

INTERNATIONAL

Myanmar extends state of emergency by six months
Myanmar's junta (military government) has extended the state of emergency by six months, again delaying fresh polls it has promised to hold as it battles opposition to its coup.

India Elected As Vice Chair of Supply Chain Council Under Indo-Pacific Economic Framework

India has been elected as Vice-Chair of the Supply Chain Council — one of the three bodies set up by the 14-member Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) bloc. IPEF was launched in May 2022 in Tokyo, Japan, comprising 14 countries.

UN Security Council countries express alarm over risk of all-out Middle East war

The United Nations Security Council countries have called for increased diplomatic efforts to prevent a broader Middle East conflict after the killing of Hamas political chief Ismail Haniyeh in the Iranian capital Tehran.

Bangladesh: 90 people killed and many injured in violent clashes

At least 90 people were killed in Bangladesh, and many were injured on August 4, amid worsening clashes between police and anti-government protesters. The unrest comes as student leaders have declared a campaign of civil disobedience to demand that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina step down.

India hosts BIMSTEC Business Summit

India hosted the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation – BIMSTEC Business Summit in New Delhi. External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar inaugurated the three-day Business Summit along with keynote addresses from Commerce and Industries Minister Piyush Goyal and other leaders.

Australia tests advanced SM-6 naval air defence missile for first time

The Australian government had for the first time test-fired a Raytheon SM-6 missile from a Navy ship, a major step in acquiring and integrating the air-defence weapon into its inventory.

India operationalizes mission in Albania

India has opened its resident mission in Albania with effect from August 10 as part of efforts to expand its footprint in the Balkan peninsula. The Indian Mission in Tirana will facilitate people-to-people contacts and also assist the Indian community in Albania.

Venezuela's Opposition calls for worldwide protests for election 'truth'

Venezuela's Opposition called for a worldwide protests on August 17 to show support for its claimed victory in last month's election over President Nicolas Maduro, who was declared the winner.

US approves 20 billion dollars arms sales to Israel

The US has approved a 20 billion dollar arms sale to Israel, including Fighter jets and advanced Air-to-Air Missiles. The sale will include more than 50 F-15 fighter jets, advanced medium-range Air-to-Air Missiles, 120 mm tank ammunition and high explosive mortars and tactical vehicles.

Dengue Cases in Philippines Rise to 136,161 with 364 Deaths

The number of dengue cases in the Philippines have risen to 1,36,161, with 364 deaths. Dengue is endemic in the Philippines. Waterborne infectious diseases, including dengue, usually peak at the start of the rainy season from July to October due to fluctuating weather conditions, flooding, and the accumulation of contaminated water.

WHO declares mpox a global public health emergency.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared mpox a global public health emergency for the second time in two years. The health emergency declaration came after an outbreak of the viral infection in the Democratic Republic of Congo which subsequently spread to the neighbouring countries including Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda.

Sweden confirms first case of mpox outside Africa

Sweden has reported its first mpox case, a day after the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the infection a global public health emergency. With this, Sweden has also become the first country outside the African continent to report the more contagious strain of mpox virus.

India Sends 1,400 kg of Anti-Cancer Drugs to Syria

India has sent humanitarian assistance to Syria. India has despatched anti-cancer drugs to Syria. The consignment of approximately one thousand 400 kilograms will support the Syrian government and its people combat the disease.

Australia and New Zealand Unite on Clean Energy Transition

Australia and New Zealand announced joint economic and energy commitments to support the clean energy transition in the region. New Zealand would join Australia in the Climate Club, an initiative established in 2022 focused on industrial decarbonization and pursuing net zero emissions.

Sudan declares Cholera outbreak, WHO Reports 316 Deaths

Sudan has officially declared a cholera outbreak in the country. The announcement came shortly after the World Health Organization (WHO) said that about 316 people had died of cholera in Sudan.

Gaza war death toll crosses 40,099

The health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said that at least 40,099 people have been killed in the Palestinian territory in more than 10 months of war with Israel.

Nepal to export 1,000 MW electricity to India

Nepal will export close to 1,000 Megawatt of electricity to India, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said this after holding comprehensive talks with his Nepalese counterpart Arzu Rana Deuba.

Nearly 200 people killed in 2 Months in Nepal Due To Rain-Induced Floods And Landslides

Nearly 200 people have died in the past two months due to landslides and floods caused by incessant rain in various parts of Nepal. At least 241 people have been injured in natural disaster-related incidents in the past couple of months.

Ukraine parliament ratifies Rome Statute

Ukraine's parliament voted to ratify the Rome Statute, allowing the country to join the International Criminal Court (ICC). Ukraine has recognised the ICC's jurisdiction in the past, but full membership of the court is a key part of Ukraine's quest to eventually join the European Union.

UAE joins BRICS partners for launch of Centre for Industrial Competences

The UAE Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology joined its BRICS counterparts on the launch of a Centre for Industrial Competences in cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) to support the development of Industrial skills and capabilities.

Russia & Azerbaijan Sign 7 Agreements

Russia and Azerbaijan have signed seven documents during the Russian President Vladimir Putin's two-day visit to Azerbaijan. Both nations had signed a joint statement in baku to further solidify the relationship between the two nations.

India and US enter into Security of Supply Arrangement

India and the United States have entered into a bilateral, non-binding Security of Supply Arrangement (SOSA) that will enable both countries to acquire the industrial resources they need from one another to resolve unanticipated supply chain disruptions to meet national security needs.

PM Modi in Ukraine: India hands over BHISHM cubes to Ukraine

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has signed several documents during the visit to Kyiv. India has handed over 10 BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita & Maitri) cubes, which contain medical support equipment of 22 tonnes along with 10 generator sets.

US approves sale of advanced anti-submarine warfare equipment to India

The United States has approved a possible foreign military sale of anti-submarine warfare sonobuoys and related equipment to India at an estimated cost of 52.8 million US Dollars for the multi-mission MH-60R Seahawk helicopters.

WHO Launches Six-Month Global Plan to Combat Mpox Outbreak

WHO has launched a six-month global strategic and response plan to stop the deadly outbreak of Mpox. Starting from September 2024 to February 2025, and envisions 135 million U.S. dollars in funding, the plan includes strategic vaccination efforts for people at the highest risk of interrupting transmission chains.

Australia & Pacific Leaders Endorse Pacific Policing Initiative

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, along with other Pacific leaders, has endorsed the Pacific Policing Initiative (PPI) aimed at countering China's growing influence in the Indo-Pacific. The Initiative is aimed to enhance the capacity of Pacific nations to address law and order challenges, fulfil internal security needs, and provide mutual support in times of crisis.

X banned in Brazil after disinformation row

X (formerly Twitter), has been banned in Brazil after failing to meet a deadline set by a Supreme Court judge to name a new legal representative in the country.

India Signs Founding Documents for Colombo Security Conclave

National Security Adviser to the Prime Minister of India, Ajit Doval has participated in the signing of the Founding Documents of the Colombo Security Conclave. The signing event marked a significant step in regional security collaboration among India, Maldives, Mauritius, and Sri Lanka.

Pakistan's formal invitation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attend (SCO) meeting.

Pakistan formally invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting, scheduled, for October this year in Islamabad.

India, Malaysia upgrade strategic partnership

India and Malaysia decided to upgrade ties to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership', during talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim. A number of agreements and MoUs signed in their presence, including on workers' mobility, digital technology, culture, tourism, sports, and education.

India, Japan hold '2+2' dialogue with focus on Indo-Pacific

Minister of Defence of India, Rajnath Singh, Minister of External Affairs of India, Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Ms. KAMIKAWA Yoko and Minister of Defense of Japan, Mr. KIHARA Minoru, held the third India-Japan 2+2 Foreign and Defence Ministerial Meeting in New Delhi.

Kerala's Wayanad Landslide Toll Nears 300

The massive landslides which struck Wayanad have claimed the lives of at least 291 people. Additionally, approximately 300 people are still missing.

India & Vietnam sign nine agreements

India and Vietnam have signed nine agreements to deepen comprehensive strategic partnership and enhance cooperation in the fields of customs, agriculture, legal, radio and television broadcast, culture, and tourism.

Tarang Shakti: IAF's largest multilateral exercise

India will host its first multinational air exercise, 'Tarang Shakti 2024', in two phases starting on the 6th of next month in Sular, Tamil Nadu. In this exercise, nearly 30 countries will participate.

Parimal Nathwani's Book 'Call of the Gir' on Asiatic Lions & Conservation Efforts

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appreciated the book "Call of the Gir" written by Rajya Sabha Member Parimal Nathwani. The book is based on Gir's landscapes, which are known for the Asiatic lions.

Piyush Goyal Launches 'India@100' by Prof. K V Subramanian

Union Minister Piyush Goyal has launched the book titled 'India@100: Envisioning Tomorrow's Economic Powerhouse' authored by Prof. K V Subramanian in New Delhi. The book talks about how India could achieve a \$55 trillion economy in 2047.

India Selects 2 Astronauts For International Space Station Mission Under Axiom-4

Indian astronaut-designates Shubhanshu Shukla and Prashanth Nair will begin training for the flight to the International Space Station through Axiom-4 mission.

Cabinet approves eight high-speed road corridors at a cost of ₹50,000 crore

The Union Cabinet has approved eight national high-speed road corridor projects totalling 936 km at a cost of ₹50,000 crore, which includes a 4-lane ring road for Ayodhya for pilgrims visiting the Ram Mandir and a bypass for Guwahati that will connect various cities in the north-eastern region.

Centre Reveals 345 Antiquities Repatriated from Abroad Since 2014

The Union Government has informed that a total of 345 antiquities have been repatriated from different countries since 2014. The highest, a total of 283 antiquities have been brought back from the United States of America.

New Fast Track Immigration Program Launched at Delhi Airport

The Ministry of Civil Aviation and Home Affairs has launched a Fast Track Immigration Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP) at Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi to facilitate international mobility with faster, smoother and more secure immigration clearance.

Over 50 Lakh Unorganised Sector Workers Enrolled in PM-SYM Scheme

The Ministry of Labour and Employment has informed that by the end of last month, more than 50 lakh workers from the unorganised sector had enrolled for the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) Scheme.

Indian Air Force Gives Clearance For Production Of 200 Astra Mark 1 Missiles

The Indian Air Force has given clearance to Bharat Dynamics Limited for the production of 200 Astra Mark 1 air-to-air missiles. The Astra Mark1 missiles have been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation with BDL as its production agency.

700 MW nuclear power KAPS-4 plant starts operations at full capacity

India's Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) has announced that unit 4 of the Kakrapar Atomic Power Station (KAPS) has achieved full operation at 700 megawatts (MW). This marks the second domestically built nuclear reactor in India to reach its full capacity.

India's first large-scale green hydrogen production commenced in Tamil Nadu

India's first large-scale green hydrogen production has commenced in Tamil Nadu's Tuticorin district, backed by Singapore's Sembcorp Industries' ₹36,238 crore investment. The plant will initially produce 200,000 metric tonne per annum of green ammonia for exporting to Japan.

India and New Zealand sign customs co-operation arrangement

New Zealand has signed a customs cooperation arrangement with India in a bid to bolster trade between the two countries. New Zealand also ratified the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

Indian Army conducts 'Parvat Prahaar' exercise

The Indian Army has conducted a strategic military exercise named 'Parvat Prahaar', in Ladakh, focusing on high-altitude warfare and operations.

Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign celebrated from August 9-15

The Har Ghar Tiranga campaign was celebrated across the country from the 9th to the 15th of August to bolster a sense of patriotism among citizens.

Centre introduces Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024 in Lok Sabha

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024 was introduced in the Lok Sabha. The bill seeks to address issues related to the powers and functioning of the State Waqf Boards as well as registration and survey of Waqf properties.

Union Cabinet approves PMAY-U 2.0 scheme

The Union Cabinet has approved Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) 2.0 scheme. The Cabinet also gave its nod to the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) during Financial Year 2024-25 to 2028-29. Three crore new houses will be constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, of them two crore houses will be built in rural areas while one crore will be constructed in urban areas.

DRDO has developed lightest bulletproof jacket of level 6

DRDO has developed the Bullet Proof Jacket consisting of the lightest Front Hard Armour Panel. It is the lightest bulletproof jacket of level 6 with an approximate weight of over 10 kilograms for medium size, which enhances the wearability and comfort during the operation.

Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill 2024 Introduced in Lok Sabha

The Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill 2024 was introduced in the Lok Sabha by Union Minister of State for Finance, Pankaj Choudhary. This bill seeks to amend several significant banking laws to modernize and enhance the regulatory framework of the banking sector.

MEA, NSIL sign MoU for grant assistance for the launch of Munal satellite

An MoU was signed between the Ministry of External Affairs and NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) for grant assistance for the launch of Nepal's Munal satellite. Munal Satellite is an indigenous satellite developed in Nepal, under the aegis of NAST.

Centre constitutes a committee to Monitor Bangladesh Border Situation

The Central Government has constituted a committee to monitor the current situation on the Indo-Bangladesh border. The committee will maintain communication channels with their counterpart authorities in Bangladesh to ensure the safety of Indian nationals and people belonging to minority communities in Bangladesh.

PM Modi releases 109 climate-resilient seed varieties to boost farm yield, nutrition

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released 109 high-yielding, climate-resilient, and biofortified seed varieties of agricultural and horticultural crops, aiming to enhance farm productivity and farmers' income. Developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), these varieties span 61 crops, including 34 field crops and 27 horticultural crops.

Chhattisgarh to develop fourth tiger reserve in State

The Chhattisgarh government has announced that it would establish a new tiger reserve, making it the fourth such reserve in the forest-rich State. It decided to establish the Guru Ghasidas-Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve integrating the regions of Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Sanctuary.

Government to include AYUSH in Ayushman Bharat scheme

The Union Government is working on the inclusion of an AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) package under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

Odisha launches India's first 'rice ATM'

The Odisha government has launched India's first round-the-clock grain ATM, also known as the 'rice ATM,' to revolutionize the Public Distribution System (PDS) for ration cardholders.

IIT Madras excelled in the NIRF 2024 rankings

IIT-Madras was rated as the top-most higher education institution overall for the sixth consecutive year in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2024. The institute has been ranked on top in the 'engineering' category for the ninth year in a row.

Anna University, Chennai, topped the State Public Universities category, while Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) led the Open Universities ranking.

BRO reconstructed Sikkim's Indrani Bridge connecting northern region of state to rest of the country

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has successfully reconstructed the Indrani Bridge in Sikkim, reconnecting the northern region of the state to the rest of India after it was severely damaged by flash floods in October 2023.

India developing 'Swadeshi' Kamikaze Drones

The National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) is developing its potent swadeshi (indigenous) Kamikaze Drones (also known as loitering munitions), do-and-die unmanned aerial vehicles with home-built engines that can power them to fly up to 1,000 kilometres.

India & US Sign MoU to Promote Cooperation on Small & Medium Enterprises

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, MSME has signed a Memorandum of Understanding, MoU with the Small Business Administration (SBA) of the Government of the United States of America to promote Cooperation on Small and Medium-size Enterprises (SMEs).

DRDO carries out maiden test of Long Range Glide Bomb 'GAURAV' from Su-30 MK-I

The DRDO has carried out a successful maiden flight test of Long Range Glide Bomb (LRGB), GAURAV from the Su-30 MK-I platform of the Indian Air Force. The test was conducted off the coast of Odisha.

Three New Ramsar sites notified

Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Minister Bhupendra Yadav has said India has added three more Ramsar sites to the network, taking their number to 85. Nanjarayan Bird Sanctuary and Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu and Tawa Reservoir of Madhya Pradesh have been added to the list of India's Ramsar sites.

Government launches AI-based surveillance system to manage pests

Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shivraj Singh Chauhan launched the AI-based National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS) that will help farmers to connect with agriculture scientists and experts on controlling pests using their phone.

Odisha announces 1-day menstrual leave for government, private employees

Odisha government announced a one-day menstrual leave policy for women in all jobs. The one-day menstrual leave policy will be effective immediately for women employees eligible to take leave from work on the first or second day of their menstrual cycle.

ISRO successfully launches Earth Observation Satellite EOS-08 from Sriharikota

India's new rocket Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV-D3) lifted off with an earth observation satellite-08 (EOS-08) weighing 175.5 kg. ISRO has developed SSLV with a carrying capacity of 500 kg to the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) based on the market trend of going in for smaller satellites.

Prasar Bharati and Sansad TV Sign MoU for Enhanced Collaboration

Public broadcaster Prasar Bharati signed a MoU with Sansad Television. The MoU will facilitate resource sharing, training of personnel, and cross-channel promotion of each other's programs.

EC announced schedule for Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar has announced the poll schedule for the assembly elections in J&K and Haryana. The first Jammu and Kashmir Assembly election in a decade will be held in three phases on September 18, 25 and October 1, while Haryana will go to the polls in a single phase on the 1st of October.

India hosts 3rd Voice of Global South Summit

India hosted the 3rd Voice of Global South Summit in a virtual format. The theme of the Summit is – An Empowered Global South for a Sustainable Future.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurates Regional Marine Pollution Response Centre

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the Regional Marine Pollution Response Centre at ICG Regional headquarters in Chennai. The Regional Marine Response Centre will facilitate coordination among countries within a region, ensuring a unified approach to oil spill response.

Tarun Chugh's book, "Modi's Governance Triumph: Reshaping India's Path to Prosperity" unveiled
BJP General Secretary Tarun Chugh's book titled "Modi's Governance Triumph: Reshaping India's Path to Prosperity" was released in New Delhi. The book offers an in-depth exploration of the visionary initiatives, and reforms that guided the Antyodaya mission of the Modi administration.

Centre gives nod to enhance security deployment at all Central govt hospitals by 25 per cent

The Central government has allowed enhancement of security deployment by 25 per cent at all Central government hospitals. Apart from the standard security protocol, the deployment of marshals would also be approved based on individual demands by government hospitals.

Indian, Sri Lankan canines train in Exercise Mitra Shakti

The armies of India and Sri Lanka have deployed canines — "K9s" in military parlance in the bilateral exercise Mitra Shakti underway in the island nation. The Indian Army has deployed Zac, a Belgian Malinois, while Sri Lanka has fielded two canines.

In a first, Indian Railways to develop master clock system

In a first, the Indian Railways will develop a master clock system for synchronising time with the applications and systems across its network, with plans to demonstrate a prototype by Gandhi Jayanti this year.

Centre asks UPSC to cancel lateral entry advertisement

The Central government has asked the UPSC to withdraw the latest advertisement for lateral entry in bureaucracy, amid a row over reservation in the advertised posts.

India & Sri Lanka Sign MoU for LNG Infrastructure Development

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Indian company 'Petronet LNG limited' and a Sri Lanka based private company Sri Lanka's LTL Holdings (LTL) for infrastructure development and supply of Liquefied Natural Gas in Colombo.

SC sets up National Task Force to ensure safety of medical professionals

The Supreme Court of India has set up a national task force to ensure the safety of medical professionals. A bench led by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, while hearing the case regarding the rape and murder of a doctor at a Kolkata hospital, directed the task force to submit its interim report within three weeks and the final report within two months.

Power Minister Launches Three Online Platforms to Boost Power Sector Efficiency & Transparency

Union Minister of Power Manohar Lal Khattar has launched three online platforms to enhance the efficiency, transparency, and effectiveness of power sector. The portals are named as Portal for Online Monitoring of Projects – Thermal (PROMPT), Disaster Resilient Infrastructure for Power Sector (DRIPS) and JAL VIDYUT DPR.

Centre launches campaign to reach over 44 lakh PVTG members, deliver benefits under PM-JANMAN

The Central government has launched a nationwide campaign to inform and deliver benefits to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in 194 districts under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyaan (PM-JANMAN). This campaign will run until September 10.

Centre announces Unified Pension Scheme for its employees

The Union Cabinet approved the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS). The salient features of the UPS are:

1. Assured pension: 50% of the average basic pay drawn over the last 12 months prior to superannuation for a minimum qualifying service of 25 years.
2. Assured family pension: @60% of pension of the employee immediately after her/his demise.
3. Assured minimum pension: @10,000 per month on superannuation after minimum 10 years of service.

First Reusable Hybrid Rocket of India RHUMI-1 launched

India's first reusable hybrid rocket Rhumi-1 was launched from Chennai by Space Zone India in collaboration with Martin Group.

Cabinet approves Bio E3 Policy

The Central Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Bio E3-Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment policy to foster high-performance biomanufacturing.

Centre to host World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in Goa

The Central government is gearing up to host the inaugural World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES), aiming to bolster India's Media and Entertainment industry and extend its global influence. The Summit will be held in Goa from 20th of November to 25th of November this year.

PM Modi Distributes Certificates to 11 Lakh New 'Lakshpati Didis'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi distributed certificates to 11 lakh new Lakshpati Didis in a function organised at Jalgaon in Maharashtra. These Lakshpati didis whose number is more than one crore in the country, are earning more than one lakh rupees per year.

Centre Issues Comprehensive Guidelines for Public Grievance Redressal

The Central government has issued Comprehensive Guidelines for Handling Public Grievances to make grievance redressal time-bound, accessible and meaningful. The citizens can register their grievances on www.pgportal.gov, which will operate as a single window experience.

Department of Posts and NRSC Sign New Partnership to Revolutionize India's Addressing System

The Department of Posts (DoP) has signed a pivotal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to establish a standardized, geo-coded addressing system in India.

Indian Army unveils Xploder and Agniastra

The Indian Army has introduced two innovative technologies—Xploder and Agniastra—developed by the Army Design Bureau. The Xploder is a state-of-the-art Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) designed to perform a variety of combat roles. The Agniastra is a Multi Target Portable Detonation System that enhances the Army's ability to conduct remote detonation across multiple targets.

Centre announces creation of 5 new districts in Ladakh

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has announced the creation of five new districts in the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh. The newly created districts are Zaskar, Drass, Sham, Nubra, and Changthang. At present, Ladakh has two districts; Leh and Kargil.

Single-strain Oral Cholera vaccine launched in Hyderabad

A novel single-strain Oral Cholera Vaccine (OCV) has been launched by the Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) in Hyderabad. The vaccine named, HILLCHOL® was developed under license from Hilleman Laboratories, and is funded by Merck, USA and Wellcome Trust, UK.

India develops indigenous RT-PCR testing kit for Mpox

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) has approved Siemens Healthineer's IMDX Mpox Detection RT-PCR test for the viral disease. The test delivers result in just 40 minutes, significantly faster than traditional methods which takes 1-2 hours.

INS Arighat, India's second nuclear submarine commissioned on August 29

The Indian Navy has commissioned its second nuclear submarine INS Arighat on August 29, 2024. Armed with K-15 missiles - that are nuclear-tipped and have a range of 750 kilometres - the 6,000-tonne submarine became 'fully ready' earlier in August, following extensive trials and upgrades.

India, Russia sign working plan to handle emergencies

India and Russia have signed the working plan of the Joint Russian-Indian Commission on the Cooperation in the Field of Emergency Management for 2025-2026.

Indian Medical Scientists Develop Smart Sensor for Adjusting Parkinson's Drug Dosage

Indian medical scientists at the Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST) have developed a new smart sensor for adjusting drug dosage to manage Parkinson's disease. The sensor is a Smartphone-based fluorescence turn-on system which is affordable and user-friendly.

Centre to provide ₹4,136 crore for 15 GW hydropower projects in the Northeast

The Union Cabinet had approved equity support of ₹4,136 crore to northeast states for developing hydropower projects, totalling 15,000 MW capacity over the next eight years.

Ministry of Defence signs repeat order for 73,000 SIG716 assault rifles

The Ministry of Defence has signed a repeat order for 73,000 SIG716 rifles from Sig Sauer of the U.S. and deliveries are expected to be completed by end-2025. The contract was signed in June 2024 and delivery is within 18 months of contract.

Union Cabinet approves rolling out of private FM Radio in 234 new cities and towns

As part of the initiative to expand the reach of private FM Radio channels, the Union Cabinet has approved a proposal for e-auctions to set up 730 channels in 234 new cities across the country with an estimated reserve price of ₹784.87 crore.

Centre redesigns Agricultural Infrastructure Fund to cover FPOs

The Union Cabinet has expanded the scope of the Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF). The scheme, worth ₹1 lakh crore, would be redesigned to include financial support for Farmers' Producers Organisations (FPOs) to enhance their financial security and creditworthiness.

SHe-Box portal for Women Launched.

The Centre has initiated the SHe-Box portal to make workplaces safer for women. Women and Child Development Minister Annpurna Devi inaugurated the portal in New Delhi. SHe-Box portal is a centralized platform for registering and monitoring complaints of sexual harassment of women in the workplace.

ISRO successfully demonstrates satellite tech to study ocean, and soil parameters

Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO has successfully demonstrated a technique to capture data on soil moisture, surface inundation, and ocean surface wind and wave measurements, using a satellite-based sensor that is 475 km above the earth. This novel method is known as Global Navigation Satellite Systems, GNSS-Reflectometry (GNSS-R).

"Heroes of the Indian Air Force" First Comic Book of the Indian Air Force Launched

Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, Chief of the Air Staff, has launched the first comic book in the new series titled "Heroes of the Indian Air Force."

Cyclone Asna forms over Kutch

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has said that Cyclone Asna has formed over the Kutch coast in Gujarat and adjoining areas of Pakistan. The cyclonic storm which is a rare land-originating one in August.

Aravalli engine from SAFHAL to power next-gen helicopters of HAL

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and SAFHAL Helicopter Engines Private Limited (SAFHAL) have signed an airframer contract to commence joint design, development, manufacture, supply and support of a new

generation high power engine, named Aravalli, for the 13-ton Medium Lift class, Indian Multi-Role Helicopter (IMRH) and the Deck-Based Multi-Role Helicopter (DBMRH).

Chennai to host 5th edition of India International EV show 2024

The fifth edition of India International EV Show 2024 (IIEV) will take place at the Chennai Trade Centre for three days from September 6, in which the participants will showcase the latest advancements in electric vehicles, battery technologies, and charging infrastructure.

BANKING & ECONOMY

Rural and co-operative banks in India hit by ransomware attack

National Payments Corp. of India (NPCI) has said that several co-operative banks and regional rural banks (RRBs) have faced an interruption in retail payments, following a ransomware attack on associate technology service provider C-Edge Technologies Ltd which caters mostly to co-operative and regional rural banks.

India: Flipkart Partners with MSDE to Upskill and Train Youth

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) signed a MoU with Flipkart's Supply Chain Operations Academy (SCOA) to upskill thousands of young individuals across India, preparing them for careers in e-commerce and supply chain management.

Core Industries Record 4% Growth in June

The eight core industries including sectors such as coal, cement, steel, and electricity posted a 4 percent growth in June this year compared to the same month of the previous year.

US Federal Reserve keeps interest rates unchanged at 5.25% to 5.5%

The US Federal Reserve will keep its benchmark interest rate unchanged at 5.25% to 5.5%, as inflation continues to cool, hinting that a rate cut might come as soon as September.

India becomes largest market for Meta AI usage

Meta Founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg has said that India is now their largest market for artificial intelligence, AI, usage.

ADB Funds Solid Waste Management in 100 Indian Cities

The Asian Development Bank and the Government of India recently signed a USD 200 million (about ₹1,700 crore) loan to improve solid waste management and sanitation in 100 cities across eight states in the country.

UPI based transactions surge to ₹20.64 lakh crore in July

As per the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) data, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-based transactions surged in the month of July, reaching 20.64 lakh crore rupees.

Rapido enters unicorn club

Bike taxi service startup Rapido has turned unicorn with a \$120 million Series E funding round led by its largest backer WestBridge Capital which has pumped in money through three different investment vehicles.

SBI Q1 net rises up to ₹17,035 cr

SBI reported net profit at ₹17,035 crore for the first quarter of the current financial year. During the quarter, the bank earned an interest income of ₹1,11,526 crore compared to ₹95,975 crore in the year-ago period.

FPIs invest 54,727 crore rupees in equity & debt in July, 2024

Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) have invested 54,727 crore rupees in equity and debt in the month of July, 2024. FPIs allocated 32,364 crore rupees to equity and 22,363 crore rupees to debt during the same period.

Inderjit Camotra re-appointed as MD and CEO of Unity Small Finance Bank

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the reappointment of Inderjit Camotra as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Unity Small Finance Bank for two years.

Banks to identify MSME stress before turning their accounts to NPA

The Supreme Court of India has held that banks or creditors are required to identify the incipient stress in the account of the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), before their accounts turn into non-performing assets.

OpenAI co-founder John Schulman quits ChatGPT-maker to join Anthropic

OpenAI co-founder John Schulman has announced that he is leaving the ChatGPT-maker in order to join the Google and Amazon-backed "Anthropic", where he plans to focus on AI alignment.

India's Electronics exports are among top 3

India's progress in electronics exports have now reached the third spot among the country's top exports as observed in the April-June quarter (Q1) of 2024-25 (FY25). During Q1 FY25, mobile exports accounted for 57 per cent of the total exports, valued at \$4.8 billion. Within this, iPhone exports reached \$3.5 billion in Q1.

IIT-M partners with IDBI to set up cybersecurity lab to assist key sectors

IIT Madras has partnered with IDBI Bank for launching a cybersecurity lab to develop and deploy security solutions in crucial sectors such as healthcare, fintech and aerospace, among others.

UPI transactions jump 36% to ₹60 lakh crore in June quarter

UPI transactions in the first three months of the current fiscal have grown over 36% to ₹60 lakh crore, Parliament was informed.

Centre approves appointments of new Chairman, Managing Director of SBI

The central government has approved the appointment of Challa Sreenivasulu Setty as the new Chairman and Rana Ashutosh Kumar Singh as Managing Director of the State Bank of India (SBI) as the current Chairman, Dinesh Kumar Khara, is set to retire on August 28.

Gold industry announces formation of self-regulatory body

The Indian gold industry has announced the formation of the Indian Association for Gold Excellence and Standards (IAGES), a self-regulatory organisation (SRO) which will be supported by the World Gold Council (WGC).

Reliance Industries climbs to 86th in Fortune Global 500 List for 2024

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has jumped two places to secure the 86th position in Fortune's Global 500 list for 2024, maintaining its top rank among Indian corporates. India has a total of nine companies featured in this year's list. Walmart remains No. 1 for the 11th consecutive year, while Amazon reaches a new high and claims the No. 2 spot (up from No. 4 last year).

India-Australia RISE Accelerator calls for Start-ups and MSMEs in Climate Smart Agritech

The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), in collaboration with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) of Australia, is calling for applications from start-ups and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in both India and Australia to join the Climate Smart Agritech cohort of the India-Australia Rapid Innovation and Start-up Expansion (RISE) Accelerator.

RBI to set up public repository of digital lending apps to check unauthorised players

In a bid to address the problems arising from unauthorised digital lending apps (DLAs), the RBI proposes to create a public repository of DLAs deployed by its regulated entities. The RBI proposed to introduce a facility of "Delegated Payments" in UPI to enable an individual to allow another individual to make UPI transactions.

Centre aims to take IT industry to tier-2 and tier-3 cities of country

The Union government is planning to take the IT industry to tier-2 and tier-3 cities of the country to ensure that every citizen gets the benefit of the IT revolution.

Lok Sabha passes Finance Bill 2024

Lok Sabha passed the Finance Bill, 2024. The Bill gives effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2024-2025. With the passage of the Bill, the budgetary exercise is now complete.

RBI keeps repo rate unchanged at 6.5%

RBI has decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 6.50% for the ninth consecutive time. The standing deposit facility rate remains at 6.25%, while the marginal standing facility rate and the bank rate stand at 6.75%. India's inflation forecast for this fiscal year (FY25) unchanged at 4.5 per cent. It forecasted Indian economy to grow at 7.2 per cent in FY25.

Top 10 richest global central banks in 2024: SWFI

As per recent data by the Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute, the Federal Reserve System of the USA ranks as the world's richest central bank, with assets worth \$7.84 trillion. India's Reserve Bank of India ranks 12th around the world.

RBI announces Continuous Clearing of Cheques under CTS

For expeditious clearance of cheques, the RBI has announced measures on Continuous Clearing of Cheques under Cheque Truncation System (CTS). Once implemented cheques would be cleared within hours of submission instead of two days taken currently.

DBS Bank CEO Piyush Gupta to step down in Mar 2025

Piyush Gupta, the Indian origin Chief Executive of Singapore's largest bank DBS Group, will step down in March 2025. He will be succeeded by Tan Su Shan, who was appointed as deputy CEO, in addition to her current role as the group head of institutional banking.

Pine Labs-owned Setu partners Axis Bank for UPI-focused payments platform

Pine Labs-owned Setu in partnership with Axis Bank has introduced a Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-focused payments platform UPISetu, for businesses and developers.

India's defence exports soar by 78 percent in first quarter of 2024-25

India's defence exports soared by 78 percent in the first quarter of 2024-25 as compared to the same period last fiscal year. Defence exports increased to rupees 6,915 crores in the first quarter of 2024-25, compared to ₹3,865 crore in the same quarter of the previous year.

India to introduce UPI payment service in Maldives

India and Maldives have signed an agreement to introduce the Unified Payments Interface in the archipelago nation, which will have a very positive impact on its tourism sector.

Gujarat CM launches IACC's Centre of Excellence for MSME

Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel has inaugurated Indo-American Chamber of Commerce's (IACC) Centre of Excellence for MSME in Ahmedabad. The Centre, the first ever by IACC in India, aims to upgrade and strengthen Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to effectively cater to the export markets.

Praveena Rai gets SEBI nod for appointment as MD & CEO of MCX

SEBI has given its approval on the appointment of Praveena Rai as MD & CEO of Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX).

Inflation eases to five-year low of 3.54% in July

Inflation in India's consumer prices eased to a nearly five-year low of 3.54% in July, with food price rise moderating to 5.4% from a six-month high of 9.4% in June.

Industrial output growth slumps to five-month low of 4.2% in June

India's industrial output growth slumped to a five-month low of 4.2% in June, with manufacturing output growth dropping to a seven-month low of 2.6%.

RBI directs NBFCs to return full cash deposit within first 3 months in case of emergency

The Reserve Bank has directed non-banking financial companies – NBFCs to return 100 percent of deposit amount within the first three months, if the depositor seeks the withdrawal citing an emergency like medical expenses or natural calamity.

Wholesale price inflation drops to 2.04% in July

Inflation in India's wholesale prices dropped from a 16-month high of 3.4% in June, to 2.04% in July, with the rise in food prices cooling to 3.55% from 8.7% a month earlier.

Gross Direct Tax Collections Surge 23.99% to ₹8.13 Lakh Crore

India's Gross direct tax collections from April 1 to August 11 have increased by 23.99 percent over the same period of the previous year, reaching 8.13 lakh crore rupees. The Income Tax Department said that collections were 6.55 lakh crore rupees during the same period last year.

Starbucks announces Brian Niccol as new CEO

Starbucks has announced the replacement of chairman and CEO Laxman Narasimhan with Brian Niccol, the current head of Chipotle Mexican Grill. Starbucks said that Niccol will officially assume his new position on September 9.

Supreme Court verdict on pending tax dues on mineral rights.

The Supreme Court clarified that states can recover past tax dues on mineral rights, but not for the period before April 1, 2005.

Bank of Baroda Inaugurates a Phygital Branch in Hyderabad

Bank of Baroda inaugurated a phygital branch at Chanda Nagar in Hyderabad.

The phygital branch will redefine the customer experience by seamlessly integrating self-service and assisted service models to meet the diverse requirements of customers.

RBI approves Sukumaran Nair as TMB CEO

Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of former SBI Deputy Managing Director Salee Sukumaran Nair for a three-year term after S Krishnan's resignation.

FDI in food processing sector down 30% to ₹5,037 cr in 2023-24

Foreign direct investment (FDI) in India's food processing sector declined 30 per cent in the last fiscal to ₹5,037.06 crore. The FDI in the food processing sector stood at ₹7,194.13 crore in 2022-23.

Centre invites bids to empanel AI infra providers under ₹10,372 crore India AI mission

The Centre has invited bids for the empanelment of entities for providing Artificial Intelligence (AI) services on cloud under the ₹10,372-crore India AI mission, which was approved by the Cabinet in March this year.

Wings EV to unveil 'India's first electric micro-car' in 2025
Indore-based Wings EV is set to introduce a new category to the Indian automobile market with the launch of its 'electric microcar' named Robin, a two-seater electric vehicle.

SBI hikes lending rate by 10 bps across tenors, raising EMI for borrowers

State Bank of India has raised the Marginal Cost of Funds-based Lending Rate (MCLR) by 10 basis points (0.1 percentage point), across tenors. The benchmark one-year tenor MCLR, which is used to price most consumer loans such as auto and personal, is now pegged higher at 8.95% against the earlier rate of 8.85%.

Finance Ministry eases forex norms to boost cross-border M&As

The Finance Ministry has amended Foreign Exchange Management (Non-debt Instruments) Rules, 2019 attempting to simplify regulations for Foreign Direct Investment and Overseas Investment. The amendments allow cross-border share swaps and provide for the issue or transfer of Indian company equity instruments in exchange for foreign firms' equity instruments.

RBI issues framework for recognition of SROs in financial markets

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a framework for recognition of Self-Regulatory Organisations (SROs) in financial markets towards strengthening compliance culture among the SRO members and also providing a consultative platform for policy making.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das ranked as top central banker for 2nd straight year

The Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das has been ranked as the top central banker globally for the second consecutive year by US-based Global Finance magazine. Denmark's Christian Kettel Thomsen, India's Shaktikanta Das and Switzerland's Thomas Jordan have been ranked under the 'A+' category of central bankers.

Razorpay featured on 'Forbes Cloud 100 2024'

Payments gateway platform Razorpay has now been included in the 2024 Forbes Cloud 100 list, marking the company's third consecutive appearance on the Forbes list of the top 100 cloud-computing private companies in the world. Razorpay has been ranked 70th on the Forbes Cloud 100 list of companies.

BEML signs MoU with Indian Navy to develop advanced marine applications for Defence

BEML Ltd. has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Directorate of Marine Engineering, Indian Navy, for indigenous design, development, manufacture, testing, and product support of critical marine equipment and systems.

RBL Bank introduces 'Vijay Fixed Deposits'

Private lender RBL Bank has launched a special fixed deposit termed as 'Vijay Fixed Deposits' on the eve of Independence Day. Vijay Deposit, a special fixed deposit that offers a higher interest rate of 8.6% per annum for a 500-day tenor.

7.3 Crore Internet Subscribers & 7.7 Crore Broadband Users Added in 2023-2024

According to the Annual Report of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, TRAI, 7.3 crore internet subscribers and 7.7 crore broadband subscribers have been added in the financial year 2023-2024.

RBI Launches Nationwide RBI90Quiz for Undergraduates

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the launch of the RBI90Quiz for college students at the undergraduate level. The quiz is a nationwide competition being held as part of the events to commemorate 90 years of RBI's functioning.

World Bank issues World's First Carbon Removal Bond to Fund Amazon Reforestation

The World Bank has issued a \$225m (€202m), principal-protected nine-year bond linked to reforestation in the Amazon. The 2033 bond offers investors a return linked to the creation of carbon removal units (CRU) from reforestation initiatives in Brazil's Amazon rainforest, and is the largest outcome bond the bank has ever priced.

NPCI launches 'UPI Circle' for secure delegated payments

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has introduced a new feature called 'UPI Circle' on its Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform. This feature allows primary UPI account holders to securely delegate payment responsibilities to trusted secondary users.

Decathlon to invest €100 million in India

French based global multi-specialist sports brand Decathlon, has announced to invest €100 million in India over the next five years.

India's private corporate investment is estimated to surge by 54 per cent: RBI

An RBI study has found that India's private corporate investment is estimated to surge by 54 percent to 2,45,212 crore rupees in 2024-25 from 1,59,221 crore rupees last year.

IndusInd Bank gets RBI nod for undertaking mutual funds business

The Reserve Bank of India has accorded approval to IndusInd Bank to set up unit to undertake asset management business of mutual fund.

Rajesh Nambiar appointed as Nasscom President designate

Rajesh Nambiar has stepped down as Cognizant Technology Solutions Corp's India chairman and managing director to become president of information technology (IT) industry body National Association of Software and Service Companies (Nasscom). Nambiar, who joined Cognizant in November 2020, is also currently Nasscom's chairman, a role he took on in April 2023.

Cognizant appoints Rajesh Varrier as head of global ops, CMD India

Cognizant has announced the appointment of Rajesh Varrier as Global Head of Operations, effective September 2, 2024. Additionally, he will be appointed as Chairman & Managing Director, India, assuming the role October 1, 2024.

Paytm to sell entertainment ticketing biz to Zomato for ₹2,048 crore

One 97 Communications Limited, which owns the Paytm brand will sell entertainment ticketing business to Zomato for ₹2,048 crore.

Nestle CEO Mark Schneider to step down

Nestle Chief Executive Mark Schneider is leaving the Swiss food group after eight years in charge and will be replaced by Latin America boss Laurent Freixe.

India surpasses China to become Russia's top oil buyer in July

India overtook China as the world's biggest importer of Russian oil in July. Russian crude made up a record 44% of India's overall imports last month, rising to a record 2.07 million barrels per day (bpd), 4.2% higher than in June and 12% more than a year ago.

SEBI bans Anil Ambani from capital market

SEBI has restrained Reliance ADA Group chairman Anil Ambani from accessing the securities market and prohibited him from buying, selling securities for a period of 5 years for his alleged involvement in diversion of funds from Reliance Home Finance Ltd (RHFL) which was promoted by Group company Reliance Capital Ltd (RCL).

Amul leads as strongest food brand with AAA+ rating in 2024

Amul India for the second time in a row has been identified as the world's strongest food brand in the report, with an impressive Brand Strength Index (BSI) score of 91 out of 100, ranking 22nd and achieving an AAA+ rating globally. Nestlé remains the world's most valuable food brand at \$20.8bn while Lay's rises to second place, valued at \$12bn.

NASSCOM to help Malaysia in digital push

India's IT body Nasscom has signed two pivotal MoUs with the National Tech Association of Malaysia (PIKOM) and Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC).

RBI clears e-mandate for auto-replenishment of FASTag, NCMC

RBI has announced an update to its e-mandate framework by extending its scope to include auto replenishment of balance for FASTag and National Common Mobility Card (NCMC), which are recurring in nature but without any fixed periodicity.

India shipped 3.39 mn PCs in Q2 of CY24: IDC

According to the International Data Corporation (IDC), India shipped 3.39 million units of personal computers, including desktops, notebooks, and workstations, in the second quarter of calendar year 2024, registering a 7.1% YoY increase.

Axis Bank launches neo for merchants

Axis Bank announced the launch of neo app for merchants in partnership with VISA and Mintoak. It marks a significant milestone in Axis Bank's commitment to empower businesses with cutting-edge banking solutions.

Tata Power Solar Systems, ICICI Bank partner to finance solar units

Tata Power Solar Systems Ltd (TPSSL) has signed an agreement with ICICI Bank to provide financing for solar units to residential and corporate customers.

Central Government reduces drawback rates on exports of gold, silver jewellery

The Centre has reduced the drawback rates on exports of gold and silver jewellery by more than half to adjust for the significant cut in import duties on these precious metals in the Budget.

GAIL, Petron sign MoU to explore setting up of a bio-ethylene plant in India

Government-run GAIL has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with US-based Petron Scientech to explore a joint venture for setting up a 500 Kilo Tonne per Annum (KTA) bio-ethylene plant in India.

Zydu Lifesciences to acquire 50% stake in Sterling Biotech from Perfect Day

Zydu Lifesciences Ltd through its wholly owned subsidiary has signed an agreement to acquire a 50 per cent stake in Sterling Biotech Ltd (SBL) from Perfect Day Inc., a Temasek portfolio company.

Textile exports to reach \$65 billion by FY-26 and \$350 billion by 2030: Invest India

According to Invest India, India's total textile exports are projected to reach \$65 billion by FY26, with the domestic market projected to grow to USD 350 billion by 2030.

RBI Governor addresses Global Conference on DPI and Emerging Technologies

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has addressed the Global Conference on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and Emerging Technologies in Bengaluru, as part of RBI@90 initiative. He noted that the current ecosystem of digital payments offers quick and safe transfers of funds.

Piramal Finance and Central Bank of India announce co-lending partnership

Piramal Finance and Central Bank of India, have announced a strategic partnership to expand their co-lending business.

The collaboration will provide loans to middle and low-income borrowers, focusing on middle and low-income segment borrowers with focus on rural and semi-urban regions.

RBI to launch Unified Lending Interface to provide 'frictionless credit'

The Reserve Bank of India is piloting an application for frictionless credit —Unified Lending Interface (ULI). RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said that a nationwide launch of the Unified Lending Interface (ULI) will happen in due course.

Meta struck geothermal energy deal with Sage Geosystems to power U.S. data centres

Meta has struck a deal to buy up to 150 MW of geothermal power from Sage Geosystems to supply its U.S. data centres, as it races to build out the infrastructure to support its massive investments in energy-hungry artificial intelligence.

Apple names Kevan Parekh as finance chief

Apple has named insider Kevan Parekh as its chief financial officer, replacing Luca Maestri who will transition from the role on Jan. 1, 2025.

CCEA clears 12 industrial parks across 10 States

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs cleared an outlay of ₹28,602 crore to set up 12 industrial parks across 10 States and along six major industrial corridors, in line with an announcement in the Union Budget.

NPCI introduces BBPS for Business, UPI Circle to boost digital payments

The RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das had unveiled two transformative digital payment initiatives at the Global Fintech Festival (GFF) 2024 in Mumbai. Developed by the NPCI, these new offerings are Bharat BillPay (BBPS) for Business and UPI Circle.

Adani Group to invest ₹3,500 cr. in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior-Chambal region

The Adani Group has proposed to invest ₹3,500 crore in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior-Chambal region in the defence sector as well as set up a 2 million-tonne cement grinding unit.

SBI raises ₹7,500 crore via tier 2 bond issuance

State Bank of India (SBI) had raised ₹7,500 crore at a coupon rate of 7.42% through its first Basel III compliant Tier 2 bond issuance for the current financial year.

RBI recognises FACE as Fintech industry SRO

The RBI has selected Fintech Association of Consumer Empowerment (FACE) as the Self Regulatory Organisation (SRO) for the Fintech industry.

De Beers, Tanishq tie up to grow natural diamond jewellery consumption in India

Leading diamond company De Beers Group and jewellery retail brand Tanishq, announced a long-term collaboration to promote the sale and consumption of natural diamonds and grow the Indian market for the precious stone.

C.S. Setty succeeds Khara at SBI's Chairman

Challa Sreenivasulu Setty has assumed charge as Chairman of the country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI). He succeeds Dinesh Khara, who superannuated from services at the closing of business hours on Tuesday.

Centre eyes 3 crore new basic bank accounts this year'

The Central government aims to open more than 3 crore accounts under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) during the current financial year 2024-25, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said. The number of bank accounts under PMJDY has risen nearly four-fold to 53.13 crore as on August 16, 2024 from 14.72 crore in March 2015.

2024 Hurun India Rich List: Gautam Adani is India's wealthiest person

Billionaire Gautam Adani has topped the 2024 Hurun India Rich List, surpassing Mukesh Ambani with a net worth of

₹11.6 lakh crore. Adani's wealth now edges Ambani's ₹10.14 lakh crore, relegating Ambani to the second position. Mr Adani's wealth has surged by 95 per cent in the last one year.

India's core sector growth rises to 6.1% in July

As per data released by the Commerce and Industry Ministry, output from India's eight core sectors grew 6.1% in July, rebounding from a blip in June when growth had slid to a five-month low of 5.1%.

ReNew and Microsoft sign 437.6 MW green energy agreement

ReNew has signed a green attribute contract with Microsoft for 437.6 MW. This major agreement will generate over one million units of green electricity annually, supporting Microsoft's goal of becoming carbon-negative by 2030.

Satish Kumar Vaduguri & Rajneesh Narang appointed interim heads of IOC, HPCL

The Centre has appointed interim chairmen for two of its largest state-run oil companies, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL).

IndiaFirst Life becomes 1st Indian life insurer to start operations in GIFT City

IndiaFirst Life has become the first Indian life insurer to start operations in Gujarat International Finance Tec City (GIFT City). IndiaFirst Life's IIO will have a dedicated team involving specialists who will cater to the needs of GIFT City's global audience.

Fitch reaffirms India's sovereign debt rating at 'BBB-' with stable outlook

Global rating agency Fitch Ratings has reaffirmed India's sovereign debt rating at 'BBB-' with a stable outlook. In its report, Fitch has attributed to the country's robust medium-term growth prospects and solid external finance position.

Singapore Airlines gets FDI nod for Vistara-Air India merger

Singapore Airlines has received approval from the Indian government for the foreign direct investment (FDI) as part of the proposed merger of Vistara with Air India, a deal that will create one of the world's largest airline groups.

NSO Reports 6.7% Real GDP Growth for April-June 2024 Quarter

The Indian economy has registered a GDP growth of 6.7 per cent in the first quarter of the financial year 2024-25.

Moody's raises India's 2024 GDP growth forecast to 7.2% in 2024

Moody's Ratings has raised its real GDP growth projections for India, indicating for a robust 7.2 percent growth in the financial year 2024, up from a previous estimate of 6.8 percent and 6.6 percent in 2025 from 6.4 percent.

Account aggregator framework, ULI, OCEN to redefine credit access to small firms, individuals

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das while addressing at the Global FinTech Fest 2024 has said that initiatives like the Account Aggregator framework, Unified Lending Interface (ULI), Open Credit Enablement Network (OCEN) would help redefine credit access, particularly for small businesses and individuals.

AWARDS

KIIT DU Awarded Prestigious UN ECOSOC Special Consultative Status

KIIT Deemed to be University in Odisha, has been granted the distinguished Special Consultative Status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC), recognizing the University's substantial contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Indian President Droupadi Murmu conferred highest honour – Companion of the Order of Fiji

Indian President Droupadi Murmu was conferred the Companion of the Order of Fiji, the highest honour of Fiji by the President of Fiji. President Murmu addressed the Fijian Parliament where she recalled the 75 years of diplomatic association between the countries.

Centre announces Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar Awards

The Centre has announced the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar, one of the highest recognitions in the fields of science, technology, and innovation in India. Thirteen scientists won the Vigyan Shri award and 18 scientists won the Vigyan Yuva-Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar awards.

The ISRO-Chandrayaan 3 Team will be awarded the Vigyan Team Award for their contributions to space science and technology.

Former Director of the Indian Institute of Science, Professor G. Padmanabhan, has been selected for the Vigyan Ratna Award in biological sciences.

President Murmu accorded Timor Leste's highest civilian award

Indian President Droupadi Murmu was accorded the Grand Collar of Order of Timor Leste, the highest civil award by President José Ramos Horta at the Presidential Palace in Dili. President Murmu held meetings with President Horta and Prime Minister Gusmão on bilateral cooperation.

Abhinav Bindra receives the Olympic Order Award by International Olympic Committee in Paris

India's first individual Olympic gold medalist, Abhinav Bindra, was awarded the prestigious Olympic Order by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) at the 142nd IOC Session in Paris.

Gallantry Awards for Armed Forces and Central Armed Police forces.

President Droupadi Murmu approved 103 Gallantry awards to Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces personnel on the eve of Independence Day. These are four Kirti Chakras including three posthumous, 18 Shaurya Chakras including four posthumous and one Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry). Among the Gallantry awards are 63 Sena Medals (Gallantry) including two posthumous, 11 Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry) and six Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry).

70th National Film Awards announced

The 70th National Film Awards for the year 2022 were announced.

Rishab Shetty won the Best Actor award for his stupendous performance in the film Kantara.

The Best Actress award was won by Niithya Menen for the Tamil film Thiruchitrambalam and Manasi Parekh for the Gujarati film Kutch Express.

The Malayalam film Aattam won the Best Feature Film, while Ayena emerged as the Best Non-Feature Film.

The Best Director award went to Sooraj Barjatya for his film Uunchai.

President of India confers National Geoscience Awards- 2023

The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, conferred the prestigious National Geoscience Awards (NGA) for the year 2023. 21 Geoscientists, including academicians and professionals from across the country, were honoured under three categories: National Geoscience Award for Lifetime Achievement (01 award), National Geoscience Award (10 awards) and National Young Geoscientist Award (01 award) in various specialized fields of geosciences.

The National Geoscience Award for Lifetime Achievement was bestowed upon Prof. Dhiraj Mohan Banerjee, Emeritus Scientist at the Indian National Science Academy (INSA)

The Young Scientist Award has been presented to Ashutosh Pandey, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Thiruvananthapuram.

Union Minister Giriraj Singh presents Handicrafts Exports Awards

Union Minister of Textiles Giriraj Singh Addressing the 24th Handicrafts Exports Awards in New Delhi. Ajay Gupta's C.L. Gupta Exports Limited has received the Top All Handicrafts Award for both 2019-20 and 2020-21. Muzafar Hussain from Jammu and Kashmir won the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Ram Charan awarded 'Ambassador of Indian Arts and Culture' at Melbourne's Indian Film Festival

As part of the vibrant celebrations of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM) 2024, Indian actor Ram Charan was honored with the prestigious title of "Ambassador of Indian Arts and Culture" by the Victorian government.

Dr Jitendra Singh Confers Anubhav Awards 2024

Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions Dr Jitendra Singh conferred Anubhav Awards 2024 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. 54 Anubhav Awards and Nine Jury Certificates have been conferred so far.

Nepal Tourism Board Receives PATA Gold Award for Sustainable Tourism

Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) has received the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award in Sustainable Tourism for Livelihood Recovery Project (STLRP). This is the third time NTB has received a PATA award in community-based tourism.

Kerala tourism wins PATA gold award 2024

Kerala Tourism was presented the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award 2024 for its online contest 'Holiday Heist' in the Digital Marketing Campaign category. Kerala Tourism was the only destination from India to bag the PATA Gold award this year.

Football: Manchester City's Phil Foden named PFA Men's Player of the Year

Manchester City's England midfielder Phil Foden won the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) Player of the Year award after helping his club win a record fourth successive Premier League title. Manchester City's Khadija Shaw was named Women's Player of the Year.

Jana Small Finance Bank wins 4 Awards

Jana Small Finance Bank has clinched four coveted awards at the prestigious 2nd ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards. It was honoured with the titles of Best Small Finance Bank, India, Best Performance on Profitability (Runners-up), Best Performance on Asset Quality, and Best Performance on Risk Management.

KIA Bengaluru becomes first airport in Asia to receive Level 5 Accreditation of ACI

Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru has become the first in Asia to receive Airports Council International's (ACI) highest Level 5 accreditation. Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), which manages KIA, said that the Level 5 accreditation came into effect on May 5, 2024.

India shines at 17th International Earth Sciences Olympiad

A team of Indian students has secured three gold, two silver and three bronze medals at the 17th International Earth Sciences Olympiad held in China's Beijing.

PERSONS IN NEWS (National and International)

Fumio Kishida

Japan's incumbent Prime Minister Fumio Kishida will not seek re-election as leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). He is expected to step down as PM after the party elects a new leader in September

Sheikh Hasina

Amid violent protests by students in Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina has resigned as the country's Prime Minister and left the country in a military helicopter.

Paetongtarn Shinawatra

Thailand's Parliament elected Paetongtarn Shinawatra as the country's new prime minister. The 37-year-old political newcomer is the leader of the ruling Pheu Thai party and is the youngest prime minister of Thailand.

Muhammad Yunus

Muhammad Yunus has taken oath as the head of the interim government in Bangladesh. Mr Yunus has been sworn in as the chief adviser in the interim government, a position akin to that of Prime Minister, and a 16-member council of advisers will be assisting him.

Paul Kagame

Rwanda's President Paul Kagame was sworn in for his fourth term after securing over 99 per cent of the vote. He won 99.18 percent of the ballots cast to secure another five years in power.

Preeti Sudan

Former Union Health Secretary Preeti Sudan was appointed chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) after Manoj Soni resigned from the post earlier this month.

Pavel Durov

The founder and CEO of popular messaging application Telegram, Pavel Durov, was arrested at Le Bourget Airport, outside Paris. French authorities have stated that Durov's arrest was made under a warrant related to offenses connected to the Telegram platform.

Nalin Prabhat

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) appointed Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Nalin Prabhat as Special Director General (SDG) of the Jammu & Kashmir Police. Mr. Prabhat will take over as Director General of Police (DGP), J&K from October this year.

Rahul Sharma

The trade advocacy group, the U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC) has appointed Rahul Sharma, a former journalist and public relations executive, as its India-based Managing Director.

Kamala Harris

US Vice-President Kamala Harris has passed the threshold to clinch the Democratic presidential nomination in a vote of party delegates. Ms Harris is the first black and first South Asian woman to become the White House standard-bearer for a major US political party.

Tim Walz

U.S. Vice-President Kamala Harris has picked Minnesota Governor Tim Walz to be her running mate. While vice presidents' official duties are limited, they serve as potential heirs and partners in governing at the White House.

Govind Mohan

Senior IAS officer Govind Mohan will take charge as the new Union Home Secretary from Ajay Kumar Bhalla, who completes his five year tenure.

P Harish

Senior diplomat Parvathaneni Harish has been named as the next permanent representative to the United Nations in New York, one of the most crucial posts in multilateral diplomacy. Harish will succeed Ruchira Kamboj, the first woman to hold the position in New York.

Sanjiv Ranjan

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the proposal of the Ministry of External Affairs, seeking approval of the competent authority to enable Sanjiv Ranjan to take up the foreign assignment as Secretary General, Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), Secretariat, Mauritius for three years, with effect from January 1, 2025.

Anwar Ibrahim

Prime Minister of Malaysia, Anwar bin Ibrahim was on a three day visit to India. As Prime Minister of Malaysia, this was his first visit to India.

Satish Kumar

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Satish Kumar as the Chairman and CEO of Railway Board. Mr. Kumar will assume charge from September 1.

AhmedHachani

Tunisian President Kais Saied has removed Prime Minister Ahmed Hachani and appointed Social Affairs Minister Kamel Maddouri as his replacement. The dismissal came amid popular discontent with the recurring water and electricity outage crisis in many parts of the country.

SindhuGangadharan

The National Association of Software and Service Companies, or Nasscom, has appointed SAP Labs India managing director, Sindhu Gangadharan, as its chairperson. She takes over the charge from Rajesh Nambiar who has been appointed Nasscom president-designate.

Robert Rae

Robert Rae, a veteran Canadian politician and diplomat was recently elected President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). He succeeds Paula Narváez Ojeda of Chile.

T.V Somanathan

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of T.V. Somanathan as Cabinet Secretary. Mr. Somanathan has been appointed for a tenure of two years.

B. Srinivasan

Senior IPS officer B. Srinivasan was appointed as the Director General (DG) of the National Security Guard (NSG), the country's counter-terrorism force.

Rajwinder Singh Bhatti

Senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Rajwinder Singh Bhatti was appointed as the chief of the Central Industrial Security Force. Rajwinder Singh Bhatti is 1990-batch IPS officer, hails from the Bihar cadre.

Daljit Singh Chaudhary

IPS officer Daljit Singh Chaudhary will be the Chief of the Border Security Force (BSF). Daljit Singh Chaudhary, a 1990-batch IPS officer from the UP cadre, was previously the Director General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

Anshuman Gaekwad

Legendary Indian cricketer and former coach, and selector Anshuman Gaekwad passed away at the age of 71, after losing his long battle with cancer. He represented India in 40 Tests and 15 ODIs from 1975 to 1987. He was also a former India coach and national selector.

Ismail Haniyeh

The political head of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, has been assassinated in Tehran. Haniyeh was killed alongside one of his bodyguards at his residence in the Iranian capital while he was in the town to attend Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian's swearing-in ceremony.

Yamini Krishnamurthy

Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi veteran Yamini Krishnamurti passed away. She was a recipient of the Padma Shri (1968), Padma Bhushan (2001), Padma Vibhushan (2016) and Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1977).

Graham Thorpe

Former England and Surrey batter Graham Thorpe has died aged 55. Thorpe played 100 Tests for England between 1993 and 2005, as well as 82 one-day internationals. A stylish left-handed batter, he scored 6,744 Test runs for England, including 16 centuries, at an average of 44.66.

Rakesh Pal

Director General of the Indian Coast Guard, Rakesh Pal, died of a severe cardiac arrest in Chennai. He had worked with the Coast Guard for 34 years and became the Director General in July last year.

Shobhana Ranade

Renowned social worker & Padma Bhushan awardee Shobhana Ranade, passed away in Pune. She was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2011. She dedicated herself to uplifting the underprivileged, especially women and children, spread across geographies in India.

Tsung-Dao Lee

Chinese American physicist Tsung-Dao Lee, who in 1957 became the second-youngest scientist to receive a Nobel Prize, died at age 97. Prof. Lee, whose work advanced the understanding of particle physics, was one of the great masters in the field.

Buddhadeb Bhattacharya

Former chief minister of West Bengal and veteran CPM leader Buddhadeb Bhattacharya passed away at 80 after battling a prolonged illness. Bhattacharya was the second CPM leader who served as the chief minister of Bengal. He succeeded Jyoti Basu in the top post. He was in office from 2000 to 2011.

K. Natwar Singh

Former External Affairs Minister K. Natwar Singh passed away. He served as the External Affairs Minister in 2004-05 in the Cabinet of former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh of the UPA. Natwar Singh started his career as an Indian Foreign Service officer in 1953.

Ram Narain Agarwal

Dr Ram Narain Agarwal, eminent missile scientist, often referred to as the 'Father of Agni Missiles,' passed away. The Agni missile was the crown jewel of the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme, launched by the Indian government in 1983.

Sundararajan Padmanabhan

Ex-Army Chief General Sundararajan Padmanabhan passed away at his residence in Chennai. He was 83. He was the 20th Chief of Army Staff.

Phil Donahue

Phil Donahue, a pioneering US talk show host, has died at the age of 88. The Phil Donahue Show, launched in 1967, was the first on daytime US television to feature audience participation. Donahue received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Joe Biden in May.

Maria Branyas Morera

The world's oldest living person, Spain's Maria Branyas Morera, who was born in the United States and lived through two world wars, has died at the age of 117.

Salseng Marak

Former Meghalaya chief minister Salseng C Marak died due to old age-related ailments. Marak has become the first chief minister of the state to complete a five-year term in 1993. He also held the office of the CM for the shortest time – 12 days – in 1998.

Salim al-Hoss

Former Lebanese Prime Minister Salim al-Hoss has died at the age of 94 after a long battle with illness. Prime Minister Najib Mikati has declared three days of official mourning. Al-Hoss served as Prime minister of Lebanon four times.

Nari Hira

Nari Hira also referred to as the 'King of Indian Magazines' died at the age of 86. He was the founder and editor of Stardust Magazine.

A.G. Noorani

Noorani, a former Supreme Court lawyer who played a prominent role in Indian legal and intellectual circles, passed away in Mumbai at 93, bringing an era to an end. He was an eminent expert on Jammu and Kashmir and India-Pakistan affairs.

SPORTS

Paris Olympics 2024: Shooter Swapnil Kusale clinches third Bronze medal for India

Shooter Swapnil Kusale has claimed India's third bronze medal at the Paris 2024 Olympics shooting competition after finishing third in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions final at the National Shooting Centre in Châteauroux.

Lakshya Sen becomes first Indian male shuttler to reach semifinals of Olympics

Lakshya Sen scripted history by reaching the semifinals in the men's singles Badminton. He became the first Indian shuttler to enter the men's singles semifinal in the Olympic games.

Marchand wins a fourth gold with an Olympic record

France's Marchand win four gold medals at one Olympic games. He is the only individual to win four gold medals at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Zheng Qinwen became the first Chinese player to win Olympic tennis singles gold

Zheng Qinwen became the first Chinese player to win an Olympic Games tennis singles gold when she defeated Croatia's Donna Vekic in the final in straight sets.

Paris Olympics 2024: Noah Lyles wins thrilling 100m title

American sprinter Noah Lyles has won the Olympic men's 100m title, narrowly edging out Jamaica's Kishane Thompson by a mere 0.005 seconds at the Paris 2024 Games.

Paris Olympics 2024: Julien Alfred becomes fastest woman in the world

Saint Lucian sprinter Julien Alfred became the fastest woman on earth after winning the 100-meter race at the ongoing Paris Olympics 2024.

Paris 2024: Novak Djokovic beats Carlos Alcaraz to clinch maiden Olympic gold

Serbia's Novak Djokovic has won the gold medal in men's tennis singles in Paris Olympics 2024. He defeated Spain's Carlos Alcaraz at the Philippe-Chatrier in the gold medal match. He also became the oldest Olympic champion in tennis.

MotoGP: Ducati's Bastianini wins British Grand Prix

Enea Bastianini of Ducati has won the British Grand Prix at Silverstone, taking the chequered flag ahead of new world championship leader Jorge Martin and twice MotoGP champion Francesco Bagnaia.

Paris Olympics: Duplantis sets new pole vault world record enroute gold

Sweden's Armand Duplantis improved his own world record en route to retaining his Olympic pole vault title in Paris. He sailed over the bar raised to 6.25 metres to rapturous applause from a 69,000-capacity crowd.

Vinesh Phogat disqualified from Paris Olympics

Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat was disqualified from the 50kg freestyle wrestling for being overweight by a few grams, after she stormed into the Olympic final.

India wins CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League for the second time

India lifted the CAVA Women's Volleyball Nations League final after beating hosts Nepal 3-2 at the Dashrath Stadium in Kathmandu.

Sri Lanka defeat India to win ODI series 2-0

Sri Lanka won the three-match ODI series 2-0 as they defeated India by 110 runs in the third and final match at R. Premadasa Stadium in Colombo.

2024 Paris Olympics: Indian Hockey Team wins Bronze

At the 2024 Paris Olympics, the Indian hockey team won a bronze medal for the second consecutive Games, a feat not accomplished in 52 years. India triumphed over Spain with a 2-1 victory.

2024 Paris Olympics: India's Neeraj Wins Silver In Javelin Throw

India's Neeraj Chopra came up with a season best throw of 89.45m to clinch silver in javelin throw event at Paris Olympics 2024. Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem has set a new Olympic record mark of 92.97m to take home the gold.

Indian wrestler Aman Sehrawat wins Bronze Medal at Paris Olympics

Aman Sehrawat won the bronze in the men's freestyle 57kg event at the Paris 2024 Olympics wrestling tournament to become India's youngest medal winner at the Summer Games.

Paris Olympics 2024: India Finish 71st as United States Top Final Medals Table

The USA finished on top of the overall medal table with a total of 126 medals, with China in second place with 91. Japan finished third with 20 gold medals (45 in total) and Australia came in fourth with 18 Golds (53 in total). Meanwhile, India finished on the 71st spot with six medals -- five bronze and one silver.

Haryana to commence first-ever Global Women's Kabaddi League in September

The first-ever Global Women's Kabaddi League will commence next month in Haryana. Officially named the Global Pravasi Women's Kabaddi League (GPKL), this tournament will feature female athletes from over 15 countries.

Para shuttler Promod Bhagat suspended for breaching anti-doping regulations

India's Para shuttler Pramod Bhagat has been suspended by the Badminton World Federation for a period of 18 months for breaching the anti-doping regulations.

PB-BCL sign landmark deal to promote cricket

The Big Cricket League (BCL), a franchise-based T20 event that will offer aspiring local players a chance to play alongside their cricketing heroes, has joined hands with the national broadcaster Prasar Bharati in a landmark long-term deal. The inaugural edition of BCL will be held in September this year in Lucknow.

Jersey number 16 of PR Sreejesh retired.

Hockey India has retired jersey number 16 from the national senior men's team in honour of goalkeeper PR Sreejesh. Sreejesh recently announced his retirement from Hockey after a successful Paris Olympics stint.

Alexander Zverev becomes 1st player to earn 50 tour-level wins this season

In Tennis, German star Alexander Zverev overcame Karen Khachanov in straight sets at the Cincinnati Open in USA, becoming the first player to earn 50 tour-level wins this season.

CAS rejects Wrestler Vinesh Phogat's appeal against disqualification from Paris Olympics

Wrestler Vinesh Phogat's joint silver medal hope came to an end with the Court of Arbitration for Sport, CAS, rejecting her appeal against disqualification from the Paris Olympics.

India sends 84 athletes to Paris Paralympics

The largest-ever contingent of 84 players will take part in the upcoming Paris Paralympic Games this year. The Paralympic Games will take place from the 28th of this month to the 8th of September 2024.

Sumit Antil & Bhagyashree Jadhav India's flagbearers for opening ceremony of Paris Paralympics 2024

Tokyo Paralympics gold medalist Sumit Antil and shot-put star Bhagyashree Jadhav will be flagbearers of Indian contingent at the opening ceremony of the Paris Paralympics.

Bagnaia outpaces Martin to win Austrian MotoGP sprint race

Italian Ducati rider Francesco Bagnaia raced clear to win the Austrian MotoGP sprint and join Jorge Martin at the top of the championship standings. Spaniard Martin of Ducati-Pramac finished second.

India's Riiohlang Dhar to supervise in FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup

Riiohlang Dhar became the second Indian woman assistant referee to be selected for the upcoming FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, which will be held in the Dominican Republic.

Grand Chess Tour: Alireza Firouzja wins Saint Louis leg
Alireza Firouzja of France emerged as the winner tallying 23 points in all — 11 points in rapid and 12 points in the blitz Saint Louis Rapid and Blitz tournament.

Golf: Brooks Koepka win LIV Golf Greenbrier title

Golfer Brooks Koepka beat Jon Rahm in a playoff to win the LIV Golf Greenbrier title for his record fifth career crown on the Saudi-backed series.

U-17 Wrestling Championship: Ronak Dahiya wins Bronze in Greco-Roman

Indian wrestler Ronak Dahiya has won Bronze medal in Men's Greco-Roman 110 kilograms event at Under-17 World Wrestling Championship in Jordan. Dahiya defeated Turkish wrestler Emrullah Capkan 6-1 in the crucial medal match.

Kerala government announces cash reward of ₹2 cr to goalkeeper P R Sreejesh

The Kerala government has announced to honor former Indian Hockey goalkeeper and Bronze medalist at Paris Olympics 2024 P R Sreejesh with a cash reward of 2 crore rupees.

Indian women clinch first-ever team title at U17 Wrestling World Championships in Jordan

Indian women has won its first-ever team title with 185 points at the ongoing Under-17 World Wrestling Championship in Amman, Jordan. Japan finished second with 146 points and Kazakhstan finished third with 79 points category.

Cricketer Shikhar Dhawan announces Retirement

Indian cricketer Shikhar Dhawan has announced retirement from all three formats of international cricket. Dhawan has represented India in 34 Tests, 167 ODIs, and 68 T20Is from 2010 to 2022, revealing his decision to retire from international as well as domestic cricket.

Paris Paralympics 2024 begins on August 28

Paris Paralympics 2024 started on the 28th of this month. India sent its largest contingent ever in the history of games, with 84 athletes.

Badminton: Tanvi Patri wins girls' U-15 Singles title at Asia Championships

India's Tanvi Patri, has won the U-15 girl's singles title at the Asia Under-17 & Under-15 junior championships in Chengdu, China. Tanvi has defeated second seed Nguyen Thi Thu Huygen of Vietnam 22-20, 21-11 in the final match.

Asian Surfing Championships 2024: India claims silver medal at Maruhaba Cup

India has won a silver medal at the Maruhaba Cup, a team event, at the Asian Surfing Championships 2024 at Thulusdhoo, Maldives.

Dutch Grand Prix: Lando Norris claims victory, stuns Verstappen

McLaren driver Lando Norris has won his second Formula 1 race at the 2024 Dutch Grand Prix beating Red Bull Racing's Max Verstappen while Ferrari's Charles Leclerc secured third place.

ICC Women's T20 World Cup to begin on 4th Oct

India will open their campaign in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 on October 4 in Dubai against New Zealand. The upcoming edition of the Women's T20 World Cup was scheduled to take place in Bangladesh, but it was shifted to the United Arab Emirates a couple of weeks ago.

Jay Shah elected unopposed as ICC chairman, to take over in December

BCCI secretary Jay Shah will formally take over as the International Cricket Council's chair on December 1 after being elected unopposed. Shah was the sole nominee for the chairmanship after current Chair Greg Barclay decided not to seek a third term.

National Chess Championship: Karthik Venkataraman claims thrilling title win

Grandmaster (GM) Karthik Venkataraman has edged out GM Surya Ganguly and International Master (IM) Neelash Saha to win his second consecutive national title at the 2024 National Chess Championship in Gurugram, Haryana.

Paralympic Games 2024: French President declares Paralympic Games open

Paralympic Games 2024 have been officially inaugurated with a grand opening ceremony in Paris. French President Emmanuel Macron declared the Games open during a colourful ceremony in the heart of Paris. A total of 4,400 Paralympians, representing 167 nations, marched from Champs-Élysées to Place de la Concorde.

RESET Programme Launched.

The Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, initiated the "Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training" (RESET) Programme on the occasion of National Sports Day in New Delhi. The programme will provide support to retired athletes in their career development, by equipping them with the necessary knowledge and skills and making them more employable.

Bangladesh wins the SAFF U-20 Championship.

Bangladesh is the new champion of the SAFF (South Asian Football Federation) U-20 Championship football tournament after defeating hosts Nepal by 4-1 in the final. This is the first time that Bangladesh has won this Championship.

World U20 Athletics Championships: Aarti wins Bronze Medal in Women's 10000m race walk

In the World U20 Athletics Championships, Aarti won a Bronze medal in the Women's 10000m race walk event with the National U20 record time to open India's medal account at Lima in Peru.

Paris Paralympics 2024: India Wins Four Medals

At the 2024 Paralympic Games in Paris, India won four medals including a Gold, a silver and two bronze. India's Avani Lekhara and Mona Agarwal won the gold and bronze respectively in the women's 10m Air Rifle competition. Manish Narwal clinched a silver medal in the men's 10-meter Air Pistol.

MISCELLANEOUS

UNESCO's 46th World Heritage Committee Session in New Delhi Concludes

UNESCO's 46th World Heritage Committee Session to inscribe global landmarks on the World Heritage List concluded in New Delhi. This year, India not only hosted the annual committee but also chaired it. UNESCO inscribed 24 new landmark sites including 19 cultural, 4 natural, and 1 mixed property. Moidams from Assam became India's 43rd World Heritage Site.

India lost 33.9 million hectares of crops due to excess rains during 2015-21: WEF report

According to the World Economic Forum (WEF) report, India lost 33.9 million hectares of crops due to excess rains and an additional 35 million hectares due to drought between 2015 and 2021.

Canada's mining firm discovers 2,492 carat diamond in Botswana, the World's Second Largest

Lucara Diamond Corp, a Canada based mining company had discovered a massive 2,492-carat stone at Karowe Diamond Mine in northeastern Botswana. The diamond is the second largest in the world after the Cullinan Diamond.

Ulchi Freedom Shield: South Korea, U.S. kick off annual drills

South Korea and the United States has kicked off their annual military exercise named "Ulchi Freedom Shield" on August 19, 2024, seeking to boost their joint readiness to fend off North Korea's weapons and cyber threats

India Ranks 39th in Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024

India is ranked 39th among 119 countries, according to the Travel and Tourism Development Index 2024 report published by the World Economic Forum.

Nepal's first 'healthy city'

The WHO has declared Dhulikhel Municipality of Kavrepalanchok district as Nepal's first 'healthy city' and second healthiest city in Asia. Since 2014, Dhulikhel Municipality has undertaken several programmes to achieve the status.

China launches new high-orbit internet-services satellite

China has sent a new high-orbit internet-services satellite into space from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in Southwest China's Sichuan province. The satellite was launched aboard a Long March 3B carrier rocket and entered its preset orbit successfully.

China launches 18 satellites of G60 constellation

China has launched 18 satellites into space in an effort to enhance its orbital network. The Long March-6 carrier rocket was launched from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in north China's Shanxi Province.

USA's NASA Launches Tanager-1 Satellite To Track Methane Emissions Globally

US space agency NASA, in collaboration with a coalition of companies and organizations, has launched the 'Tanager-1' satellite aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. This satellite is a significant step forward in the global effort to monitor and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, particularly methane.

Sunita Williams and Barry Wilmore to return to Earth in February 2025

NASA announced that astronauts Sunita Williams and Barry Wilmore, will return to Earth in February 2025 with SpaceX. They were originally on an eight-day mission but will now spend around eight months in orbit due to issues with their Boeing Starliner spacecraft.

Australia limits international student enrolment to 2,70,000

In an effort to strengthen the integrity and sustainability of the international education sector, Australia will accept only 2,70,000 overseas students in 2025, the country's education ministry said.

Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin set to launch 8th tourist to space

Jeff Bezos' aerospace venture Blue Origin is set to launch its eighth tourist mission to suborbital space. The flight will carry six people for an 11-minute ride above the Karman line, the internationally recognised boundary of space.

National Organ Donation Day: 3rd August

Indian Organ Donation Day is observed every year on 3rd of August. Indian Organ Donation Day is observed annually since 2010, to augment awareness about brain stem death and organ donation, dispel myths and misconceptions associated with organ donation.

Hiroshima Day observed on August 6

Hiroshima Day is observed on August 6 every year to remember the tragic event of World War II in 1945 when the atomic bomb was dropped on Japan's Hiroshima which led to extreme destruction and loss of life.

10th National Handloom Day Celebrations on 7th August, 2024

The 10th National Handloom Day was celebrated on 7th August 2024 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The day was marked under the theme of "Handlooms for Sustainable Fashion".

World Lion Day observed on 10th August

World Lion Day, celebrated annually on August 10th, it is a day for people to come together from across the globe to pay tribute to the mighty lion.

World Biofuel Day observed on 10th August

World Biofuel Day is observed every year on August 10th to underline the significance of biofuels as a sustainable source of energy.

International Day of World's Indigenous People: 9th August

The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples commemorates every year on August 9th to raise awareness of the needs of these population groups.

World Elephant Day 2024 observed on August 12

The World Elephant Day is observed on August 12 every year to raise awareness about the challenges in elephant conservation and their protection worldwide. The official theme for the World Elephant Day 2024 Day is "Personifying prehistoric beauty, theological relevance, and environmental importance."

World Humanitarian Day observed on August 19

The World Humanitarian Day, established by the United Nations, is observed on August 19 annually. The theme for World Humanitarian Day 2024 is "Act For Humanity".

World Photography Day 2024 observed on August 19th

The World Photography Day was observed on August 19th. The World Photography Day 2024 theme is "AN ENTIRE DAY"

Sadbhavana Diwas 2024 observed annually on August 20th

Sadbhavana Diwas (Harmony Day) is observed annually on August 20th is a day dedicated to promoting peace, harmony, and goodwill among all citizens of India. It commemorates Rajiv Gandhi's birth anniversary.

India to Celebrate its First National Space Day on August 23, 2024

The Government of India has declared August 23rd as "National Space Day" to celebrate the remarkable success of the Chandrayaan-3 Mission. It is celebrated under the theme "Touching Lives while Touching the Moon: India's Space Saga."

National Sports Day being celebrated on Aug 29

National Sports Day is celebrated annually on 29th August to commemorate the birth anniversary of greatest field hockey player Major Dhyan Chand.

Telugu Language Day Celebrated on August 29

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated people on the occasion of Telugu Language Day. The Telugu Language Day is celebrated every year on August 29 coinciding with the birth anniversary of the Telugu poet Gidugu Venkata Ramamurthy.