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Current Affairs: 27/28.09.2021

PM Narendra Modi addresses 76th UNGA in New York



- Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi addressed the **76th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** on September 25, 2021, in New York.
- The theme of 2021 UN General Assembly session was **'building resilience through hope – to recover from Covid-19, rebuild sustainably, respond to the needs of the planet, respect the rights of people, and revitalise the United Nations'**.
- PM Modi was the **first world leader** to address the UN General Assembly at 6.30 PM IST.
- During the address, PM spoke on various global issues such as the Covid-19 pandemic, the need to combat terrorism focusing on Afghanistan and Extremism, and the need to strengthen the United Nations.
- Over 109 heads of state and government addressed the UN General Assembly while around 60 addressed the debate through pre-recorded video statements at the event.
- Prior to this, PM Modi had addressed UN General Assembly in **2019**.

75 Divyangjan felicitated with Hunarbaaz Awards



- The **National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), Hyderabad** under the auspices of the **Ministry of Rural Development** presented **Hunarbaaz Awards to 75 differently-abled candidates from 15 states** on September 25, 2021.
- The award ceremony was organised to commemorate Antyodaya Diwas that marks the birth anniversary of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya and also as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- The awards has been designed for those candidates who were trained through Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETI) schemes of the Ministry in various trades, then got placed and worked in the organizations for more than one year or were successfully settled in the trade of their choice as self-employed.

Supreme Court introduces FASTER (Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records) System

- Supreme Court of India has approved an electronic system named **FASTER (Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records)**. The FASTER system will be used **for transferring e-authenticated copies from courts to prisons**.

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• A three-judge bench of Chief Justice N.V. Ramana, Justice Nageswara Rao and Justice Surya Kant has instructed state governments, Union territories, prison departments and other authorities concerned to make arrangements at prisons to accept e-authenticated copies.

Ministry of Defence inks deal with Airbus Defence & Space, Spain for 56 C-295MW transport aircraft for IAF



- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has signed a **\$2.5 billion** contract with **Airbus Defence and Space, Spain**, for the acquisition of **56 Airbus C-295** medium transport aircraft for the **Indian Air Force**.
- The C-295 aircrafts will replace the ageing Avro HS-748 aircraft fleet of Indian Air Force (IAF).
- Under the deal, Airbus Defence and Space will work with Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) to jointly execute the project.
- The first 16 aircraft in the deal will be delivered in fly-away condition while the remaining 40 will be assembled in India by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL), as part of an industrial partnership between Airbus and TASL.
- The IAF will be the 35th operator of the C-295 worldwide.

RBI allows lenders to sell fraud loans to Asset Reconstruction Companies

- The Reserve Bank of India has allowed lenders/banks to transfer of loans that have been classified as fraud by these lenders to **Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs)**.
- Stressed loans including fraud loans that are in **default for more than 60 days** or classified as NPA are permitted to be transferred to ARCs.
- Here are figures for loans declared as fraud by banks for various financial years:
 - **For 2020-21 (FY21)**– loans worth **Rs 1.37 trillion** were declared as fraud
 - **For 2019-20 (FY20)**– loans worth **Rs 1.81 trillion** declared as fraud
 - **For 2018-19 (FY19)**– loans worth **Rs 64,539 crore** declared as fraud

RBI fixes minimum ticket size for issuance of securitisation notes at Rs.1 crore

- The Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines regarding the Securitisation of Standard Assets. As per the guidelines of RBI, the **minimum ticket size for the issuance of securitization notes will be Rs.1 crore**.
- **What is Securitisation?**– Securitisation involves transactions where credit risk in assets are redistributed by repackaging them into tradeable securities with different risk profiles which may give investors of various classes access to exposures which they otherwise might be unable to access directly.
- **What are securitization notes?**– it means securities issued by the special purpose entity as a part of securitization.
- **Minimum Retention Requirement (MRR)**

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- For underlying loans with **original maturity of 24 months or less**, the **MRR shall be 5% of the book value** of the loans being securitised.
- For underlying loans with **original maturity of more than 24 months as well as loans with bullet repayments**, the **MRR shall be 10% of the book value** of the loans being securitised.
- In the case of **residential mortgage backed securities**, the **MRR for the originator shall be 5% of the book value** of the loans being securitised, irrespective of the original maturity

Lewis Hamilton wins the Russian Grand Prix 2021

- **Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain)**, has won the F1 **Russian Grand Prix 2021**. This is his 100th Grand Prix win.
- Max Verstappen (Red Bull – Netherlands) came second while Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes-Finland) came third in the Russian Grand Prix 2021.



Jyothi Surekha Vennam wins silver medal at World Archery Championship

- **Jyothi Surekha Vennam** has won a **silver medal** in the women's compound event at the **World Archery Championship being held in Yankton**.
- She lost to Sara Lopez of Colombia 146-144 in the Finals.

World Rivers Day 2021: 26 September (Fourth Sunday of September)

- The **World Rivers Day** is celebrated every year on the **“Fourth Sunday of September”** since 2005, to raise global awareness of the need to support, protect and preserve the rivers around the world.



- In 2021, the World Rivers Day is being celebrated on **26 September**.
- Theme for World Rivers Day 2021 is **“Waterways in our communities”**.
- The day was recognised by the United Nations in 2005 upon the proposal initiated by internationally renowned river advocate, Mark Angelo.

World Tourism Day: 27 September

- **The World Tourism Day** is observed worldwide on **September 27** since 1980.
- This date was chosen by the **United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)** as on that day in 1970, the Statutes of the UNWTO were adopted.

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• In 2021 the theme of WTD is “**Tourism for Inclusive Growth**”.

• The purpose of this day is to raise awareness on the role of tourism within the international community and to demonstrate how it affects social, cultural, political and economic values worldwide.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission



• Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the nationwide rollout of the **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission** on September 27, 2021, through a video conference. The nationwide rollout of the mission coincides with third anniversary of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.

- Ayushman Bharat – Digital Mission aims to connect the digital health solutions of hospitals across the country with each other. This digitisation will make healthcare easier.
- Under the mission, every citizen will get a **digital health ID**, which will contain their health record. The digital health ID will be a unique 14-digit health identification, to keep the health record digitally secure.
- Other component of the mission includes a **healthcare professionals registry** and **healthcare facilities registries**, that will act as repository of healthcare providers.
- This will not only make the processes of hospitals simplified but also increase ease of living.
- Currently the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission is in pilot phase, in **six union territories, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Ladakh, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry**.

DRDO Conducts Successful Maiden Flight Test of Akash Prime Missile off Odisha Coast

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) carried successful maiden test flight of a new version of the Akash Missile named ‘**Akash Prime**’ from **Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha** on 27 September 2021.
- The success of the test flight demonstrate the competence of DRDO in design and development of world class Missile systems.
- The Akash Prime is equipped with an indigenous active Radio Frequency (RF) seeker for improved accuracy, as compared to the existing Akash System. The improved version of the missile will also ensure more reliable performance under low temperature environments at higher altitudes.

“Sweet Cucumber” of Nagaland gets geographical indication (GI) tag

- **Naga Cucumber from Nagaland** has officially been certified by the India’s Registrar of **Geographical Indications (GI)** as an agricultural good unique to the state, on September 14, 2021.

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It is the third agricultural products and fourth overall to be granted the GI tag from Nagaland.

- The GI tag has been granted under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
- The Naga cucumber are mostly cultivated in the Mon, Mokokchung, Peren and Wokha districts of the state.

4th Indo-US Health Dialogue Held in New Delhi

- **Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar** led the Indian delegation at the **4th Indo-US Health Dialogue**, held in New Delhi on September 27, 2021.
- The **two-day Dialogue** is a platform to deliberate upon multiple ongoing collaborations in the health sector between the two countries.
- The topics for deliberations will include area pertaining to the strengthening of epidemiological research and surveillance and vaccine development.

Mastercard ropes in World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen as its Global Brand Ambassador

- The financial services company, **Mastercard Inc.** has named **Magnus Carlsen**, the highest-rated **chess player** of all time, as its global brand ambassador.
- This step is part of move by Mastercard for adding chess in its coveted list of sports sponsorship.
- It has joined the **Meltwater Champions Chess Tour** as an official partner, in its first sponsorship move into chess.
- The **Norwegian chess Grandmaster Magnus Carlsen** joins the like of other competitive players lineup of ambassador like Lionel Messi, Naomi Osaka, Crystal Dunn and Dan Carter.

Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh takes charge as DG of National Cadet Corps (NCC)

- **Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh** has taken charge as the **34th Director General of National Cadet Corps (NCC)** on September 27, 2021.
- H succeeds Lt Gen Tarun Kumar Aich.

England all-rounder Moeen Ali announces retirement from Test cricket

- **England cricket** all-rounder **Moeen Ali** has announced his retirement from Test match career on September 27, 2021.
- The 34-year-old Ali made his debut in Test cricket in 2014 and represented England in 64 Test matches.
- He took 195 Test wickets including 5 five-wicket hauls and scored five Test match centuries during his Test career.

India claim three silver medals at 2021 Archery World Championships in Yankton, US

- The team India archers settled for **three silver medals** at the **2021 World Archery Championships**, held in **Yankton**, South Dakota, United States from 20 to 26 September 2021.
- The three silver medals were won in Women's Compound Individual, Women's Compound Team and Compound Mixed Team competitions.

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Besides this, **Vennam Jyothi Surekha of Vijayawada** became the first Indian woman archer to win three silver medals at a world championship.

The 25-year-old achieved this feat after she won medal in each of the three categories.

Silver Medal Won by India includes:

- Women's Compound Individual – Jyothi Surekha Vennam
- Women's Compound Team – Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Muskar Kirar and Priya Gurjar
- Compound Mixed Team – Abhishek Verma and Jyothi Surekha Vennam

World Rabies Day: 28 September

- The **World Rabies Day** is celebrated annually on **September 28** to raise awareness about the impact of rabies on humans and animals, provide information and advice on how to prevent the disease and take efforts to control rabies.
- 2021 is the **15th edition of World Rabies Day**.
- The theme for the WRD in 2021 is **'Rabies: Facts, not Fear'**.
- The day also marks the death anniversary of the French chemist and microbiologist, Louis Pasteur', who developed the first rabies vaccine.



International Day for Universal Access to Information : 28 September

- The **International Day for the Universal Access to Information** (commonly known as Access to Information Day) is held on **28 September** every year.
- Universal access to information means that everyone has the right to seek, receive and impart information for healthy and inclusive knowledge societies..
- Initially the day was designated by the UNESCO in November 2015 and was first held on 28 September 2016.
- It was later proclaimed on 15 October 2019 at the 74th UN General Assembly.
- Theme 2021 : **“The Right to Know – Building Back Better with Access to Information.”**

