

❖ Shantanu Deshpande appointed as new MD of Michelin India

- French-based company Michelin has confirmed the appointment of Shantanu Deshpande as MD of Michelin India.
- He will be based out of Pune, India.
- During his career, he held various leadership roles in sales and marketing in India, North America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.
- He joined Michelin India in 1999 as an Area Sales Manager.
- He was appointed India Marketing Director in 2007 and also served as VP of Marketing with a Michelin subsidiary in North America.

❖ NITI Aayog releases Export Preparedness Index 2022 report in New Delhi

- NITI Aayog Vice Chairman, Suman Bery has released the third edition of the Export Preparedness Index 2022 report in New Delhi.
- Prepared by: NITI Aayog and Institute for Competitiveness
- Evaluate 4 pillars: Policy, Business Ecosystem, Export Ecosystem, and Export Performance
- Top Performers: (1) TN, (2) Maharashtra, (3) Karnataka, and (4) Gujarat
- The higher average of coastal states represents their better preparedness and higher contribution to national export.

The overview of the four pillars in the index is –

- **Policy Pillar** evaluates states and UTs' performance based on its adoption of export-related policy ecosystem at a state and district level as well as the institutional framework surrounding the ecosystem.

- **Business Ecosystem** assesses the prevailing business environment in a state/UT, along with the extent of business-supportive infrastructure, and a state/UTs' transport connectivity.
- **Export Ecosystem** focuses on the export-related infrastructure in a state along with the trade support provided to the exporters, and the prevalence of Research and Development in the state to foster innovation.
- **Export Performance** is an output-based indicator which gauges the growth of a state's export over the previous year and analyses its export concentration and footprint on the global markets.

❖ **India needs average annual 7.6% GDP growth to become developed by 2047: RBI**

- An article published by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in its July 2023 bulletin stated that India could become a developed country by 2047 with an average annual real GDP growth of 7.6% over the next 25 years.
- India must rebalance its economic structure by strengthening its industrial sector.
- Agriculture and services would have to grow at 4.9% and 13% per annum, respectively
- Collaboration between the government, private sector, civil society and citizens is essential.

❖ **Former Kerala CM Oommen Chandy passes away**

- Former Kerala CM Oommen Chandy passed away at the age of 79 in Bengaluru due to prolonged illness.
- He served as the Kerala chief minister twice from 2004-06 and 2011-16.
- The veteran leader began his stint as a legislator by winning the 1970 state assembly elections at the age of 27.
- He later went on to win 11 consecutive polls.
- He represented the Puthupally assembly constituency and was the longest-serving MLA in the state assembly.

❖ **Oil 2023 (Analysis & forecast to 2028) medium-term market report**

- The International Energy Agency (IEA) has launched the Oil 2023 medium-term market report, titled 'IEA Oil 2023 – Supply and demand dynamics to 2028' in New Delhi.
- It was launched in collaboration with the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC).
- As per the report, biofuel production expands by nearly 600 kb/d from 2022 to 2028, with Brazil, Indonesia, and India combined accounting for 70% of this increase.
- Talking about the consumption of petroleum products in FY 2022-23, “Last year the overall consumption of petroleum products was at 223 MMT, with a growth of about 12% over the previous year.
- This growth in the petroleum products has been driven by growth in HSD at 12.1%, the largest contributor with 85.9 MMT and MS with 34.9 MMT consumption during 2022-23 at a growth rate of 13.4% over the previous year.”

❖ **135 mn Indians came out of poverty trap in five years: Niti Aayog report**

- NITI Aayog released the 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress of Review 2023' in New Delhi.
- As per the report, India witnessed 13.5 crore people moving out of multidimensional poverty between 2015-16 and 2019-21 with the fastest reduction in UP, Bihar, MP, Odisha, and Rajasthan.
- The National MPI measures deprivations across three equally weighted dimensions of health, education, and standard of living that are represented by 12 SDG-aligned indicators.
- Poverty reduced from 47 per cent to 44 per cent, there by setting India on the path of achieving the SDG target 1.2 (of reducing multidimensional poverty by at least half) much ahead of the stipulated timeline of 2030.

➤ The government's dedicated focus on improving access to sanitation, nutrition cooking fuel, financial inclusion, drinking water, and electricity has led to significant advancements in these areas.

➤ "All 12 parameters of the MPI have shown marked improvements," the report showed.

❖ **China and Russia hold Joint Military Drills 'Northern Interaction-2023'**

➤ A Joint Military Drills 'Northern Interaction-2023', between Chinese and Russian naval and air forces would be conducted in the central region of the Sea of Japan.

➤ It is organized by the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Northern Theater Command.

➤ Aim: To enhance the level of strategic cooperation between both militaries, as well as strengthen the ability to jointly safeguard regional peace.

➤ **China Capital:** Beijing : **Russia Capital:** Moscow

❖ **Australia withdraws from hosting Commonwealth Games 2026**

➤ Australia's state of Victoria has withdrawn from hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games (CWG).

➤ Reason: Due to a significant increase in projected costs, reaching around \$7 billion, exceeding their budgetary limits.

➤ Victoria stepped in to bid for the 2026 Games when no other countries showed interest.

➤ The event rotates across different host cities within the Commonwealth.

➤ It was first held in 1930.

❖ **India recorded all-time high of 93% DPT3 immunisation coverage in 2022: WHO**

➤ The WHO and UNICEF estimates for national immunisation coverage for 2022 has been released recently.

➤ As per this estimate, the coverage rate for DPT3, the third dose of diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus vaccines, in India rose to an all - time of 93% in 2022.

- This has surpassed the previous pre-pandemic best of 91% recorded in 2019.
- It also marks a sharp increase from the 85% recorded in 2021.
- Each year WHO and UNICEF jointly review reports submitted by Member States regarding national immunization coverage, finalized survey reports as well as data from the published and grey literature.
- Based on these data, with due consideration to potential biases and the views of local experts, WHO and UNICEF attempt to distinguish between situations:
 - Where the available empirical data accurately reflect immunization system performance and those where the data are likely to be compromised and present a misleading view of immunization coverage.
- WHO and UNICEF estimates are country-specific; that is to say, each country's data are reviewed individually, and data are not borrowed from other countries in the absence of data.

❖ **Best web series award included to International Film Festival of India: Anurag Thakur**

- International Film Festival of India: Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur has announced the addition of a new award category to the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) that will be presented to a show for its "artistic merit, storytelling excellence, technical prowess and overall impact".
- "Beginning this year at the 54th International Film Festival of India, the award will be presented annually".
- The Best Web Series Award will be given to an original web series on an OTT platform, originally shot and available in an Indian language.
- The award aimed to incentivise and create investment opportunities in India's OTT sector, encourages content in Indian languages and also recognise exceptional talent.

❖ Birth of three tiger cubs for the first time in Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve (RVTR)

- For the first time, three tiger cubs were born at Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve (RVTR) in Bundi, Rajasthan.
- This significant event happened a year after a tigress named T-102 was transferred to the park.
- The number of tigers in the reserve has now increased to five, including a male tiger named T-115 and a tigress named T-102, who is the daughter of Ranthambore tigress T-73.
- During the previous birth, the tigress gave birth to four cubs in November 2020, but they were killed by male tiger T-115 or other wild animals.
- To ensure the safety and survival of the new born cubs, plans are underway to relocate the tigress from the area, as the male tiger poses a threat to them.

Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve:

- Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary was designated a tiger reserve on 5 July 2021 as it was given in-principle approval by the NTCA.
- It was given the status of a wildlife sanctuary in 1982 under a state act called the Rajasthan Wild Animals and Birds Protection Act, 1951. It is located in the Bundi district of Rajasthan.