❖ ADB grants 3.32 crores for safe public transport travel in city

➢ The Asian Development Bank(ADB) has granted Rs.3.32 crore to a team of technology experts from BITS Hyderabad, IIT Bombay, and IIT Kharagpur for passenger safety projects in Hyderabad.

➢ BITS Hyderabad, IIT Bombay, and IIT Kharagpur experts, led by Prof. Prasanta Sahu, were working on developing technology solutions to improve last-mile security for metro rail and public transit passengers under the guidance of HMRL MD NVS Reddy.

➢ The Asian Development Bank's granted Rs. 3.32 crore to develop, test, and implement it in the public transport systems of Hyderabad.

➢ The Technologies for Urban Transit to Enhance Mobility & Safe Accessibility(TUTEM) inception workshop was held at BITS, Hyderabad Campus.

❖ Yes bank teams up with fintech Zaggle for next-gen corporate credit card

➢ Yes Bank launched a co-branded Corporate Credit Card in collaboration with spend management platform Zaggle, to empower businesses to reimagine their payment processes, streamline reconciliation, and efficiently manage company expenditures.

➢ The new card 'YES BANK Zaggle Corporate Credit Card', provides businesses direct control over company expenditures.

➢ This includes the ability to set individual spending limits, apply merchant category restrictions, and implement diverse controls.

- Additionally, cardholders gain access to an array of exclusive benefits, spanning rewards, golf privileges, lounge access, and travel insurance.
- The Executive Directorof Yes Bank: Rajan Pental

❖ MP announced Ladli Behna Yojana aid hike, 35% job reservation for women

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan raised the financial aid given to women in the Ladli Behna Scheme from ₹1,000 to ₹1,250 per month.
- Apart from this, he also announced 35% reservation for women in government jobs.
- Women will get cooking gas at ₹450 in the holy month of Shravan i.e in August. Later, a permanent system will be evolved in this regard.
- I have also transferred ₹250 into the accounts of 1.25 crore women so that they can celebrate Rakhi well.
- Under this scheme 1.25 crore women will get ₹1,250 (under Ladli Behna Yojana) from 1 October and the amount will gradually be hiked to ₹3,000 per month so that the aim of uplifting the economic and social condition of women is fulfilled.

❖ Gujarat government raises OBC quota to 27%

- Gujarat government announced 27% reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in local bodies like panchayats, municipalities and civic corporations, paving the way for elections in self-governing bodies.

➢ The announcement is based on the Justice Jhaveri Commission report which comes before the Lok Sabha elections and will pave the way of holding of local body election which were postponed due to the pending quota issue after the Supreme Court mandated that reservation for OBCs should be on the basis of their population.

➢ The reservation for OBCs in local bodies will continue to be 10% in areas notified under the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) (PESA) Act which are mostly inhabited with tribal population.

➢ Also, the existing quota for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes will remain unchanged and there has been no breach of the 50% reservation ceiling.

❖ LIC Partners with Saraswat Cooperative Bank to Increase the life Insurance

➢ Life Insurance Corporation of India has recently tied up with Saraswat Cooperative Bank Ltd in its effort to increase the penetration of life insurance through Bancassurance channel in Mumbai.

➢ Saraswat Cooperative Bank is the India's largest Urban Cooperative Bank.

➢ Citizens in general and customers of Saraswat Bank, in particular, will now have the opportunity to fulfill their life insurance protection needs through the Bank itself by purchasing insurance products of LIC.

➢ Recently LIC has launched a close ended Guaranteed Benefit plan "Dhan Vriddhi" which is available till 30th September, 2023 only, to persons of all age ranging from 90 days to 60 years.

❖ Famous Poet-writer Jayanta Mahapatra passed away

➢ Eminent litterateur and poet Jayanta Mahapatra passed away at the age of 95 years.

➢ He was the first Indian poet to win a Sahitya Akademi award for English poetry.

➢ He was also conferred with the Padma Shri award in 2009. However, he returned it in 2015 to protest against "rising intolerance in India".

➢ He is best known for authoring poems such as "Indian Summer" and "Hunger", which is regarded as classics in modern Indian English literature.

❖ Finance Minister Launched HSBC India's Green Hydrogen Partnerships

➢ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in partnership with the IIT Bombay, and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation launched HSBC India's strategic partnerships to enable innovation in green hydrogen.

➢ Aim: To provide a roadmap towards reducing carbon intensity in the economy and enable the creation of green job opportunities.

➢ Green hydrogen has a pivotal role to play as we counter climate change and work towards enabling a low-carbon and self-reliant economy.

❖ New sign language boards installed at Golconda Fort, Ramappa Temple

➢ New QR code boards in sign language have been installed at Golconda Fort and Ramappa Temple as a part of the Accessible Tourist Initiative, a pilot project by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) under the Government of India.

➢ A video presentation that mixes sign language interpretation and visual narrative is launched when the QR code is scanned.

➢ The initiative is supported by Yunikee.com which provides accessible resources and solutions for the deaf.

➢ The move has been aimed as an inclusive measure towards deaf and dumb visitors who come to visit the UNESCO-recognised heritage sites and tourist attractions in the city.

❖ P V Sindhu signs as the brand ambassador for century mattress

➢ Hyderabad-based Centuary Mattress announced that ace badminton player P V Sindhu has been signed as the company's brand ambassador.

➢ She will be championing the importance of the right mattress for fitness and well-being by using the company's innovative products.

➢ Executive Director of Centuary Mattress : Uttam Malani

❖ Pragyan rover finds out Sulphur on moon's surface

➢ India's Chandrayaan-3 mission's Pragyan rover has confirmed the existence of sulphur on the moon's surface near the south pole.

- This discovery was enabled by the Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) instrument onboard the rover, marking the first in-situ measurements of the lunar surface's elemental composition in this region.

- The LIBS technique involves using intense laser pulses to analyse materials, creating hot and localized plasma whose emitted light is then studied to determine the material's elemental composition.

- The analysis has also revealed the presence of elements like aluminium, calcium, iron, chromium, titanium, manganese, silicon, and oxygen on the lunar surface.

- The Pragyan rover is still actively searching for the presence of hydrogen.

❖ India & Kenya sign MoU for ship building collaboration

- Goa Shipyard Ltd and Kenya Shipyard Ltd signed a memorandum of understanding for capacity building and collaboration in ship design and construction.

- The meeting was a testimony to the increasing depth in the India-Kenya defence partnership.

- Both ministers agreed that the defence relationship between the two countries has evolved from being training-centric to include more strategic aspects.

- The two ministers also agreed on the need for deeper cooperation in maritime security of the Indian Ocean region.

❖ Army signs deal for 130 tethered drones and 19 tank driving simulators

➢ The Indian Army recently signed contracts for the procurement of 130 tethered drones and 19 tank-driving simulators under Emergency Procurement (EP).

➢ A tethered drone is an unmanned aerial vehicle tethered to the ground.

➢ It consists of a base station on the ground and the drone, which is connected to the station through the tether (cable).

➢ This tether provides power and data communication to the drone, allowing it to operate for extended periods without the limitations of a finite onboard battery.

➢ The drone can be operated remotely to perform specific tasks.

Advantages:

➢ They dramatically reduce technical and human error crashes in flight.

➢ They provide a secure line of communication between the ground station and the aircraft.

➢ The physical connection to the ground makes tethered drones less vulnerable to interference or hacking compared to wireless drones.

➢ It also does not require GPS navigation.

❖ US to send $250 million in military aid to Ukraine

➢ The United States announced a new package of military assistance to support Ukraine that includes additional air defense and artillery munitions, mine clearing equipment and medical vehicles.

➢ The latest package includes additional mine clearing equipment, missiles for air defense, ammunition for artillery and HIMAR (High Mobility Artillery Rocket) systems, and over three million rounds of small-arms ammunition.

➢ The equipment is funded through money previously approved by Congress.

➢ More than $43 billion in U.S. military aid has been provided to Ukraine since Russia's invasion began in February 2022.

❖ Tata.ev is the new brand name of Tata electric vehicles

➢ Tata Passenger Electric Mobility, the subsidiary of Tata Motors that has been responsible for the EV business, has changed its brand identity to Tata.ev.

➢ The brand logo includes the Tata and ev name, with a dot and a circle around the ev.

➢ This was first seen in the Tiago EV, which gets the .ev badge on its bodywork.

➢ The Tata.ev brand will only encompass the passenger electric vehicles, and not the company's range of commercial electric vehicles.

❖ Project Dhanush Shakti

➢ On National Sports Day 2023, Inorbit Malls (India) Private Limited, a K Raheja Corp Group company announced its latest initiative, Project Dhanush Shakti, in partnership with Nirmaan Organisation.

➢ Under this initiative, archer Taniparthi Chikitha will be supported with the necessary Archery equipments.

➢ The talented archer from Peddapalli district in Telangana, M Chikitha is widely tipped as a potential champion at the highest level given her commitment and hard work by the coaches and the critics too.

➢ This Intermediate student won a silver and a bronze in the sub-junior nationals two years ago and is also among the eight selected archers and only one from the State of Telangana to be trained at the Sports Authority of India centre in Sonepat (Haryana).

❖ Prannoy reaches career highest rank -6th, Sindhu in 14th rank

➢ Indian ace shuttler Prannoy H.S achieved a career-best world ranking as he reached No.6 in the latest chart released by the Badminton World Federation (BWF) .

➢ After winning a bronze, his first-ever medal in World Championships, at Copenhagen recently, Prannoy climbed up three spots to achieve his new career-high rank with 72437 points in the men's singles category.

➢ Prannoy is the only Indian featuring in the top 10 in the men's singles list.

➢ In women's singles, former world champion P.V. Sindhu moved one place up to 14th position following her first-round exit from the World Championship.

➢ In top men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty held onto their second place, despite their quarterfinal defeat in the World Championship against Kim Astrup-Anders Rasmussen.

➢ The women's doubles pair of Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand gained two spots to be placed 17th in the world rankings after their pre-quarterfinal finish at the World Championship.