

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

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FRIDAY

# CURRENT AFFAIRS BOOSTER

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# 1.CRISIL projected GDP growth forecast at 7.8% for 2022-23



Domestic rating agency CRISIL retained its real GDP growth forecast at 7.8% for the fiscal year 2023, as compared with the 8.5% projected in the Economic Survey. FM Nirmala Sitharaman's Budget proposals focused on loosening the purse strings by boosting capital expenditure and going slow on fiscal consolidation are aimed in the right direction. The agency expects the nominal growth to come at 12-13%, higher than the 11.1% Budget Estimate, and the headline inflation to average 5.2%.

# 2. IMF board approves \$1.4 billion emergency support for Ukraine



The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved \$1.4 billion in emergency support for Ukraine to finance expenditures and shore up the balance of payments. Ukraine has turned to financing from allies and international institutions to support its economy after the Russian invasion began on February 24.

The disbursement under the IMF's Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI), equivalent to 50% of Ukraine's quota in the IMF, will help fund urgent spending needs in the short term, while helping to catalyze financing from other partners.

3. Haryana's CM announced 'Sushma Swaraj Award' for women



Haryana Chief Minister, Manohar Lal Khattar, while presenting the state budget, has announced a 'Sushma Swaraj Award' for women for their significant achievements or contribution in different walks of life in the international and national spheres. The Sushma Swaraj Award will carry an award money of Rs 5 lakh along with a commendation.

#### About the Sushma Swaraj:

Sushma Swaraj was a lawyer of the Supreme Court as well as an Indian politician. She was a senior member of the Bharatiya Janata Party, served as India's Minister of External Affairs during the first

Narendra Modi government (2014–2019). After Indira Gandhi, she was the second woman to occupy this position.

### 4. India finishes at the top in 2022 ISSF World Cup



India has taken first place in the medal standings at the ISSF World Cup 2022 in Cairo, organised by the International Shooting Sport Federation. By winning a total of seven medals, the Indian team took first place in the medals tally, with four gold, two silver, and one bronze. Norway took second place in the medals tally with six medals (three gold, one silver, and two bronze). France came in third place with three gold medals out of a total of twenty.

#### **KEY POINTS:**

•On the final day of the ISSF World Cup 2022 in Cairo, Egypt, Indian shooters took home two medals.

•Rhythm Sangwan and Anish Bhanwala won the 25m rapid fire pistol mixed team gold medal match against Thailand 17-7 in the tournament's final event.

•Earlier in the day, India's Gurpreet Singh, Anish Bhanwala, and Bhavesh Shekhawat were defeated 7-17 by Germany in the gold medal match of the men's 25m rapid fire pistol team competition.

•India won their third World Cup gold on Sunday, defeating Singapore 17-13 in the women's 25m pistol team event final. In the gold medal match, Rahi Sarnobat, Esha Singh, and Rhythm Sangwan defeated the Singaporean trio of Xiu Hong, Shun Xie, and Ling Chiao Nicole Tan.

•Esha Singh had won the women's 10m air pistol team event in addition to the silver she had earned in the women's 10m air pistol individual event, making this her second gold and third medal of the World Cup.

•Saurabh Chaudhary won India's first gold medal in Cairo last week. In the gold medal match of the Men's 10m Air Pistol event, the 19-year-old Indian defeated Michael Schwald of Germany 16-6.

## 5. National Land Monetization Corp approved by cabinet



Union Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the establishment of the National Land Monetization Corporation (NLMC) as a

wholly-owned Government of India corporation with an initial authorised share capital of 5000 crores and a paid-up share capital of 150 crore. The National Land Management Corporation (NLMC) would monetize surplus land and building assets owned by Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and other government organisations. The idea is in accordance with the 2021-22 Budget Announcement. **KEY POINTS:** 

•CPSEs currently have a large amount of surplus, idle, and underutilised non-core assets in the form of land and buildings.

•The monetization of excess land and side assets is critical for CPSEs experiencing strategic disinvestment so that their value can be unleashed. Monetization of the assets will be taken care of and carried out by NLMC.

•This will also allow for the productive use of underutilised assets, resulting in private sector investments, new economic activity, a boost to the local economy, and the generation of financial resources for economic and social infrastructure.

•On behalf of CPSEs and other government organisations, NLMC will have the technical expertise to competently manage and monetize land holdings. To ensure professional operations and management of the organisation, the Board of Directors of NLMC would be made up of senior Central Government executives and recognised specialists.

•A merit-based selection method will be used to appoint the Chairman and nongovernment directors of the NLMC.

6. Karnataka government launched 'Women@Work' programme



The government of Karnataka has launched 'Women@Work' program to provide five lakh jobs within 2026 to women with necessary employable skills. The program aims to focus on the efforts of corporate programs on attracting women workforce. It has been developed by Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) in association with KTECH, Karnataka Skill Development Corporation. It will act as an enabler for women to actively participate and join the workforce through industry upskilling.All efforts are being made to provide 5,000 jobs for women as part of the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission and added that the government is keen to actualise this mission in the coming days.

# 7. Ashwani Bhatia (SBI MD) appointed as SEBI member



The cabinet has appointed Ashwani Bhatia, managing director (MD) of the State Bank of India (SBI), as a whole-time member (WTM) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). According to some sources, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has also approved Ashwani Bhatia's appointment as a whole-time member of SEBI for three years from the date of his assumption of the command.

#### **KEY POINTS:**

•According to the sources, with Ashwani Bhatia's appointment as a Whole-time member, the Securities and Exchange Board of India now only needs to appoint one Whole time member.

•In August 2020, Ashwani Bhatia, who will be retiring in May 2022, that is this year, was promoted to the post of managing director of State Bank of India.

Experience and Background:

•He was the managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of SBI Mutual Fund before his promotion to the post of MD of SBI. He was employed with SBI as a probationary officer (PO) in 1985. He has held various posts over his 33-year career at the State Bank of India.

•He has led the charge in overhauling SBI's entire credit structure and processes. Madhabi Puri Buch was named the new chairman of SEBI last month, making her the first woman to lead the capital market regulator.

8. Sharad Pawar unveiled Ratnakar Shetty's autobiography "On Board: My Years in BCCI"



A book titled "On Board: My Years in BCCI", an autobiographical account of Ratnakar Shetty's experiences as an administrator. The book was released by Sharad Pawar, the former president of the MCA, BCCI and International Cricket Council. Shetty, a Chemistry professor by profession, went on to be the BCCI's first Chief Administrative Officer after serving the Mumbai Cricket Association in various capacities.

9. Union Minister of Power launches Virtual Smart Grid Knowledge Center



As part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav Program, Union Minister for Power R.K. Singh launched the Virtual Smart Grid Knowledge Center (SGKC) and Innovation Park. Krishan Pal Gurjar, Minister of State for Power, was also in attendance.

#### **KEY POINTS:**

•POWERGRID established the Smart Grid Knowledge Center (SGKC) to demonstrate and advance cutting-edge smart grid technologies.

•SGKC aspires to be one of the world's top centres of excellence for smart grid technology innovation, entrepreneurship, and research, as well as building capacity in the power distribution industry.

•The Virtual SGKC, which was introduced today, allows for a digital footprint of the real SGKC, which was needed during the COVID-19 epidemic.

Mr. R K Singh, speaking at the event, stated that the world is changing rapidly in the energy industry, as evidenced by India. He said that India is far ahead of the curve in terms of energy transformation, with a higher pace of renewable energy capacity installation than any other country on the planet.

### 10. 3rd National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF) begins in New Delhi



The 3rd edition of the National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF) has been organised jointly by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports on March 10 and 11, 2022 in the Central Hall of Parliament, New Delhi. Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur will address the inaugural session of NYPF on March 10, while the Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will address the valedictory function on March 11.

#### **Objective of NYPF**

The objective of the NYPF is to hear the voice of the youth, between 18 and less than 25 years of age, who will join various careers in the coming years, including public services. The top three National level youth winners will get an opportunity to speak before the Lok Sabha Speaker during the valedictory function.

**Key information** 

• The 3rd NYPF was launched at the district level on 14th February 2022 through virtual mode in which more than 2.44 lakh youth participated. This was followed by State Youth Parliaments through the virtual mode from February 23 to 27, 2022.

• Overall 87 winners (62 Female and 25 Male) from the district and state-level YPF will now participate in NYPF 2022.

• National Youth Parliament provides a platform for the youth to voice their thoughts opinions and dreams for the country and enable the youth to voice their concerns and local problems.

#### **ONE LINER**

•Ukraine Capital: Kyiv;
•Ukraine Currency: Ukrainian hryvnia;
•Ukraine President: Volodymyr Zelenskyy;
•Ukraine Prime minister: Denys Shmyhal.
•Haryana Capital: Chandigarh;
•Haryana Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya;
•Haryana Chief Minister: Manohar Lal Khattar.
•Karnataka Capital: Bengaluru;
•Karnataka Chief Minister: Basavaraj S Bommai;
•Karnataka Governor: Thawar Chand Gehlot.