and December 2021**. Joblessness or unemployment rate (UR) is defined as the percentage of unemployed persons in the labour force. The work Population Ratio in urban areas for persons of age 15 years and above stood at **43.2% in October-December 2021**, up from 42.4% in the same period a year ago. It was **42.3% in July-September 2021**.



## Schemes and Committees News

- The **Delhi cabinet** has approved the “**Delhi Startup Policy**” with an aim to create an ecosystem for people to launch startups and provide them with fiscal and non-fiscal incentives, collateral-free loans, and free consultancy from experts, lawyers, and CA. The 20 members task force will be set up to oversee the startup policy. This committee will be headed by Delhi’s Finance Minister. To encourage, facilitate, and support **15,000 startups by 2030**.
- **Delhi govt** will provide free sewer connections under the “**Mukhyamantri Muft Sewer Connection Yojana**”. 25,000 households located in East Delhi will be provided with free sewer connections under the ‘Mukhyamantri Muft Sewer Connection Yojana.’ The free sewer connections will be provided by the Delhi government in 12 colonies in Mustafabad and Karawal Nagar.
- **Tamil Nadu** chief minister, **MK Stalin** has announced that all government primary school students from 1st to 5th standards will be provided nutritious breakfast on all working days. **Tamil Nadu is set to become the first state** to offer breakfast along with midday meals. This includes the launch of integrated urban health centres within the Corporation and Municipal limits.
- **The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has constituted a committee for advising on **Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)** related matters in the securities market. The committee will be chaired by **Navneet Munot**, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of HDFC Mutual Fund.
- The **AIM-PRIME Playbook** was launched at the Dr. Ambedkar International Center in **New Delhi**. The **AIM-PRIME** programme, a national project of the Atal Innovation Mission, **NITI Aayog**, is being executed by Venture Center, **Pune**, with support from the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation** and the Office of Principal Scientific Advisor. Following the launch, the dignitaries attended a startup display where they engaged with selected cohort start-ups and incubators.
- The **Union Cabinet**, chaired by **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi**, has extended the **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY)** scheme for another six months, till **September 2022**, in order to show care and compassion towards the underprivileged and vulnerable parts of society (**Phase VI**).
- In Chennai, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs **Ajay Kumar Mishra** announced the New Repatriate Welfare Scheme, a Repco Bank deposit scheme, a **Repc Micro Finance Ltd. (RFML)** micro finance lending scheme, and an application. E. Santhanam, Chairman of Repco Bank, Managing Director **R.S. Isabella**, and the Board of Directors were in attendance.

## Science and Technology News

- Bengaluru-based **Bellatrix Aerospace** has successfully tested an environmentally friendly satellite propulsion system that offers a 20 percent increase in fuel efficiency over hydrazine-dependent fuel systems. **Bellatrix’s** recent testing of its green propulsion system also signals a turning point in the company’s quest to develop a space taxi for satellites.
- The **World Economic Forum (WEF)**, in collaboration with the government’s research institute **Niti Aayog**, is focusing on how to better employ emerging technologies like **artificial intelligence (AI)**, the **Internet of Things (IoT)**, **blockchain**, and drones to aid farmers, especially small and marginal farmers.
- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has successfully completed the static test of **human-rated solid rocket booster (HS200)** at Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh for its **Gaganyaan programme**.

## Sports News

- Indian Grandmaster **D Gukesh** has emerged as champion in the **1st Chessable Sunway Formentera Open 2022 chess tournament in Punta Prima**. It was a hat-trick of titles for him after he had previously won the La Roda tournament and the Menorca Open in recent weeks.
- F1 world champion **Max Verstappen** has won the inaugural **Miami Grand Prix** for Red Bull after defeating the Ferrari rival Charles Leclerc. **Leclerc (Ferrari)** finished second and Spanish teammate **Carlos Sainz (Ferrari)** placed third in the Miami Grand Prix 2022. The victory cut Leclerc’s lead over Verstappen to 19 points in the championship, while the Monegasque’s Ferrari teammate Carlos Sainz completed the podium.
- **Carlos Alcaraz (Spain)** has clinched the men’s singles **Madrid Open title 2022** after beating the defending champion **Alexander Zverev (Germany)**. Alcaraz has also defeated Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic (world No.1) to reach the final. It is his second Masters 1000 crown after Miami 2022 and his fourth title of the year. **Ons Jabeur (Tunisia)** has clinched the women’s singles title to become the first African player to win a WTA 1000 event.
- **Abhinav Deshwal** has won the second gold medal for India in shooting at the ongoing **24th Deaflympics in Caxias do Sul, Brazil**. He was tied with silver winning **Ukrainian Oleksii Lazebnyk** before winning gold in a shoot-off. India has four medals in the shooting competition at the 24th Deaflympics.
- **India’s Avinash Sable** broke a 30-year-old record of **Bahadur Prasad in 5000m**, setting a new national record with a timing of **13:25.65** at the Sound Running Track meet in San Juan Capistrano, USA. The 27-year-old from Maharashtra broke the old record of **13:29.70 set by Bahadur Prasad in 1992**.



- Union Sports Minister **Anurag Thakur** has launched the mascot '**Dhakad**' along with the **official logo and official jersey** of the **Fourth Khelo India Youth Games** at Panchkula and lauded the effort of **Haryana** to host the games. The competition is being organized by the Sports Authority of India and the state government of Haryana. In this edition of the Khelo India Youth Games, over 8,500 athletes will be participating.
- The **12th edition of the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships** was kick-started in **Istanbul, Turkey**. In this event, more than 400 boxers from a record 93 countries are set to take part in this year's event, which also marks the 20th anniversary of the prestigious event.
- **Indian archers** wrapped up a highly successful **Asia Cup 2022 Stage-2 campaign** in **Sulaymaniyah, Iraq** with a total of 14 medals – eight golds, four silvers and two bronze.
- Indian pistol pairs **Esha Singh and Saurabh Chaudhary** clinched the mixed team pistol gold at the **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup** in Suhl, Germany. Esha and Saurabh came through after topping a 38-field qualification round of 60 shots with scores of **578 and 575 respectively**.
- **Inter Milan** defeated **Juventus** 4-2 after extra time in the **Italian Cup final**. Ivan Perisic scored twice in extra time after Hakan Çalhanoğlu had converted a controversial late penalty.

### Important Days

- **World Thalassaemia Day** is celebrated on **May 8** every year to commemorate Thalassaemia victims and to encourage those who struggle to live with the disease. The theme for this year's World Thalassaemia day is '**Be Aware.Share.Care: Working with the global community as one to improve thalassaemia knowledge.**'
- The United Nations observed **10th May 2022, the second International Day of Argania**. This celebration crowns the efforts of the Kingdom of Morocco in promoting the Argan tree as an intangible cultural heritage of humanity and an ancestral source of resilient and sustainable development. The day will be celebrated this year under the theme "**The Argan tree, symbol of resilience**".
- **National Technology Day** is observed every year on **11th May** across the country. National Technology Day has significant historical importance in India. The theme for National Technology Day 2022 is "**Integrated Approach in Science and technology for sustainable future**". The theme was launched by Union Minister **Jitendra Singh**.
- The United Nations designated **12 May the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH)** to raise global awareness on how protecting plant health can help end hunger, reduce poverty, protect biodiversity and the environment, and boost economic development. The United Nations declared **2020 as the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH)**.

- **May 12** is observed as **International Nurses' Day** across the world to honour the services of nurses. It is the birth anniversary of **Florence Nightingale**, the English social reformer, statistician and founder of modern nursing. She was also known as **Lady with the Lamp**. She was the founder of modern nursing and was a British social reformer and statistician. The theme for this year's Nurses' Day is "**Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Invest in Nursing and respect rights to secure global health**".
- **World Migratory Bird Day** is marked twice a year since its inauguration in **2006**. International Migratory Bird Day will be celebrated on **14 May and 8 October 2022**. The theme for World Migratory Bird Day 2022 is **light pollution**. As artificial lighting has been increasing globally by at least 2 per cent per annum, this has had an adverse impact on many birds.

### Obituaries

- The eminent Odia litterateur **Rajat Kumar Kar** passed away due to heart-related ailments. He received **Padma Shri in 2021 for literature and education**. He was known for his commentary during the annual **Ratha Jatra (Jagannath culture)** on TV and radio.
- Indian music composer and santoor player, **Pandit Shivkumar Sharma** passed away at the age of 84. He had been suffering from kidney-related issues for the last six months and was on dialysis. He passed away due to cardiac arrest.
- Russian chess grandmaster, **Yuri Averbakh** who was among the world's best players for a decade, trained world champions and was the last surviving participant in one of the greatest competitions in history, has died in **Moscow at 100**.
- Veteran Himachal Pradesh Congress leader and former Union minister, **Pandit Sukh Ram** has passed away at 94. He was the Union Minister of State, Communications (Independent Charge) from **1993 to 1996** and a member of **Lok Sabha from the Mandi constituency (Himachal Pradesh)**.



- **Leonid Kravchuk**, a former communist who helped sign the Soviet Union's death warrant and then served as the **first president** of independent **Ukraine**, passed away at the age of 88. Kravchuk was known as the "wily fox" as he rose through the ranks of Ukraine's Communist Party and take over as head of the parliament in 1990.
- Padma Shri **Dr Rama Kant Shukla**, a profound Sanskrit and Hindi Scholar, has passed away in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh(UP). He was born in Khurja city in Bulandshahr district, UP.

### Miscellaneous News

- Nepal's legendary climber **Kami Rita Sherpa** has climbed **Mt Everest**, the tallest peak in the world for the **26th time** to set a new world record. Leading an 11-member rope fixing team, Kami Rita & his team reached the summit, breaking his own previous world record.
- Priyanka Mohite from Maharashtra's Satara district has become the first Indian woman to climb five peaks above 8000 metres. Priyanka achieved the milestone after climbing Mount Kanchenjunga. The 30-year-old climbed the third highest peak on Earth on May 5 at around 4:42 pm. Priyanka works for a pharmaceutical research company in Bengaluru.
- The **Indian Railway Catering and Ticketing Corporation (IRCTC)** will launch its maiden Bharat Gaurav Tourist train, with a stop in Nepal's **Janakpur**. This train will go around the Ramayana Circuit, which has been identified under the Swadesh Darshan scheme and includes major locations related with Lord Shri Rama's life, such as the **Ram Janaki temple** in Janakpur, Nepal.
- **Asani cyclone** is formed over the Southeastern part of the **Bay of Bengal**. It is an intensified cyclone storm that is likely to hit Orissa and Andhra Pradesh as per the **Indian meteorological department (IMD)**. The cyclone has been named **Asani**, which in Sri Lankan local language, Sinhalese means "wrath".
- The Ministry of Tourism, GoI, is going to participate in the **Arabian Travel Market (ATM), Dubai -2022**, as part of its **Incredible India** brand line, displaying India's rich and diverse tourism potential and providing a platform for tourism stakeholders to demonstrate various tourism destinations and products, including niche products. It also aims to market India as a "**Must See, Must Visit**" tourist destination.
- India's first **EV charging station** powered by bio-gas was inaugurated in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**. This station will be expected to generate **220 units** of electricity from food waste collected from its nearby areas, mostly from bulk generators like hotels and offices. This energy plant will be utilized to power street lights and also to charge electric vehicles. It was inaugurated by Maharashtra Environment Minister **Aaditya Uddhav Thackeray**.

### Static Takeaways

- Union Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises: Narayan Rane
- Minister of State for MSME: Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma
- Minister of State for Textiles: Darshana Vikram Jardosh
- Kerala Capital: Thiruvananthapuram;
- Kerala Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan;
- Kerala Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan.
- Manipur Chief Minister: N Biren Singh;
- Capital of Manipur: Imphal;
- Manipur Governor: La. Ganesan.
- Madhya Pradesh Capital: Bhopal;
- Madhya Pradesh Governor: Mangubhai C. Patel;
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister: Shivraj Singh Chouhan.
- Haryana Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya;
- Haryana Capital: Chandigarh;
- Haryana Chief Minister: Manohar Lal Khattar.
- Hong Kong Currency: Hong Kong dollar;
- Hong Kong Continent: Asia.
- South Korea Capital: Seoul;
- South Korea Currency: South Korean won.
- Vietnam Capital City: Hanoi;
- Vietnam Currency: Vietnamese dong;
- Vietnam Prime Minister: Phạm Minh Chính.
- Union Minister of State for New and Renewable Energy: Shri Bhagwant Khuba
- Philippines Capital City: Manila; Currency: Philippine peso.
- Union Minister of Agriculture: Narendra Singh Tomar
- Union Minister of Agriculture for State: Shri Kailash Chaudhary
- CEO - Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana: Ritesh Chauhan
- Indian Bank MD & CEO: Shanti Lal Jain;
- Indian Bank Establishment: August 15, 1907;
- Indian Bank Headquarters: Chennai, Tamil Nadu;
- Indian Bank Tagline: Taking Banking Technology To The Common Man.
- HDFC Bank Ltd MD & CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan;
- HDFC Bank Ltd Establishment: 1994;
- HDFC Bank Ltd Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- HDFC Bank Ltd Tagline: We Understand Your World.
- Non-Executive (part-time) Chairman of ICICI Bank: Mr. Girish Chandra Chaturvedi
- Chief Executive Officer of Santander UK: Mike Regnier
- ICICI Bank's Head of the International Banking Group: Sriram H Iyer.
- Adani Group Founded: 1988;
- Adani Group Headquarters: Ahmedabad, Gujarat;
- Adani Group Chairman: Gautam Adani;
- Adani Group Managing Director: Rajesh Adani.
- Larsen & Toubro Infotech Limited Founded: 23 December 1996;
- Larsen & Toubro Infotech Limited Headquarters: Mumbai;

- Larsen & Toubro Infotech Limited CEO: Sanjay Jalona.
- Reliance Industries Ltd CEO: Mukesh Ambani (31 Jul 2002-);
- Reliance Industries Ltd Founder: Dhirubhai Ambani;
- Reliance Industries Ltd Founded: 8 May 1973, Maharashtra;
- Reliance Industries Ltd Headquarters: Mumbai.
- NPCI Founded: 2008;
- NPCI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- NPCI MD & CEO: Dilip Asbe.
- Saudi Aramco Founded: 1933;
- Saudi Aramco Headquarters: Dhahran, Saudi Arabia;
- Saudi Aramco CEO: Amin H. Nasser.
- Bharti AXA General Insurance Company Limited CEO: Sanjeev Srinivasan
- Minister for Railways, Communications, Electronics & Information Technology: Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw
- Election Commission of India Formed: 25 January 1950;
- Election Commission of India Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Minister of Defence: Shri Rajnath Singh
- Indian Chief of the Naval Staff: Admiral R. Hari Kumar
- Coast Guard Director General: V S Pathania
- The Indian Chief of the Air Staff: Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- Chief Minister of Gujarat: Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel
- International Boxing Association (IBA) was formed in 1946;
- Headquarters of IBA: Lausanne, Switzerland;
- President of IBA: Umar Nazarovich Kremlev.
- Ukraine Capital: Kyiv;
- Ukraine Currency: Ukrainian hryvnia;
- Ukraine President: Volodymyr Zelenskyy;
- Ukraine Prime minister: Denys Shmyhal.
- SEBI Founded: 12 April 1992;
- SEBI Headquarters: Mumbai;
- SEBI Agency executive: Madhabi Puri Buch (Chairperson).
- Union Minister of State for Home Affairs: Ajay Kumar Mishra.
- ISSF Founded: 1907;
- ISSF Headquarters: Munich, Germany;
- ISSF President: Vladimir Lisin.
- Confederation of Indian Industry Founded: 1895;
- Confederation of Indian Industry Headquarters: New Delhi, India;
- Confederation of Indian Industry Director-General: Chandrajit Banerjee;
- Confederation of Indian Industry Motto: Charting Change Enabling Development.
- Union Bank of India Managing Director & CEO: Rajkiran Rai G;
- Union Bank of India Merged Banks: Andhra Bank, and Corporation Bank;
- Union Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.

