



## **FVF RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS - September**

### **STATES**

- **On September 8, Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar - inaugurated the country's longest rubber dam and a steel bridge over the Falgu river near Vishnupad temple in Gaya**



- ✓ The CM performed puja in the water of the dam and offered prayers to Goddess Sita.
- ✓ According to mythology, Sita had cursed Falgu to remain a subterranean river.
- ✓ With the construction of rubberdam, water will be available in the Falgu river near Vishnupad temple throughout the year
- ✓ Notably, for the first time in Bihar, instead of the traditional country dam, a rubber dam based on modern technology has been constructed, which will not have any adverse effect on the environment.
- ✓ Every year, lakhs of pilgrims from across the country and abroad arrive at Gaya during the Pitripaksha Mela to pay homage to their ancestors
- ✓ During his address, CM Kumar said that keeping in view of the religious beliefs associated with the place, he had proposed the name 'Gayaji Dam'.
- ✓ The foundation stone for the project was laid on September 22, 2020.

- ✓ The 411 meters long, 95.5 meters wide and 3 meters high dam has been built at an estimated cost of Rs. 324 crore in association with the experts from IIT, Roorkee

## NATIONAL

- **On September 8, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - has inaugurated a stretch from Rashtrapati Bhavan to India Gate that's been renamed from Rajpath to Kartavya Path**



- ✓ The entire stretch has been revamped under the government's ambitious Rs. 13,450-crore Central Vista redevelopment project
- ✓ The Amar Jawan Jyoti -- a tribute to fallen soldiers -- which was the key feature of India Gate, was shifted to the National War Memorial earlier this year.
- ✓ 'Kartavya Path' exhibits beautified landscapes, lawns with walkways, added green spaces, refurbished canals, new amenity blocks, improved signages and vending kiosks
- ✓ On September 7, Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture Meenakshi Lekhi announced the name change
- ✓ Shapoorji Pallonji and Company Limited has executed the redevelopment of the entire stretch from Vijay Chowk to India Gate
- ✓ The Rs. 477 crore project became the first of the Central Vista projects to be completed and opened to the public with the inauguration.
- ✓ Rajpath was witness to India's Independence, and hosts the annual Republic Day celebrations.
  - ✓ It runs from Raisina Hill complex to India Gate and was first known as Kingsway before Independence and Rajpath since 1947
  - ✓ It was built in New Delhi after the British shifted its capital from Calcutta (now Kolkata) in 1911.
- ✓ Later, the PM has also unveiled a statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at India Gate, where a hologram statue of the freedom fighter had been inaugurated on January 23 this year

- ✓ The 28-foot tall statue was made by the main sculptor, Arun Yogiraj from a monolithic block of granite weighing 280 tonnes.
- ✓ The block of granite picked for the statue was transported to Delhi from Telangana and the statue was carved out of it in over two months.
- ✓ The statue was installed at the canopy where a statue of King George V stood till 1968
- ✓ The redevelopment of Central Vista includes a new Parliament building, a common Central Secretariat, a new PM house and office, and a new Vice-President's Enclave.
  - ✓ The North and South Blocks, the secretariat buildings flanking Rashtrapati Bhavan, will be converted into museums.

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh along with external affairs minister S Jaishankar - participated in the second India-Japan 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue in Tokyo on 8 September.**



- ✓ Japan was represented by its minister of defence Yasukazu Hamada and minister of foreign affairs Yoshimasa Hayashi.
- ✓ Later, Japanese PM Fumio Kishida also joined at the conclusion of the summit.
- ✓ The participating Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to a rules-based global order that respects sovereignty and territorial integrity, referring indirectly to Russia's action in Ukraine and China's in South China Sea
- ✓ The meeting also made a commitment for a free and open Indo-Pacific along with strong support for ASEAN's unity and centrality.
- ✓ The defence cooperation between the nations was one of the highlight areas of the summit.
- ✓ India welcomed Japan in the MILAN multilateral exercise, while expressing commitment to continue bilateral and multilateral military exercises including Dharma Guardian and Malabar.

- ✓ The summit focused on expanding the ongoing cooperation in defence equipment and technology, especially for Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) and Robotics.
- ✓ The discussions were held on the following issues - the Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Dialogue of February 2021, the Maritime Affairs Dialogue of September 2021, the Space Dialogue of November 2021 and the Cyber Dialogue of June 2022.
- ✓ This was the first 2+2 ministerial meeting after the inaugural dialogue was set up in 2019.
- ✓ This year marks 70 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries.
- ✓ India has the '2+2' ministerial format of dialogue with very few countries, including the US, Japan, Australia and Russia

## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

- **In a major breakthrough, scientists at New Delhi's Inter-University Accelerator Centre (IUAC) - have successfully developed India's first superconducting magnet system used in MRI machines for wholebody clinical scanner.**



- ✓ At present India depends on 100% import for MRI machines which are having high costs.
- ✓ The IUAC has developed a 1.5 Tesla (T) superconducting MRI magnet system, which is like the heart of the MRI machine.
- ✓ This will not only make India produce cheaper indigenous MRI machines, but also put it in the league of select countries which produce these machines.
- ✓ At present, China is the biggest exporter of MRI machines to India.
- ✓ The MRI machine is used to take images of any body part for detection of diseases by providing precise contrast resolution in any imaging direction.

## **DEFENCE**

- **Six flight tests of the indigenous quick-reaction surface to air missile (QRSAM) systems - have been successfully completed by the DRDO and Army at the Chandipur integrated test range off the Odisha coast.**
- ✓ The QR-SAM system are designed to intercept hostile fighters, helicopters and drones at a range up to 25-km
- ✓ After the successful completion of the tests, the QR-SAM system is now ready for induction into the Army
- ✓ The flight-tests were carried out against high speed aerial targets mimicking various types of threats to evaluate the capability of the QR-SAM weapon system under different scenarios.
- ✓ The scenarios included long-range medium-altitude, short range, high-altitude manoeuvring target, low radar signature with receding and crossing target, and salvo launch with two missiles fired in quick succession.
- ✓ The system's performance was also evaluated under day and night operation scenarios.
- ✓ The tests were conducted in the "final deployment configuration" of the QRSAM system
- ✓ It consists of all indigenously-developed sub-systems, including the missile with radio frequency seeker, mobile launcher, fully automated command and control system, surveillance and multi-function radars.
- ✓ The uniqueness of the QR-SAM system is that it can operate on the move with search and track capability and fire on short halt.

## APPOINTMENTS

- **Chief Justice of the Madras high court, Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari - has been appointed chairman of the appellate tribunal under the Smugglers And Foreign Exchange Manipulators Act (Safema).**



- ✓ Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari will hold the office for four years or till he attains the age of 70 years.

- ✓ The appointment was announced by a notification issued by the Union ministry of finance
- ✓ Justice Bhandari is required to take charge of the post within 30 days.
- ✓ He is slated to retire from service on September 12

## OBITUARY

- **Queen Elizabeth II, the UK's longest-serving monarch - has died at her private Scottish estate Balmoral, after spending more than 70 years on the British throne.**

### NEHRU ATTENDED HER CORONATION

➤ **Born April 21, 1926**, became heir apparent when her uncle, Edward VIII, abdicated in 1936

➤ Married Philip Mountbatten in 1947, they **had 4 children**

➤ Ascended throne on father's death on Feb 6, 1952. Was **crowned on June 2, 1953**. Jawaharlal Nehru, then Indian PM, attended her coronation

➤ When she became queen, Stalin & Mao were leading Soviet Union & China, **Winston Churchill was British PM**

➤ **Was served by 15 PMs.** During her reign, there were **14 US presidents**

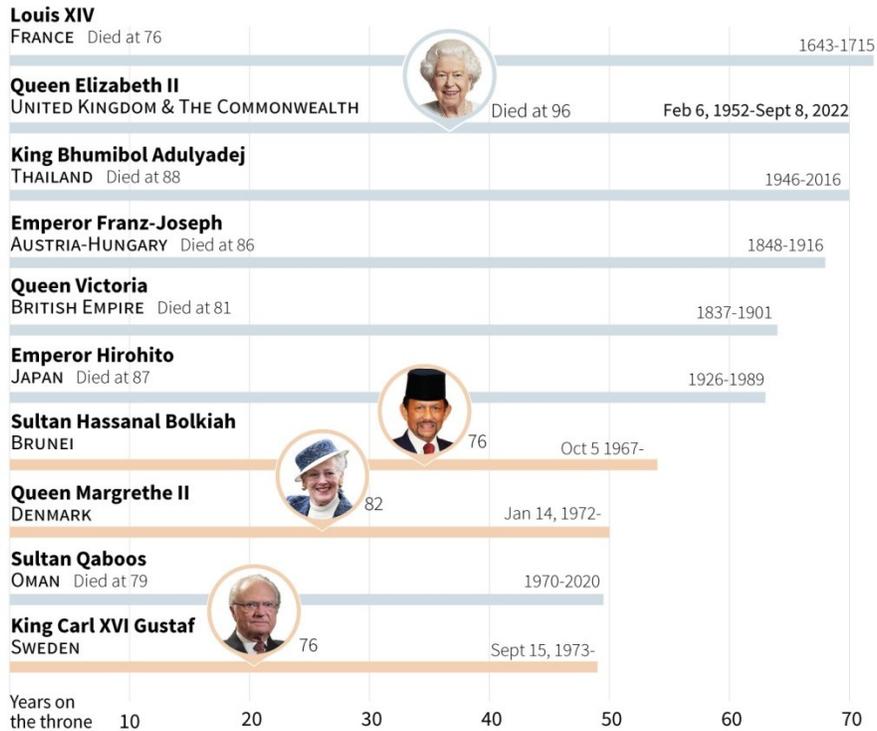
➤ **Became UK's longest-reigning monarch in 2015**, surpassing the 63 years of Queen Victoria



- ✓ The Queen's eldest son, Prince Charles, will now become King, while his eldest son, Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge, assumes the position of heir to the throne
- ✓ The British government declared a period of mourning for Queen Elizabeth, and a ceremonial 96-gun salute - one for every year of her life - was fired in her memory
- ✓ A day of state mourning will be observed in India on September 11 "as a mark of respect" for the death of Queen Elizabeth
- ✓ Queen Elizabeth II was born as Elizabeth Alexandra Mary on 21 April 1926 as the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York (later King George VI and Queen Elizabeth).
  - ✓ She came to the throne after the death of her father King George VI on February 6, 1952, when she was just 25.
  - ✓ Queen Elizabeth is also Head of the Commonwealth and Supreme Governor of the Church of England.
  - ✓ In 1945, she had actively joined World War II as a driver in the Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service
  - ✓ She saw 14 Prime Ministers of UK during her reign, from Winston Churchill to Liz Truss

- ✓ The Queen's health started to deteriorate after the death of her husband, Prince Philip, in April 2021.
- ✓ As heir apparent since the age of three, Prince Charles has been the longest serving heir to the throne in British history
- ✓ Britain's new monarch Charles, 73, will be known by the regnal name of King Charles III, while Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, becomes King Charles's Queen Consort
- ✓ Prince Charles Philip Arthur George was born November 14, 1948, in Buckingham Palace
  - ✓ Charles studied history at Cambridge University's Trinity College, where he became the first British royal to earn a university degree in 1970
  - ✓ He then spent seven years in uniform, training as a Royal Air Force pilot before joining the Royal Navy
  - ✓ He ended his military career as commander of the HMS Bronington, a minesweeper, in 1976.
  - ✓ Charles will be the head of state for the UK and 14 other countries, including Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea
  - ✓ In 2018, he was named the queen's designated successor as head of the Commonwealth, an association of 54 nations with links to the British Empire
- ✓ The 96-year old Elizabeth II was one of the longest-serving monarchs in the history.
  - ✓ Louis XIV's reign of 72 years is the longest recorded of any monarch of a sovereign country in history.
  - ✓ Louis XIV was the King of France from 14 May 1643 until his death in 1715.

## Longest reigns since the 17<sup>th</sup> century



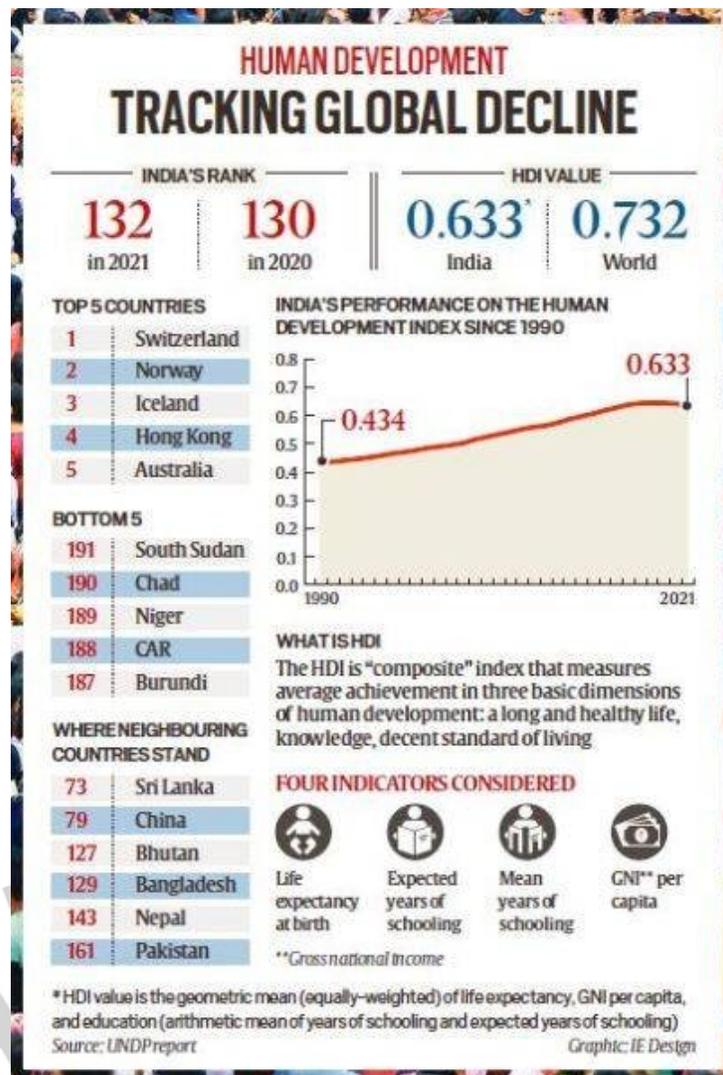
AFP

- ✓ During her tenure on the throne, Queen Elizabeth visited India thrice - 1961, 1983 and 1997.
- ✓ Queen Elizabeth was the head of Commonwealth, which included 54 countries spanning Africa, Asia, America, Europe and Pacific
- ✓ In general, British National Anthem is sung in the honour of the Queen with lyrics, God Save the Queen.
  - ✓ It will now revert to the version for a male monarch, which is God Save the King, with the pronouns within the words changed to the male version.
  - ✓ This version of the national anthem was last used in 1952 when George VI was on the throne.
- ✓ The Queen's state funeral will be UK's first in more than half a century, with former Prime Minister Winston Churchill being the last head of state to be accorded the honour in 1965
  - ✓ The last state funeral for a sovereign was accorded for the Queen's father, George VI, in 1952.
- ✓ The plan to deal with the death of the head of state in Britain was termed 'Operation London Bridge' and the part of the plan for Queen's death at her favourite castle in Scotland was codenamed 'Operation Unicorn'
- ✓ The plan of accession of Prince Charles to the British throne is codenamed 'Operation Spring Tide'
- ✓ These protocols are a detailed script for key logistical matters and procedures, including the funeral procession 10 days later after the death

- ✓ The day of Queen's death will be referred to as D-Day, while every day following that day will be referred to as D+1 and D+2 and so forth
- ✓ The code for conveying the message that the Queen has died would be - "London bridge is down."

## RANKINGS

- **India – is ranked 132 among 191 countries in the 2021 Human Development Index (HDI) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**
- ✓ The latest Human Development Report – 'Uncertain Times, Unsettled Lives: Shaping our Future in a Transforming World' was published on September 8
- ✓ Switzerland remained at the top spot in the rankings, followed by Norway and Iceland.
- ✓ South Sudan, Chad and Niger were the three countries at the bottom of the list.
- ✓ Earlier, India was ranked 130<sup>th</sup> among 189 countries in the 2020 index.
- ✓ Human Development - a measure of a nation's health, education, and average income – has declined in India for two years in a row – 2020 and 2021 after five years of successive improvement
- ✓ This is in line with the global decline, indicating that human development across the world has been affected for the first time in 32 years
- ✓ India's HDI value of 0.633 places the country in the 'medium' human development category, lower than its value of 0.645 in the 2020 report
- ✓ This can be attributed to falling life expectancy from 69.7 in 2020 to 67.2 years in 2021
- ✓ India's expected years of schooling stands at 11.9 years, and the mean years of schooling are at 6.7 years.



- ✓ Among India's neighbours, Sri Lanka (73rd), China (79th), Bangladesh (129th) and Bhutan (127th) are ranked above India, while Pakistan (161st), Nepal (143rd) and Myanmar (149th) are ranked below.
- ✓ The Gross National Income (GNI) per capita level remains at \$6,590.
- ✓ For the first time on record, the global HDI value declined this year.
- ✓ A large contributor to the HDI's recent decline is a global drop in life expectancy, down from 72.8 years in 2019 to 71.4 years in 2021.
- ✓ Meanwhile, the world registered a 6.7% increase in gender inequality.
- ✓ **India with a value of 0.490 is placed at rank 122 out of 170 countries in the Gender Inequality Index**
- ✓ HDI is calculated using four indicators – life expectancy at birth, mean years of schooling, expected years of schooling, and the GNI per capita.

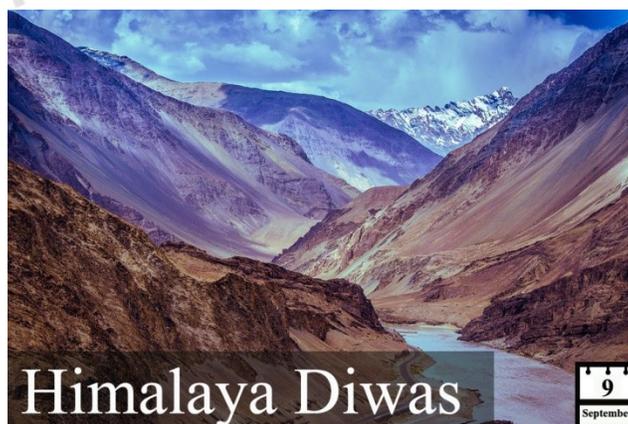
## INTERNATIONAL/NATIONAL DAY

➤ **World EV Day - September 9**



- ✓ The World EV day is observed every year to highlight the importance of clean mobility across the world
- ✓ The day was first celebrated in 2020 as an initiative of Sustainability Media Company Greet TV.
- ✓ Since 2019, China has emerged as the top producer and seller of electric vehicles in the world.
- ✓ According to the global data, China has sold 51.7% of the EVs produced in the world, which amounts to a total of 3,519,054.
- ✓ In India, this number stood at just 3,30,000 units, however, with a growth of 168% as compared to 2020.
- ✓ India's commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2070 depends heavily on the abilities to switch to EVs and decarbonise.
- ✓ Electric Vehicles (EVs) are an emerging technology that has great potential to reduce transportation emissions and provide benefits like addressing air pollution.

➤ **Himalaya Day – September 9**



- ✓ The Himalaya Day is observed every year to raise awareness about the Himalayan ecosystem, which sustains nature and protects the country from adverse weather conditions
- ✓ The theme of this year's Himalaya Day is to establish Himalaya as a climate controller.

- ✓ The Center for Himalayan Studies in Delhi University will play a major role in taking the theme to the academicians
- ✓ Former Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Harish Rawat officially declared September 9 as 'Himalaya Diwas' in 2014
- ✓ The idea to observe the day was conceptualized by Anil Joshi of the Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation Organization and other Indian environmentalists
- ✓ The day will be celebrated in all the Himalayan states of India—from Jammu and Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh

