



WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

NOVEMBER, 2022

Week-2

8-14 Nov., 2022

★★ Useful for ★★

**CSE, ESE, PSUs, State Services Exams,
SSC and Banking Exams**

8th NOVEMBER, 2022

World's longest passenger train operationalized in Switzerland

Switzerland has created a world record by operating the world's longest passenger train.

Key Highlights

- The world's longest electric passenger train is designed to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the country's first train system.
- The passenger train ran in the Swiss Alps with 100 coaches.
- The Swiss transport company, Rhaetian Railway (RhB), operated the train on the Bernina/Albula trail from Preda to Bergen.
- The length of the train is 1.9 km and there are 100 contemporary and 25 four-car Capricorn EMUs.
- During its journey, the train crossed 22 tunnels and 48 bridges.
- Switzerland's Albula Line is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- The train weighed a massive 2990 tons.

State of Food and Agriculture report, 2022

The Food and Agriculture organization (FAO) has recently released the 2022 edition of State of Food and Agriculture report, 2022.

Key Highlights

- The report released by FAO is aimed at bringing to a wider audience balanced science-based assessments of important issues in the field of food and agriculture.
- It looks into the drivers of agricultural automation, including the more recent digital technologies.
- According to report, key barriers to adoption of technologies are low digital literacy and lack of an enabling infrastructure, such as connectivity

and access to electricity, in addition to financial constraints.

- The report looked at 27 case studies from all over the world, representing different technologies.
- Only 10 of the 27 service providers are profitable and financially sustainable.
- High-income countries in North America, Europe and Oceania were highly mechanized by the 1960s. But regions dominated by low-and middle-income countries were less mechanized.
- Crucially, there are wide disparities in the spread of automation between and within countries, with adoption being particularly limited in sub-Saharan Africa.
- For instance, Japan had more than 400 tractors per 1,000 hectares of arable land, compared with just 0.4 in Ghana in 2005.
- Agriculture reliant on human and animal power continues to dominate in sub-Saharan Africa, limiting productivity.
- The report suggest that an agricultural automation policy should ensure that agrifood systems are sustainable and resilient.
- However, policymakers should avoid subsidizing automation in labor-abundant contexts as agricultural automation can lead to unemployment in places where rural labor is abundant and wages are low.
- Policymakers should focus on creating an enabling environment for adopting automation.
- Social protection should be provided to the least skilled workers, who are more likely to lose their jobs during the transition.

SpaceX launched the Falcon Heavy rocket

SpaceX's Falcon Heavy, the world's most-powerful active rocket, lifted off for the first time in more than three years at Florida's Cape Canaveral, with Elon Musk's company sending satellites into orbit for the U.S. Space Force.

Key Highlights

- The mission, the first Falcon Heavy launch since June 2019, had been delayed for years by the Space Force.
- The mission marked the first use of the rocket by the Space Force, a U.S. military branch established to oversee much of the Pentagon's defense activities in space.
- The rocket system, consisting of three Falcon 9 boosters strapped side-by-side, took off from a SpaceX launch pad, with two satellites from the Space Force and a group of smaller satellites bound for orbit.
- SpaceX claims Falcon Heavy to be the most powerful rocket in the world by a factor of two.
- The rocket has a height of 70 m, a width of 12.2 m and a mass of 1,420,788 kg.
- Falcon Heavy has 27 Merlin engines which together generate more than five million pounds of thrust at lift-off, equaling around eighteen 747 aircraft at full power which makes it the most capable rocket flying.
- Merlin is a family of rocket engines developed by SpaceX for use on its Falcon 1, Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy launch vehicles.
- Merlin engines use RP-1 and liquid oxygen as rocket propellants in a gas-generator power cycle.
- These engines were designed for recovery and reuse.

9th NOVEMBER, 2022

Anamalai Tiger Reserve opens doors for elephant adoption scheme

The Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) has launched an elephant adoption programme,

Key Highlights:

- The Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) has opened the doors for an elephant adoption programme through which non-governmental organisations, institutions,

trusts or individuals can sponsor the expenses of Forest Department's camp elephants

- Under the scheme, any donor who is willing to adopt the elephants will get an exemption under section 80 G of the Income Tax Act 1961.
- The fund will be deposited in the ATR Foundation which has been registered as a trust and feeding and maintenance charges of the camp will be met through the fund, said ATR authorities.

New Delhi hosts second Agriculture Ministerial-level meeting of BIMSTEC

India hosted the second Agriculture Ministerial-level meeting of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation, BIMSTEC in New Delhi .

Key Highlights:

- The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar. Agriculture Ministers of Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Thailand participated in the meeting.
- Addressing the meeting through video conference, Mr. Tomar urged the member countries to cooperate in developing a comprehensive regional strategy to strengthen cooperation for the transformation of agriculture.
- The importance of millet as a nutritious food and the efforts made by India to promote millet and its products during the International Year of Millets - 2023.

10th NOVEMBER, 2022

India's first private launch vehicle all set for maiden flight

India's first private mission by Skyroot Aerospace, called 'Prarambh' (the beginning) will carry two Indian and one foreign customer payloads on the launch vehicle named 'Vikram'.

Key Highlights

- Vikram-S will carry three customer satellites in a sub-orbital flight. Sub-orbital flight travels slower than orbital velocity- they are fast enough to reach outer space but not fast enough to stay in orbit around the Earth.
- Also, Spacekidz, a Chennai based aerospace startup, will fly 'Fun-Sat', a 2.5 kg payload developed by students from India, the US, Singapore and Indonesia, on Vikram.
- Skyroot was the first startup to sign a memorandum of understanding with ISRO for launching its rockets.
- Its launch vehicles have been crafted specially for the small satellite market, and are named 'Vikram' as a tribute to Vikram Sarabhai, founder of the Indian space programme. They come in three forms, Vikram I, II, and III.
- According to Skyroot, "More than 20,000 small satellites are estimated to be launched in the coming decade, and Vikram series is designed to enable this through unprecedented mass producibility and affordability.
- Skyroot claims a Vikram rocket can be assembled and launched within 24 hours from any launch site, and has the "lowest cost in the payload segment".
- In India, ISRO is capable of launching satellites into space, and the demand is quickly outrunning its capacity, especially as the space agency also has other, larger goals it needs to focus on. Therefore, the sector is being opened up to private players, with ISRO helping them with facilities and knowledge. The use of facilities can be chargeable, providing ISRO with revenue.

Mother Tongue Survey of India (MTSI) conducted for 576 languages

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has finished the Mother Tongue Survey of India (MTSI) with field videography of 576 languages and dialects across India.

Key Highlights

- The home ministry's annual report for 2021-22 states that it has been decided to create a web archive at the National Informatics Centre (NIC) to "preserve and analyze the original flavor of each indigenous mother tongue".
- The development comes amid the New Education policy's push for education in the mother tongues.
- Recently, President DroupadiMurmu had also batted for teaching Indian languages in schools and higher education institutes, saying "talent development in science, literature and social sciences can be more effective if taught in one's mother tongue".
- The MHA's annual report describes MTSI as a project that "surveys the mother tongues, which are returned consistently across two and more Census decades".
- It also analyzes the linguistic features of these languages.
- NIC and National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) have been roped in for documenting and preserving the linguistic data of surveyed mother tongues in audio-video files.
- The taped speech data of mother tongues will be uploaded on the NIC server for archiving purposes.
- The analysis of the 2011 language census data in 2018 describes mother tongue as "the language spoken in childhood by the person's mother to the person. If the mother died in infancy, the language mainly spoken in the person's home in childhood will be the mother tongue."
- It also mentioned that "mother tongue" is a designation provided by the respondent, which need not be identical to the actual linguistic medium.
- Over 19,500 languages or dialects are spoken in India as mother tongues.
- The report had revealed Hindi was the most spoken mother tongue with 43.63 per cent of the population saying it was their mother tongue, followed by Bengali which is the mother tongue of 8 percent of the population.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has urged Indians to take pride in their mother tongues and celebrate India's rich diversity of languages.
- In February, during his monthly radio address – Mann Ki Baat– to the nation, Prime Minister had asked the youth to shed any inhibition against their native language and be proud that India has 121 forms of mother tongues.
- Launched in July two years ago, the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, endorses teaching in mother tongues at least for primary classes. It says that “wherever possible, the medium of instruction until at least Grade five, but preferably till Grade eight and beyond, will be the home language/mother tongue/local language/regional language”.
- Moreover, the new National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for the foundational stages of education, has suggested that mother tongue should be the “primary medium of instruction in schools for children up to eight years of age”.

MoEFCC granted clearance for the diversion of 130.75 sq km of forest

The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has granted an in-principle clearance for the diversion of 130.75 sq km of forest in Great Nicobar Island.

Key Highlights

- The diversion is approved for the Nicobar project which includes a trans-shipment port, an airport, a power plant and a greenfield township.
- The project implementation agency is the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation (ANIIDCO).
- About 8.5 lakh trees will have to be cut in Great Nicobar for this project.
- The area is nearly 15% of the thickly forested Great Nicobar Island that is spread over 900 sq km.
- Endemic species such as the Nicobar shrew, the Nicobar long-tailed macaque, the Great Nicobar crested serpent eagle, the Nicobar paradise flycatcher and the Nicobar megapode may be impacted.
- Great Nicobar is the southernmost island of the Nicobar Islands Archipelago. It has the Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve.
- The Mongoloid Shompen Tribe, about 200 in number, live in the forests of the biosphere reserve, particularly along the rivers and streams.

11th NOVEMBER, 2022

Year 2022 declared as ASEAN-India Friendship year

The year 2022 has been declared as the ASEAN-India Friendship year, as ASEAN and India commemorate 30 years of partnership.

Key Highlights:

- On the first leg of the visit the delegation visited the Singapore India Chambers of Commerce and Industries (SICCI) and had an exchange of thoughts on topics such as India-Singapore relations with a specific focus on business friendly policies and the expectations of business community in Singapore from India.
- The delegation also called on the Indian High Commissioner to Singapore Mr. P. Kumaran and got a detailed understanding about how the strategic partnership between India and Singapore has shown its resilience and both sides look forward to further strengthening this important relationship.
- The delegation interacted with the officials of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Communication & Information of Singapore to understand the media landscape in Singapore and the kind of challenges Singapore government faces in timely communicating the correct perspective of people friendly policies to their citizens. After the first leg of visit, the delegation has reached Cambodia.

- As a precursor to the visit of the Vice President of India to Cambodia for the ASEAN Summit, the delegation visited the Angkor Vat and Ta Prohm temple complexes and witnessed the prominent role played by the Government of India and Archeological Survey of India in restoring these UNESCO World Heritage sites there. Vice President would be inaugurating the newly restored portions of the Ta Prohm temple complex during the visit.

Centre ropes in Indian missions abroad for branding and publicity of millets

The Centre has formulated an action plan to promote exports of millet. The government has planned to facilitate participation of exporters, farmers, and traders in 16 international trade expos and Buyer Seller Meet for exports and promotion of Indian millets across the globe.

Key Highlights:

- According to the action plan, Indian missions abroad would be roped in branding and publicity of Indian millets. This include, identification of potential buyers such as departmental stores, supermarkets, and hypermarkets for organizing business-to-business meetings and direct tie-ups. As part of the promotion of Indian millets, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority has planned to showcase millets and its value-added product on various global platforms.
- The United Nations has declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets. India is one of the leading producers of millet in the world with an estimated share of around 41 percent in global production.
- The country recorded 27 percent growth in millet production in 2021-22 which stood at 15.92 million metric tonnes. The country's top five millet-producing states are Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh. It is estimated that the millets market is set to grow to 12 billion US dollars by 2025 from the current 9 billion dollars.

12th NOVEMBER, 2022

Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) launched

At the 27th Session of Conference of Parties (COP27), this year's UN climate summit, the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) was launched with India as a partner.

Key Highlights

- An initiative led by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Indonesia, the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) includes India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Japan, and Spain.
- It seeks to educate and spread awareness worldwide on the role of mangroves in curbing global warming and its potential as a solution for climate change.
- UAE's Minister of Climate Change and the Environment, while launching the alliance, said that her country intends to plant 3 million mangroves in the next two months, in keeping with UAE's COP26 pledge of planting 100 million mangroves by 2030.
- The move, in line with India's goal to increase its carbon sink, will see India collaborating with Sri Lanka, Indonesia and other countries to preserve and restore the mangrove forests in the region.
- India is home to one of the largest remaining areas of mangroves in the world — the Sundarbans and has years of expertise in restoration of mangrove cover that can be used to aid global measures in this direction.
- The intergovernmental alliance works on a voluntary basis which means that there are no real checks and balances to hold members accountable.
- Instead, the parties will decide their own commitments and deadlines regarding planting and restoring mangroves. The members will also share expertise and support each other in researching, managing and protecting coastal areas.

The significance of mangroves

- Mangrove forests consisting of trees and shrubs live in intertidal water in coastal areas — host diverse marine life.
- They also support a rich food web, with molluscs and algae-filled substrate acting as a breeding ground for small fish, mud crabs and shrimps, thus providing a livelihood to local artisanal fishers.
- Equally importantly, they act as effective carbon stores, holding up to four times the amount of carbon as other forested ecosystems. Mangrove forests capture vast amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and their preservation can both aid in removal of carbon from the atmosphere and prevent the release of the same upon their destruction.
- South Asia houses some of the most extensive areas of mangroves globally, while Indonesia hosts one-fifth of the overall amount.
- India holds around 3 percent of South Asia's mangrove population.
- Besides the Sundarbans in West Bengal, the Andamans region, the Kachchh and Jamnagar areas in Gujarat too have substantial mangrove cover.
- However, infrastructure projects, industrial expansion and building of roads and railways, and natural processes shifting coastlines, coastal erosion and storms, have resulted in a significant decrease in mangrove habitats.
- Between 2010 and 2020, around 600 sq km of mangroves were lost of which more than 62% was due to direct human impacts, the Global Mangrove Alliance said in its 2022 report.

International Drought Resilience Alliance (IDRA) launched

Spain and Senegal led 30 countries and 20 organizations to launch the International Drought Resilience Alliance (IDRA) at the 27th Conference of Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

Key Highlights

- The alliance will help each other to be better prepared for future droughts.
- The group also pledged to drive change in how the world tackles the growing drought risks: Moving from emergency response to building long-term resilience.
- The mission of the alliance is to give political impetus to make the land's resilience to drought and climate change a reality by 2030, they added.
- The alliance will also collaborate with other platforms, including the initiative launched by the United Nations Secretary-General and the World Meteorological Organization to achieve universal coverage of early warning systems and regional initiatives to reap the maximum benefits of working together on drought resilience.
- The alliance is significant as there is no global convention for land, other than UNCCD, which mostly focuses on desertification.
- The alliance is now being seen as a 'specific solution' for the United Nations to the impacts of climate change.
- The coming together of the 30-country alliance is an effective grouping to make drought resilience a priority in national development and share technology and expertise with each other.
- Political commitments, including a five million Euro (Rs 40.76 crore) seed fund by Spain, to support the alliance's work and mobilize more resources, bolstered the agenda.
- President of Kenya William Ruto made a commitment to plant five billion trees in the next five years and 10 billion trees in 10 years.

Losses due to droughts

- Drought represents the most serious hazard to livestock and crops in nearly every part of the world. It ranks among the greatest threats to sustainable development, especially in developing countries, but increasingly so in developed nations too.

- According to the latest 'Drought in Numbers' report compiled by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), droughts have increased in frequency by 29 per cent since 2000, with around 55 million people affected every year.
- The 2022 droughts in Europe, United States, Australia, Chile, the Horn and southern Africa, showed that no country or region is immune to their impacts.
- Drought-generated economic losses from 1998 to 2017 were about \$124 billion (Rs 1,011.57 crore) across the world, not to mention the cost of human suffering and lives.

WMO announced Executive Action Plan of Early Warnings for All

The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) recently announced a 5-year program – Executive Action Plan of Early Warnings for All – to carry forward the proposal of the India-backed Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).

Key Highlights

- Under the program, a \$3.1 billion investment has been proposed between 2023-27 to improve infrastructure and capacity in early warning systems in order to prevent the damage caused by the growing number of climate disasters.
- The initial investments represent six per cent of the \$50 billion requested for adaptation financing, according to a WMO statement.
- WMO's action plan also stated that observations and forecasting preparedness and response need funding of \$1 billion for building national and community response capabilities.
- The last pillar of the early warning system — dissemination and communication of risk information — requires \$550 million.
- Early warning systems have still not reached 33 per cent of the global population, mainly in the least

developed countries and small island developing states.

About Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)

- CDRI is an international forum backed by India and launched by the Prime Minister of India during the UN Secretary General's Climate Action Summit in New York in 2019.
- CDRI is an endeavor to bring countries together to share and learn from experiences in protecting essential infrastructure from disasters.

About World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)

- It is a specialized agency of the United Nations (headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland) responsible for promoting international cooperation on atmospheric science, climatology, hydrology and geophysics.
- It evolved from the International Meteorological Organisation (an NGO created in 1873), culminating in the 1947 World Meteorological Convention, which formally established the WMO.
- The Convention took effect in 1950 and the WMO began operations the following year as an intergovernmental (made up of 193 countries) organization within the UN system.

13th NOVEMBER, 2022

US launched Methane Alert and Response System (MARS)

The United Nations announced a high-tech, satellite-based global methane detection system to alert government and private agencies against the emissions.

Key Highlights

- Launched during the ongoing COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, the Methane Alert and Response System (MARS) can be a vital tool to help precisely locate major methane leaks.

- MARS is a data-to-action platform set up as part of the UNEP International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) strategy to get policy-relevant data into the right hands for emissions mitigation.
- MARS will be the first publicly available global satellite system to identify major emission events, alert stakeholders, and support and track mitigation progress. It will help in early detection of methane leaks making it possible to respond faster.
- Beginning with very large point sources from the energy sector, MARS will integrate data from the rapidly expanding system of methane-detecting satellites to include lower-emitting area sources and more frequent detection.
- Data on coal, waste, livestock and rice will be added gradually to MARS to support Global Methane Pledge implementation.
- The new system will provide technical or advisory services to help in assessing mitigation options.
- UNEP will continue to monitor the event location and make the data and analysis available to the public between 45 and 75 days after detection.

Methane as polluter

- Methane, a by-product of decomposing organic matter and the main component of natural gas used in power plants, contributes just a small portion of all greenhouse gas emissions brought on by humans, but it has an 80 times greater heat-trapping capacity per unit of mass than carbon dioxide.
- According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, we need to reduce methane emissions at least 30% by 2030 to keep the target of limiting global warming to 1.5°C within reach.
- Methane curb is by far the most effective step towards climate conservation because Methane stays in the atmosphere for only around ten years, in contrast to hundreds of years for CO₂, thus methane emission reduction has a more immediate impact on Climate change.

Sharm-el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda launched

Seeking to minimize devastating impacts of climate change on vulnerable people across the globe, the COP27 Presidency has launched the Sharm-el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda outlining 30 goals to enhance resilience for 4 billion people living in the most climate vulnerable communities by 2030.

Key Highlights

The Agenda emphasizes the urgency for counting with evidence-based, actionable adaptation plans for all actors, making climate risks visible and accessible, and to deploy the locally-led adaptation principles. It includes 30 Adaptation Outcomes for urgent global 2030 targets:

- Transitioning to climate resilient, sustainable agriculture that can increase yields by 17% and reduce farm level greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 21%, without expanding agricultural frontiers, and while improving livelihoods including of smallholder farmers
- Protecting and restoring an estimated 400 million hectares in critical areas (land and freshwater ecosystems) supporting indigenous and local communities with use of nature-based solutions to improve water security and livelihoods and to transform 2 billion hectares of land into sustainable management.
- Protecting 3 billion people by installing smart and early warning systems
- Investing USD 4 billion to secure the future of 15 million hectares of mangroves through collective action to halt loss, restore, double protection and ensure sustainable finance for all existing mangroves.
- Expanding access to clean cooking for 2.4 billion people through at least USD 10 billion/year in innovative finance.
- Mobilizing USD 140 to USD 300 billion needed across both public and private sources for adaptation and resilience and spur 2,000 of the world's largest companies to integrate physical climate risk and develop actionable adaptation plans

U.S.A unveiled carbon offset scheme “Energy Transition Accelerator (ETA)”

The U.S.A recently unveiled a new carbon offset scheme called Energy Transition Accelerator (ETA) for climate finance.

Key Highlights

- It will be developed by the US along with the Bezos Earth Fund and the Rockefeller Foundation and receive inputs from public and private sectors.
- It is a new carbon offset plan that will allow companies to fund clean energy projects in developing countries and gain carbon credits that they can then use to meet their own climate goals, at least partly.
- According to the U.S.A, the concept is to put the carbon market to work, deploy capital otherwise undeployable, and speed up the transition from dirty to clean power, for two purposes- to retire unabated coal fired power and accelerate renewables.
- The ETA is expected to deliver deeper and earlier emissions reductions, help developing countries achieve and strengthen their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, and help them advance broader sustainable development goals, including expanded energy access.
- The ETA is expected to operate through 2030, possibly extending to 2035.
- Central government released the Sovereign Green Bonds Framework.
- The revenue generated from the issuance of sovereign green bonds will be deployed in public sector projects that help in reducing the carbon intensity of the economy.

14th NOVEMBER, 2022

India tells COP27 not to make Coal lone villain as all fossil fuels contribute to Green House Gas emissions

India has told the UN climate talks - COP27 not to make Coal the lone villain as all fossil fuels contribute to the Green House Gas (GHG) emissions.

Key Highlights:

- India urged the acceleration of the global clean energy transition as per national circumstances and acknowledging that all fossil fuels contribute to GHG emissions.
- India also invited other countries to consider the Sustainable Development Goal 12 (SDG 12) on sustainable consumption and production, and promote a global mass movement for climate-friendly lifestyles.
- India told the participants that selective singling out of sources of emissions, for either labelling them more harmful, or labelling them 'green and sustainable' even when they are sources of greenhouse gases, has no basis in the best available science.
- India drew attention of the negotiators towards recognising that the global carbon budget is shrinking rapidly and there is necessity of its equitable sharing.
- India also suggested certain points to be included in the decision text, saying the long-term goal of the Paris Agreement requires phasing down of all fossil fuels.

World Diabetes Day 2022

World Diabetes Day is being observed on , November 14.

Key Highlights:

- The day provides an opportunity to raise awareness about diabetes as a global public health issue and what needs to be done, collectively and individually, for better prevention, diagnosis, and management of the condition. This year's theme is Access to Diabetes Education.
- Diabetes is a chronic disease, which occurs when the pancreas does not produce enough insulin, or when the body cannot effectively use the insulin it produces. This leads to an increased concentration of glucose in the blood. Insulin is a hormone that regulates blood glucose.

Union Bank of India launches 'Vyom app'.

Union Bank of India launches super app – Union Vyom app & various new products on the occasion of 104th Foundation Day.

Key Highlights:

- Union Bank of India, country's 5th largest public sector bank, established on 11th November 1919 and having its first head office inaugurated by the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, celebrated its 104th foundation day on 11 November 2022 at MMRDA Ground, BKC, Mumbai. On this occasion Bank launched super app – Union Vyom app & various other digital products.
- Union Vyom App, the super app of the Bank, is a one-stop solution for all financial products. The Vyom app is empowered to deliver a unique experience of banking to customers where customers can do transactions beyond traditional banking. Apart from online transactions, customers can avail of Retail, MSME loan, and credit card, make investments in 5000+ mutual fund schemes, and buy insurance products without any assistance. The app is also enabled with lifestyle category products such as booking of flights, hotels, gift cards, cabs, donations & much more.
- **The following products were also launched:**
 - **Union Sparsh:** Touch debit card, specially designed for the visually impaired.
 - **Union Muskaan:** Zero balance saving account for children of 0-18 years ago, having facility of term insurance, accidental death insurance, SMS banking, NEFT, and IMPS at no cost. Also, avail of education loans at a concessional rate.
 - **Union Channel Finance:** A fully automated financing solution for finance to dealers.
 - **Union Digi-Sahaj:** A online account opening platform to open a saving account instantly.
 - **Union SARAS:** A portal named Stressed Asset Recovery Automated Solution, developed for early resolution and effective management of stressed assets having end-to-end processing automation of all recovery and legal proceedings.

