

# 12th September

## INTERNATIONAL

## 1) India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor

- India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor was launched during G-20 summit.
- India brought the US, UAE, Saudi Arabia, European Union (EU), Italy, France and Germany to the economic corridor agreement on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in New Delhi.
- The project aims to foster connectivity and economic integration between South Asia, Arabian Gulf and Europe.

## 2) Global Biofuels Alliance

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the launch of the Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA) and urged G20 nations to join the initiative.
- The Global Biofuels Alliance is an India-led initiative to develop an alliance of governments, international organisations and industry to facilitate adoption of biofuels.
- Biofuels are derived from renewable biomass resources and wastes such as plastic, municipal solid waste, waste gases, etc.

## NATIONAL

## 1) Vidya Samiksha Kendras

• The Ministry of Education is urging states to establish Vidya Samiksha Kendras, which are data repositories under the National Digital Education Architecture.



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- These centres will collect data from various educational schemes run by the Ministry of Education, including mid-day meal programs, teacher training etc.
- Vidya Samiksha Kendras are also intended to map school locations and population data to assess the Gross Access Ratio.

## STATE NEWS

## 1) "Green Railway Station" certification

- Vijayawada Railway Station was awarded the 'Green Railway Station' certification with the highest rating of Platinum by the Indian Green Building Council for its efforts in improving the environmental standards and providing eco-friendly services to passengers.
- The IGBC-CII Green Railway Stations Rating System is a voluntary initiative that aims to facilitate the adoption of green concepts in railway stations.
- The system helps to address national priorities such as water conservation, waste management, energy efficiency, reduced use of fossil fuels, and lesser dependency on virgin materials.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

#### 1) Mission Samudrayaan

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- The Samudrayaan mission is part of the Deep Ocean Mission, and sea trials at a depth of 500 meters are planned for the first quarter of 2024. The mission's full realization is expected by 2026.
- The project involves sending three people 6,000 meters underwater in a domestically developed submersible named Matsya 6000.
- This mission aims to explore the ocean depths of precious metals and minerals such as cobalt, nickel, and manganese.



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# AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

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## 1) Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar awards for 2022

- Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has publicised the list of awardees for the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar awards for 2022.
- The Bhatnagar prizes are named after S.S. Bhatnagar, who was the CSIR's first director general from 1942 to 1954.
- 1. Biological Sciences awarded to Dr. Ashwani Kumar of CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology and Dr. Maddika Subba Reddy of Centre for DNA Fingerprinting Diagnostics.
- 2. Chemical Sciences awarded to Dr. Akkattu T Biju of the Indian Institute of Science and Dr. Debabrata Maiti of the Indian Institute of Technology (Bombay)
- 3. Earth, Atmosphere and Planetary Sciences: This is awarded to Dr. Vimal Mishra of the Indian Institute of Technology (Gandhinagar).
- Engineering Sciences awarded to Dr. Dipti Ranjan Sahoo of the Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi) and Dr. Rajnish Kumar of the Indian Institute of Technology (Madras)
- 5. Mathematical Sciences awarded to Dr. Apoorva Khare of the Indian Institute of Science and Dr. Neeraj Kayal of Microsoft Research Lab
- 6. Medical Sciences awarded to Dr. Dipyaman Ganguli of CSIR- Indian Institute of Chemical Biology.
- 7. Physical Sciences awarded to Dr. Anindya Das of the Indian Institute of Science and Dr. Basudeb Dasgupta of Physics Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.



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# OBITUARY

## 1) Ajit Ninan

- Political cartoonist Ajit Ninan passed away at the age of 68. He was best known for the Centrestage series in India Today magazine and Ninan's World in Times of India.
- One of his beloved creations is Detective Moochwala and his dog Pooch, which appeared in 1980s in Target, a youth magazine.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

#### 1) Sanatana Dharma Day

• Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg has declared September 3 as Sanatana Dharma Day in Kentucky in the United States emphasizing the significance of fostering peace, tolerance, and understanding within diverse communities.

## 2) United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation

- United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation, on September 12 of every year.
- Theme of 2023: "Solidarity, Equity and Partnership: Unlocking South-South Cooperation to Achieve the SDGs".

