

### CENTRE TO MARK HYDERABAD LIBERATION DAY ON SEPT 17

#### In News:

- The Central Government has decided to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Hyderabad State Liberation Day on September 17 in a big manner this year.
- The Union Ministry of Culture will host the inaugural event, which will be presided over by the Union Home Minister, in Hyderabad.

#### The Hyderabad State Liberation:

##### Background:

- At the time of India's partition in 1947, the princely states of India, which in theory enjoyed self-government inside their own borders, were subject to subsidiary alliances with the British, granting Britishers power over their external relations.
- With the Indian Independence Act 1947, the British abandoned all such alliances, leaving the princely states with the option of attaining full independence.
- However, by 1948 almost all had acceded to either India or Pakistan. One major exception was that of the wealthiest and most powerful **Hyderabad**.

##### Liberation of Hyderabad

- Hyderabad, ruled by the Nizam (Mir Osman Ali Khan, Asaf Jah VII) - a Muslim ruler who presided over a predominantly Hindu population - chose independence and sought to retain it with an irregular army.
- The Nizam was also troubled by the Telangana rebellion (1946-51), which he was unable to subjugate.
- Hyderabad signed a **standstill agreement** with the Dominion of India in November 1947, maintaining all prior arrangements except for the stationing of Indian soldiers in the state.
- Fearing the establishment of a Communist state in Hyderabad by the rebels and the rise of Muslim nationalist Razakars - a private army of the Hyderabad Nizams, India invaded the state in September 1948 after a crippling economic blockade.

- The code name for the military operation in which the Indian Armed Forces invaded the Nizam-ruled princely state and annexed it to the Indian Union (on September 17, 1948) was Operation Polo.
- Following that, the Nizam signed an instrument of accession, thus joining India.
- Since then, the day has been observed as regional Independence Day. Telangana's government observes September 17 as Telangana National Integration Day.

### News Summary:

- On September 17, 1948, more than a year after India's independence, the former state of Hyderabad, which included the whole state of Telangana as well as several districts in Maharashtra and Karnataka, was freed from Nizam rule.
- This was made possible by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's swift and decisive action during Operation Polo.
- This effectively ended the people's struggle against colonialism, feudalism and autocracy in Hyderabad, making it a symbol of national integration rather than an example of liberation of a piece of land.
- As a result, the central government has declared the 75th anniversary of the event to be a year-long celebration, with various events planned across the country.
- Meanwhile, the Telangana Government recently decided to observe September 17 as Telangana National Unity Day.
- While Maharashtra and Karnataka currently observe this day as Marathwada Liberation Day and Hyderabad-Karnataka Liberation Day, respectively, the Centre intends to celebrate it across the three states directly under its wing.
- The purpose of this year's large-scale celebrations is that, as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the government will highlight events and individuals who have not received the recognition they deserve over the years.
- According to sources, the move is also intended to draw attention to the **Bhairanapally massacre** of August 27, 1948, in which Razakars killed 96 villagers in order to crush their revolt for the merging of Nizam dominion into the Indian Union.

## USA-TAIWAN RELATIONS

The U.S. State Department has approved a potential \$1.1 billion sale of military equipment to Taiwan, including 60 anti-ship missiles and 100 air-to-air missiles, the Pentagon said, amid heightened tensions with China.



### About:

- The package was announced in the wake of China's aggressive military drills around Taiwan following a visit to the island last month by U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the highest-ranking U.S. official to travel to Taipei in years.
- The sale includes Sidewinder missiles, which can be used for air-to-air and surface-attack missions, at a cost of some \$85.6 million, Harpoon anti-ship missiles at an estimated \$355 million cost and support for Taiwan's surveillance radar programme for an estimated \$665.4 million, the Pentagon's Defence Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) said.
- The order reflects continued U.S. support for Taiwan as Taipei faces pressure from China, which claims Taiwan as its own territory.

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## UGC PROPOSES CLUSTERING OF COLLEGES

### In News:

- Recently, the University Grants Commission (UGC) issued new guidelines for transforming colleges and universities into **multi-disciplinary institutions**.
- The guidelines prescribe three approaches, which include:
  - Clustering of institutions located in proximity;
  - Merger of single-stream institutions with other multi-disciplinary institutions under the same management or different managements; and
  - Strengthening of existing establishments by setting up of new departments.

## The University Grant Commission (UGC)

- The UGC was formally established in November 1956 as a statutory body by the UGC Act 1956.
- It was set up by the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education.
- It was established for the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards of university education in India.
- It is essentially an autonomous government agency that channels public funds (grants) to higher education institutions.
- This is done in exchange for their compliance with set quality criteria.
- It is headquartered in New Delhi and it has six regional centres in Pune, Bhopal, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Guwahati and Bangalore.

## News Summary

- The UGC has made public its “**Guidelines for Transforming Higher Educational Institutions into Multidisciplinary Institutions**”.
- The aim is to help State governments and universities frame appropriate rules and policies.

## Key highlights

- **Clustering to institutions**
  - The UGC has suggested academic collaboration between institutions through “clusters” of higher education institutions (HEIs).
  - This is to promote multi-disciplinary education and research in online and offline modes.
  - Colleges with poor enrolment and fewer resources may benefit by forming clusters with other institutions.
  - This will enable students of these colleges to access better facilities as well as avail innovative courses.
  - This will also help such centres improve their grades in **National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)**
- **Merger of single-stream institutions with other multidisciplinary institutions**



# CROSS & CLIMB ROHTAK



- The guidelines prescribed merger of single-stream institutions with other multidisciplinary institutions under the same management or different managements.
- Students opting for courses offered as a result of collaborations and mergers can also avail credit mobility between partnering institutions.
- **Strengthening of existing establishments by setting up of new departments**
- It has also prescribed expanding the number of departments in a college or university by adding new subjects such as languages, literature, music, Indology, sports, etc.
- **Student orientation programmes as an important element**
- The guidelines also identify student orientation programmes as an important element to familiarise them with the new options available to them.
- **Capacity building of faculties**
- The UGC also suggests capacity-building for faculty so that they can teach, train and research in multi-disciplinary academic programmes.
- This can be done through initiatives like Annual Refresher Programme in Teaching (ARPIT) as well as investment in learning assessment tools.

## **Multi-disciplinary institutions and National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**

- More multi-disciplinary institutions in the country is one of the recommendations for higher education in the National Education Policy 2020.
- The policy document has set a target of 2030 for all higher education institutions (HEIs) to become multi-disciplinary, and thereafter, increase student enrolments preferably in the thousands by 2040.
- The goal is to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education including vocational education from 26.3% (2018) to 50% by 2035.
- The NEP proposes that though a number of new institutions may be developed to attain these goals, a large part of the capacity creation will be achieved by expanding and improving existing HEIs.

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[NANO UREA](#)

Nano urea, a product developed by the Indian Farmers and Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) and heavily advertised by the Central government as a panacea to reduce farmer dependence on packaged urea, is yet to be fully tested despite having been fast-tracked for commercial application.



#### About:

- Normally, three seasons of independent assessment by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is required for approving a new fertilizer, but in the case of nano urea this was reduced to two.
- Nano urea is a patented and indigenously made liquid that contains nanoparticles of urea, the most crucial chemical fertilizer for farmers in India. A single half-litre bottle of the liquid can compensate for a 45 kg sack of urea that farmers traditionally rely on, it is claimed.

## INFLATABLE AERODYNAMIC DECELERATOR (IAD)

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully demonstrated a new technology with Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator (IAD).



#### About:

- Designed and developed by ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), IAD is a game-changer with multiple applications for future missions including to Mars and Venus.
- The IAD was successfully test flown in a 'Rohini' sounding rocket from Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station.
- Rohini sounding rockets are routinely used for flight demonstration of new technologies being developed by ISRO as well as by scientists from India and abroad.
- The IAD was initially folded and kept inside the payload bay of the rocket. At around 84 km altitude, the IAD was inflated and it descended through the atmosphere with the payload part of a sounding rocket.



- The IAD has systematically reduced the velocity of the payload through aerodynamic drag and followed the predicted trajectory.
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## SHUMANG LEELA

**The 50th All Manipur Shumang Leela Festival 2021-2022 kicked off at Iboyaima Shumang Leela Shanglen at Palace Compound in Imphal.**



### **About:**

- Shumang Leela is a traditional form of theatre in Manipur and the roles of female artists are all played by male actors and male characters are played by female artists in case of female theatre groups.
  - In 2017, Shougrakpam Hemanta was conferred with the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in recognition of his contribution in Shumang Leela. With this, he became the first person to receive the award for this art form.
  - Shumang Leela Groups of the early stage attempted to preserve and promote humanism, tolerance, confidence, devotion, truth and justice through their performances.
  - The present day Shumang Leelas have been trying to focus on the issues of moral values, unity and integrity. It has also been trying to strengthen the bond of brotherhood and friendship among various communities in the State.
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## NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY OF INDIA (NALSA)

**Senior Judge of Supreme Court of India Justice DY Chandrachud has been nominated as the Executive Chairman of the National Legal Services Authority of India (NALSA).**



### **About:**

- Justice DY Chandrachud was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 13th May 2016. Earlier, he served as Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court.
- National Legal Services Authority of India (NALSA) was formed in 1995 under the authority of the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987.
- Its purpose is to provide free legal services to eligible candidates (defined in Sec. 12 of the Act), and to organize Lok Adalats for speedy resolution of cases.
- The Chief Justice of India is patron-in-chief of NALSA while the second senior-most Judge of the Supreme Court of India is the Executive-Chairman.
- There is a provision for similar mechanism at state and district level also headed by Chief Justice of High Courts and Chief Judges of District courts respectively.
- It was formed in 1995.
- It is headquartered in New Delhi.

## IN 75TH YR OF FREEDOM, INDIA OVERTAKES UK AS 5TH LARGEST ECONOMY

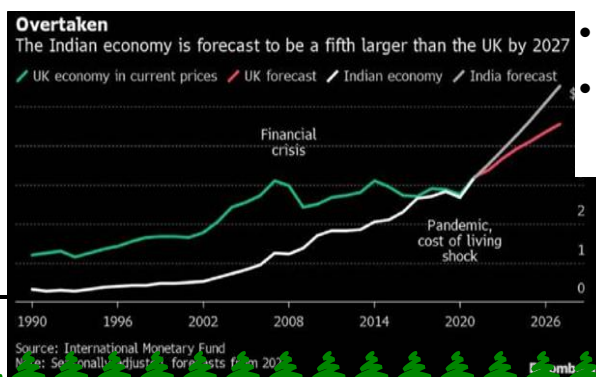
### In News:

- According to the latest calculations by **Bloomberg**, India has become the world's fifth-largest economy after it overtook the United Kingdom in end-March 2022.
- This news came at a time when PM Modi, during his 2022 Independence Day speech, had urged the countrymen to resolve to become a developed country by 2047.

### News Summary

- As per a report published by Bloomberg, 75 years after it attained freedom at midnight, India now has an economy larger than that of its erstwhile colonial master.

### Key highlights of the Bloomberg report



- India is now fifth largest economy in the world



- India has overtaken the UK to become the world's fifth-largest economy. It is set to become the **third largest by 2029**.

- **Size of Indian economy**

- On an adjusted basis and using the dollar exchange rate on the last day of the relevant quarter, the size of the Indian economy in nominal cash terms in the quarter through March was \$854.7 billion.
- On the same basis, UK was \$816 billion.

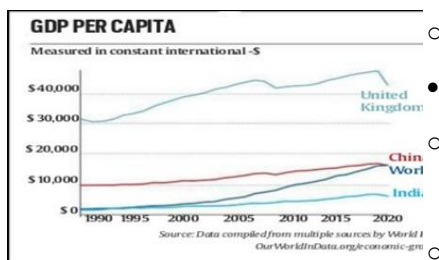
### Comparison between India and UK

- **Population**

- This is one of the most fundamental differences between the two countries.
- As of 2022, India has a population of 1.41 billion while the UK's population is 68.5 million. In other words, India's population is 20 times that of the UK's.

- **GDP per capita**

- Since there is such a stark difference between the population of the two countries, GDP per capita of India is much lower.



- **Poverty levels**

- At the start of the 19th century, the UK's share in extreme poverty was considerably higher than India's.
- However, as things stand today, the relative positions have reversed even though India has made giant strides in curbing poverty.

- **Human Development Index**

- On this front, experts believe India might still take a decade to be where the UK was in 1980.

- Performance of UK in HDI 2019 – 0.932 (score), very high category (HDI tier)
- India's performance in HDI 2019 – 0.645 (score), medium category (HDI tier).

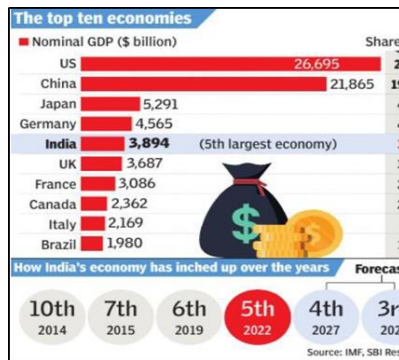
- **Universal Healthcare Coverage**

- While faster economic growth and the government's policy focus on healthcare schemes since 2005 have made a distinct improvement for India, there is still a long way to go.

## SBI Report on India's economy

- India had surpassed UK as the fifth-largest economy as early as **December 2021**, according to a State Bank of India report, published earlier.
- The report says that the share of India's GDP in global GDP is now at 3.5%, as against 2.6% in 2014 and is likely to cross 4% in 2027.

## Key Highlights of this report



- The report said that the path taken by India since 2014 reveals it is likely to get the tag of third-largest economy in 2029.
  - India should surpass Germany in 2027 and most likely Japan by 2029 at the current rate of growth.
  - The Indian economy is forecast to grow by 7-7.5% in the current fiscal year while the UK economy has been battling a sharp slide in growth and record high inflation.
- Latest data showed the Indian economy grew by 13.5% in the quarter ended June.
  - The IMF has forecast India to grow by 7.4%. The IMF forecast has shown India will retain its tag as the fastest growing major economy in the world.