

## Advanced Educational Activities Pvt. Ltd.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS CAPSULE (JULY 2023)

#### INTERNATIONAL

##### **Dutch King apologizes for his country's historic involvement in slavery**

Dutch King Willem Alexander has apologized for his country's historic involvement in slavery and its ongoing repercussions. The king issued his apology during a speech marking the event. The Netherlands officially abolished slavery on 1st July 1863.

**Israel to buy 25 more F-35 stealth jets in \$3 billion deal**  
Israel has approved the purchase of a third squadron of F-35 stealth fighter jets in a deal worth \$3 billion. The additional 25 aircraft manufactured by Lockheed Martin Israel was the first country outside the United States to acquire the F-35.

##### **Violent unrest in France spreads to other parts of Europe including Belgium and Switzerland**

In France, nearly 700 people were arrested across the country on the fifth night of unrest sparked by the police killing of a teenager Nahel M. Cars and public buildings have been set on fire. Meanwhile, the neighboring Switzerland and Belgium also witnessed unrest.

##### **India hosts 23rd Summit of SCO in virtual format**

India hosted the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit in virtual format on July 4. The 23rd Summit of the SCO Council of Heads of State was chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. As per SCO tradition, Turkmenistan has also been invited as the guest of the Chair.

##### **UN nuclear watchdog approved plans for release of wastewater from Fukushima disaster**

UN nuclear watchdog International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has approved plans by Japan to release wastewater from the tsunami-wrecked Fukushima nuclear plant into the sea. It said, the release complies with international standards and will have a negligible impact on the environment.

##### **SCO called for multipolar world order as Iran joined in the group.**

The formation of a "more representative" and multipolar world order is in the global interest, leaders of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation said at a virtual Summit chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The grouping's decision to induct Iran as its ninth and latest member was one of a number of agreements signed at the summit.

##### **India Post, Canada Post joined hands to facilitate e-commerce**

Post office departments of India and Canada have recently entered into an agreement to introduce International Tracked Packet Service (ITPS) between the two countries. It is intended to facilitate e-commerce exports. The service became operational.

##### **July 3, 2023 was World's hottest day ever due to climate change & emerging El Nino pattern**

According to data from the U.S. National Centers for Environmental Prediction, July 3rd was the hottest day recorded globally. The average global temperature reached 17.01 degrees Celsius. This new record temperature surpassed the August 2016 record of 16.92 degrees Celsius, as heatwaves sizzled around the world. This has been attributed to the El Niño weather pattern.

##### **Egypt, Turkey upgrade diplomatic relations**

Egypt and Turkey have upgraded their diplomatic relations by announcing new ambassadors for the first time in a decade. The decision aims to re-establish normal relations between the two countries.

##### **U.N. Security Council to hold first-ever meeting on threats of AI**

The U.N. Security Council held a first-ever meeting on the threats of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on July 18th. The meeting organized by the United Kingdom, will see global leaders discussing the potential threats of artificial intelligence (AI) to international peace and security.

##### **Iran taken to World Court over passenger jet downing in 2020.**

Iran has been taken to the World Court over passenger jet downing in 2020. Canada, Sweden, Ukraine, and the UK have asked the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to open proceedings against Iran. A case was launched against Iran at the United Nations highest court over the shooting down of a Ukrainian passenger plane in 2020.

##### **U.S. to provide cluster munitions to Ukraine**

U.S. President Joe Biden's administration has decided to provide cluster munitions to Ukraine. It will send thousands of them as part of a new military aid package worth up to \$800 million for the war effort against Russia.

##### **NATO leaders gathered in Lithuania for key summit**

NATO leaders have gathered in Lithuania for a crucial summit that could shape the direction of the war in Ukraine and the future of the Western alliance. The 31 allies hope to show Russia they have the resolve to support Ukraine militarily for the long term. They arrive with a welcome boost after Turkey dropped its objections to Sweden joining the alliance.

##### **France will join Britain in supplying long-range SCALP missiles to Ukraine.**

France will join Britain in supplying Ukraine with long-range cruise missiles SCALP, which can travel 250 km (155 miles), a move that allows Ukrainian forces to hit Russian troops and supplies deep behind front lines. The missiles would come from existing French military stocks.

##### **Ukraine can join military alliance when allies agree and conditions met, said NATO**

NATO leaders said that they will be in a position to invite Ukraine to join the alliance when allies agree, and conditions are met. Ukraine's future is in NATO, leaders said in a news release, adding that the alliance will support Ukraine in making reforms on its path toward membership.

##### **In U.N. Human Rights Council vote, India stands against desecration of Koran**

India voted in favour of a draft resolution tabled in the UN Human Rights Council that condemns and strongly rejects recent "public and premeditated" acts of desecration of the Holy Quran. The Geneva-based UN Human Rights Council adopted the draft resolution 'Countering religious hatred constituting incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence', with 28 members voting in favour, seven abstentions and 12 nations voting against.

### **Heatwave swept across parts of southern Europe and northwest Africa**

A heatwave is sweeping across parts of southern Europe and northwest Africa. Temperatures are expected to surpass 40 degrees Celsius in parts of Spain, France, Greece, Croatia, and Turkey. In Italy, temperatures could reach as high as 48.8 degrees Celsius. A red alert warning has been issued for 10 cities, including Rome, Bologna and Florence.

### **US Senate passed a resolution recognizing Arunachal Pradesh as integral part of India**

The US Senate has passed a resolution recognising Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of India. The legislation reaffirms that the US recognizes the McMahon Line as the international boundary between China and the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh.

### **PM Narendra Modi participates in Bastille Day Parade in Paris as Guest of Honour**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with French President Emmanuel Macron witnessed the Bastille Day Parade in Paris. Mr. Modi attended the parade as the Guest of Honour. A tri-services Indian armed forces contingent participated in it, including IAF aircraft.

### **Russian lawmakers approved bill banning gender reassignment.**

Russian lawmakers in the lower house of parliament has voted overwhelmingly in favour of new legislation that would make gender reassignment illegal, further cementing an ultra-conservative, anti-Western drive in society.

### **Pak PM launches \$3.5 billion Chinese-designed nuclear energy project.**

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has launched the 1200-megawatt nuclear power plant being built with China's assistance in Punjab province which is seen as a sign of growing strategic cooperation between the two all-weather allies.

### **Revised statement from PM Modi, Macron drops key points on defense deals**

India and France have revised the joint statement initially released after bilateral talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron, with the new version released omitting key details on defense deals that are in the works. The joint statement — 'Horizon 2047: 25th Anniversary of the India-France Strategic Partnership, Towards A Century of India-France Relations' — lays out a roadmap for the bilateral relationship till 2047.

### **US, South Korea & Japan held missile defence drill after North's ICBM launch**

The United States, South Korea and Japan held a joint naval missile defence exercise to counter North Korea's evolving nuclear and missile threats. The trilateral drill was conducted in international waters between South Korea and Japan, bringing together destroyers equipped with Aegis radar systems from the three countries.

### **Nigeria's President Bola Tinubu declares state of emergency to tackle rising food prices**

Nigeria's President Bola Tinubu has declared a state of emergency to tackle rising food prices and shortages. Some of the initiatives include using money saved by the recent removal of a fuel subsidy to provide fertiliser and grain to farmers. Protection is also to be increased for farmers, many of whom have abandoned their land after becoming the target of gangs that kidnap for ransom.

**India and its partner countries decided to establish Mekong Ganga Cooperation Business Council**  
External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar has co-chaired the 12th Mekong Ganga Cooperation meeting in Bangkok, Thailand along with his Lao PDR counterpart

Saleumxay Kommasith. In the meeting, they decided to establish a Mekong Ganga Cooperation Business Council to take forward economic cooperation and expand the ambit of exchanges in agriculture, science and technology and water resource management.

### **BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand**

Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Foreign Ministers first ever meeting was held in Bangkok, Thailand.

### **US handed over 105 trafficked antiquities to Indian Consulate in New York**

The United States has handed over 105 trafficked antiquities to India. The repatriation ceremony was held at the Indian Consulate in New York and the antiquities would soon be transported to India.

### **Thailand court suspends Pita as lawmaker as parliament votes on PM**

Thailand's Constitutional Court has ordered a temporary suspension of prime ministerial candidate Pita Limjaroenrat from parliament after accepting a case against him alleging he was unqualified to run in a May 14 election.

### **Russia halted participation in Black Sea grain deal**

Russia has halted its participation in a deal that allowed war-torn Ukraine to ship grain through the Black Sea to parts of the world struggling with hunger, dealing a blow to global food security after Moscow's invasion last year sent prices soaring.

### **Heatwave gripped most parts of the globe; UN**

Heatwaves and extreme weather have gripped most parts of the world including Europe, the US and Asia. Temperatures were expected to reach record highs in Italy with the United Nations's World Meteorological Organization (WMO) warning of an increased risk of deaths. Heatwaves this summer, which saw temperatures climb to 53 degrees in California's Death Valley and over 52 degrees in China's northwest.

### **Russian President will not attend BRICS summit by mutual agreement: South Africa**

Russian President Vladimir Putin will not attend the summit of the BRICS group of nations in South Africa in August "by mutual agreement", South Africa's presidency has said. The Russian Federation will be represented by Foreign Minister Mr Sergey Lavrov, but Putin will participate remotely in the high-level talks. Putin is sought by the International Criminal Court (ICC) over accusations that Russia unlawfully deported Ukrainian children.

### **DR Congo signed \$1.9 billion mining deal with UAE**

The UAE signed a \$1.9-billion deal with a state mining company Sakima in DR Congo to develop at least four mines. The partnership will see the development of at least four industrial mines in the troubled eastern regions of South Kivu and Maniema. Sakima owns mining concessions in the region for tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold.

### **United Kingdom rolls out first passports in name of King Charles III**

For the first time in 70 years, British passports bearing the title of "His Majesty" will start being issued in the name of King Charles III. U.K. Home Secretary Suella Braverman unveiled the new design update which changes the passport salutation from "Her Majesty" following the death of Queen Elizabeth II in September last year.

### **Hun Sen's ruling party claimed landslide victory in Cambodia elections.**

The party of Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen has declared a landslide victory in a general election. Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party (CPP), facing no viable opponent after a ruthless, years-long crackdown on its rivals.

**Conservative Popular Party wins Spain elections**

Spain's opposition right-wing Popular Party (PP) won snap general election, with 100% of the votes counted, but was set to fall short of a parliamentary majority. The PP and Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez' Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) had 33.1% and 31.7% shares of the vote respectively.

**Israeli parliament passes bill to limit powers of judiciary amid mass protests.**

The Israeli parliament, Knesset, has passed a bill that would overhaul the country's judiciary and limit its powers, despite mass protests from the opposition. The law removes the power of the Supreme Court to overrule government actions it considers unreasonable.

**UAE Reports New MERS-CoV Case**

The UAE informed the World Health Organization (WHO) of a newly confirmed case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV). The patient was admitted to the hospital, displaying symptoms, a nasopharyngeal swab tested positive for MERS-CoV.

**Russian President signs legislation marking the final step outlawing gender-affirming procedures.**

Russian President Vladimir Putin signed new legislation in outlawing gender-affirming procedures. The Bill, which was approved unanimously by both Houses of the Parliament, bans any "medical interventions aimed at changing the sex of a person", as well as changing one's gender in official documents and public records.

**Ecuador declares state of emergency amid violent clashes.**

Ecuador's President Guillermo Lasso has declared a state of emergency and night curfews in three coastal provinces, amid a wave of violence over the weekend in the Andean country that left at least eight people dead.

**Greece currently grappling with wildfires; over 40 died**

Greece is one of a number of countries currently grappling with wildfires, in which more than 40 people have died so far. The extreme weather is partly due to the Charon anticyclone, which is pushing into Europe from north Africa.

**Soldiers declare Niger general as head of state after he led a coup and detained the President**

Mutinuous soldiers who staged a coup in Niger declared their leader Gen. Abdourahmane Tchiani the new head of state, hours after the general asked for national and international support despite rising concerns that the political crisis could hinder the nation's fight against jihadists and boost Russia's influence in West Africa.

**U.S. to help Australia develop guided missiles by 2025**

The U.S. will help Australia produce guided multiple-launch rocket systems by 2025, USA Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin said in Brisbane.

**U.S. announces \$345 million military aid package for Taiwan**

The United States unveiled a \$345 million military aid package for Taiwan designed to quickly bolster the island's ability to deter a Chinese invasion. The package features surveillance and reconnaissance equipment and small arms munitions will be drawn from the U.S.'s own reserves.

**EU suspends all security cooperation with Niger**

The European Union (EU) has suspended all security cooperation with Niger after the country's army took power in a coup. It comes shortly after the US declared its unflinching support for ousted president Mohamed Bazoum - seen as a key Western ally in the fight against Islamist militants.

**Centre approves release of over six thousand 194 crore rupees to 19 State governments**

Home Minister Amit Shah has approved the release of over six thousand 194 crore rupees to 19 State governments under the State Disaster Response Fund. The funds will help the states to undertake relief measures during the current Monsoon season.

**Defence Ministry signed contract of two thousand 725 crore rupees with MRLC of Submarine INS Shankush**

Defence Ministry has signed a contract of two thousand 725 crore rupees with Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited for Medium Refit with Life Certification (MRLC) of Submarine INS Shankush. Shankush is a Sub-Surface Killer Class of Submarine to be re-fitted at Mumbai.

**PM Modi said Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission-2047 will bring change in lives of tribals**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission 2047 from Lalpur village in Shahdol district of Madhya Pradesh. The Prime Minister said this mission will bring change in lives of tribals.

**PM Narendra Modi inaugurated 17th Indian Cooperative Congress (ICC) in New Delhi**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress (ICC) in New Delhi. Speaking on this occasion, the Prime Minister said, the country is working towards becoming developed and self-reliant. He said, several steps have been taken by the government for strengthening the cooperative sector in the country.

**Centre approved Market Development Assistance of ₹1500 per MT to promote organic fertilizers**

Minister of State for Chemical and Fertilizers Bhagwanth Khuba has informed the Lok Sabha that the Centre has approved the Market Development Assistance, MDA of 1500 rupees per metric tonne to promote organic fertilizers. The manure is produced at plants under GOBARdhan initiative, PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth, PM-PRANAM and Sulphur Coated Urea also known as Urea Gold.

**Nearly 70% work of India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway completed**

Around 70% construction work on the ambitious India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway has been completed, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari has said. India, Thailand and Myanmar are working on about 1,400-km-long highway that would link the country with Southeast Asia by land and give a boost to trade, business, health, education and tourism ties among the three countries.

**Two-day Startup20 Shikhar summit was held in Gurugram, Haryana**

The Startup20 Shikhar summit under India's G20 presidency was held in Gurugram, Haryana. The Startup20 Engagement Group has hosted the two-day Startup20 Shikhar summit. The summit has served as a landmark event for the official release of the final Policy Communiqué.

**India's third moon mission, Chandrayaan-3 launched successfully**

India's third moon mission, Chandrayaan-3, was successfully launched onboard a Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM-3) rocket from the second launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. This is India's second attempt at soft-landing robotic instruments on the lunar surface after the previous attempt, Chandrayaan-2, failed in 2019.

### **INS Rana & Sumedha undertook Maritime Partnership Exercise with French Navy ship**

Indian Naval ships INS Rana and INS Sumedha undertook a Maritime Partnership Exercise with French Navy ship FS Surcouf in the Bay of Bengal.

### **States failed to get top grade in school education**

While Chandigarh and Punjab were the top performers in school education for the year 2021-22, none of the States or Union Territories were able to achieve the highest grade — Daksh — in the annual survey released by the Union government. Chandigarh and Punjab, could only secure the sixth-highest grade of Prachesta-2, closely followed by Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Delhi, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu at Prachesta-3.

### **20% ethanol blended petrol, E20, to be available across country by 2025.**

Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri has said that 20 percent ethanol blended petrol, E20, will be available across India by 2025. The minister informed that ethanol blending in petrol has gone up from 38 crore liters in 2013-14 to 433 crore liters in 2021-22.

### **Nine Nano Urea plants to be set up across the country by 2025**

Chemical and Fertilizer Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has said that the country is aiming to manufacture 44 crore bottles of Nano Urea annually by the year 2025. Dr. Mandaviya highlighted the merits of Nano Urea saying that the urea absorption rate by crops is 80 percent in the case of Nano Urea whereas the traditional urea absorption rate is only 30 percent.

### **EC comes up with online portal for parties to file financial statements.**

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has launched a new web portal to enable political parties to file financial accounts online. This includes contribution reports and poll expenditure accounts. The online availability of the data is expected to enhance the level of compliance and transparency, the ECI said in a letter to all political parties.

### **Parliamentary Standing Committee sought views of stakeholders on Uniform Civil Code**

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice held a meeting on Uniform Civil Code (UCC). The Committee was headed by Rajya Sabha MP Sushil Modi. Seventeen members were present in the Meeting.

### **India acquired over 200 patents for 6G Technology**

India has acquired over 200 patents for 6G technology so far. This was stated by Communications and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw at the launch of Bharat 6G Alliance in New Delhi. He said the Bharat 6G Alliance is a professional body of industry, academia and Central Government.

### **National Anti-Doping Agency, India signed MoU with South Asia Regional Anti-Doping Organization**

National Anti-Doping Agency, India has signed a MoU with South Asia Regional Anti-Doping Organisation (SARADO) in New Delhi. SARADO is comprised of Anti-Doping Organisations from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

### **Centre to assist border States and UTs to set up homes for rehabilitation of trafficking victims**

The Centre has decided to help build infrastructure in border areas to combat child trafficking and help in rehabilitation and protection of victims. As part of this initiative, the Women and Child Development Ministry will provide financial assistance to States and Union Territories (UT) along the border areas.

### **India experienced its warmest June since 1901, said IMD**

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said that the southern peninsular India recorded the warmest June since 1901 as the region saw the average maximum temperature of 34.05 degrees Celsius. The region also clocked the third-highest average minimum temperature for June since 1901 at 26.04 degrees Celsius.

### **Power Minister R. K. Singh inaugurates International Conference on Green Hydrogen in New Delhi**

Power Minister R. K. Singh has inaugurated the International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH 2023) in New Delhi. The three-day Conference seeks to establish Green Hydrogen Ecosystem and catalyze attainment of global goals for decarbonization through Green Hydrogen.

### **Twelve day annual Kanwar Yatra began in different parts of country**

The 12-day long annual Kanwar Yatra begun in different parts of the country. Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh governments have made elaborate arrangements to manage huge rush of pilgrims. The Kanwar Yatra will pass through Delhi, Meerut, Saharanpur, Ghaziabad, Shamli and Bhagpat districts in Uttar Pradesh.

### **DGCA signed MoU with EU Aviation Safety Agency for Cooperation in Innovative Air Mobility**

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has signed a MoU with the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) for cooperation in Unmanned Aircraft Systems and Innovative Air Mobility. This MoU will facilitate collaboration on unmanned aircraft and innovative air mobility between the two civil aviation authorities.

### **Fourth edition of Space Economy Leaders Meeting under India's G20 presidency was held in Bengaluru.**

As part of India's G20 Presidency, the fourth edition of the Space Economy Leaders Meeting was held in Bengaluru. The two-day meeting dwelled upon the sharing of the space mission economy, responsibilities of space agencies, and alliance in space missions.

### **Govt planning implementation of Bahu Balli Cattle fence along highways in country**

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has said that the Centre is planning to implement the Bahu Balli Cattle Fence along highways in India to prevent cattle from crossing the road and causing dangerous accidents that result in the loss of human lives.

### **India & Singapore signs Protocol Document extending current MoU on Cooperation**

India and Singapore have signed a Protocol Document extending the current MoU on Cooperation in the field of Personnel Management and Public Administration till 2028.

### **India rejects ruling by Permanent Court of Arbitration in dispute with Pakistan**

India said it cannot be compelled to participate in "illegal" proceedings at the Permanent Court of Arbitration over the Kishenganga and Rattle hydropower projects in Kashmir after the Hague-based tribunal ruled that it has the "competence" to consider the dispute between New Delhi and Islamabad on the matter.

### **First-ever IIT campus outside India to be set up at Zanzibar in Tanzania**

The first IIT campus outside India will come up at Zanzibar in Tanzania, the Ministry of External Affairs said. An MoU has been signed for the setting up of a campus of IIT Madras in Zanzibar.

### **Urban-20 Mayoral Summit begins in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar in Gujarat**

The Urban 20 (U20) Mayoral Summit was held in the twin cities of Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar. Delegates and

participants from 57 cities across the world and 35 cities from India will participate in the two-day summit. U20 is an Engagement Group under India's G20 presidency.

### **India, Tanzania agreed to explore new areas of cooperation to boost bilateral ties**

India and Tanzania have agreed on a roadmap to further boost their time-tested ties by identifying new areas of cooperation in sectors like trade, investment, agriculture, defence and education. Among the domains that the two sides looked at was their economic cooperation, and how to increase trade and investment.

### **Torrential rain, floods killed 22 across northern India**

Relentless rain continued to lash most parts of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh for the third straight day in a row, putting normal life out of gear. The rain across the northern parts of the country has killed at least 22 people, as well as causing landslides and flash floods in the region.

### **Rashtrapati Bhavan hosts two-day Visitor's Conference 2023 on July 10**

Rashtrapati Bhavan hosted a two-day Visitor's Conference 2023. President Droupadi Murmu is the Visitor of 162 Central Institutions of Higher Learning. The Conference began with the inaugural address of the President. Ms. Murmu presented the Visitor's Awards 2021 in the categories of 'Innovation', 'Research', and 'Technology Development'.

### **3rd G20 Culture Working Group meeting was held in Hampi, Karnataka**

The Third G20 Culture Working Group meeting was held in Hampi, a world heritage site. The two days deliberations evolved consensus on four themes proposed under the Indian Presidency that will become part of the ministerial declaration during the fourth Culture Working Group meeting to be held in Varanasi on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated HAL regional office in Kuala Lumpur**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) regional office in Kuala Lumpur. The Defence Ministry said this regional office will boost the defence industrial collaboration between India and Malaysia and serve as a hub for the HAL's engagement with the South-East Asian region.

### **Sixth India-Arab Partnership Conference 2023 organized in New Delhi**

Under the aegis of the Arab-Indian Cooperation Forum, the 6th India-Arab Partnership Conference on: "New Horizons in Investment, Trade & Services" was organized on 11-12 July 2023 in New Delhi. Ministers, senior officials and businesspersons from Arab States and India participated in it.

### **3rd Sherpas G20 meeting was held in Hampi, Karnataka**

The third Sherpas meeting under India's G20 Presidency was held in Hampi in Karnataka. Chaired by India's G20 Sherpa, Amitabh Kant, the three days meeting on the banks of river Tungabhadra near UNESCO World Heritage site Hampi deliberated and engaged in co-authoring the Leaders Declaration to be adopted by the G20 leaders in New Delhi Summit.

### **7<sup>th</sup> edition of Asia's premier digital technology exhibition, IMC to be held from 27<sup>th</sup> October at Pragati Maidan**

The seventh edition of Asia's premier digital technology exhibition, India Mobile Congress (IMC) will be held from the 27<sup>th</sup> of October this year at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. The three-day event is being co-hosted by the Department of Telecommunications and Cellular Operators Association of India. This year the theme of the India Mobile Congress-2023 is 'Global Digital Innovation'.

### **DAC approves procurement of 26 Rafale Marine aircraft from France**

The Defence Acquisition Council has approved proposals for the procurement of 26 Rafale Marine aircraft from France to boost the Indian Navy's operational capabilities.

### **Defence Ministry, FSSAI signed MOU to promote use of millet and healthy eating practices among armed forces**

The Defence Ministry and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) have signed a MOU to promote the use of millets and healthy eating practices among the armed forces and ensure availability of safe and nutritious food. The MoU was signed in the presence of Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh and Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya in New Delhi.

### **India, France set to co-develop jet engine**

Taking the defence cooperation between India and France to a new level, the two countries announced that they will extend their ground-breaking defence cooperation in advanced aeronautical technologies by supporting the joint development of a combat aircraft engine and also an engine for the Indian multi-role helicopter (IMRH) being designed and developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.

### **Supreme Court got two new judges**

Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud has administered the oath of office to Justice Ujjal Bhuyan and Justice S. Venkatanarayana Bhatti as judges of the Supreme Court. With the swearing-in of Justices Bhuyan and Bhatti, the working strength of judges in the Supreme Court has risen to 32 against the sanctioned strength of 34, including the CJI.

### **Amit Shah inaugurates National Mega Conclave on FPO in Cooperative Sector**

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah has inaugurated the National Mega Conclave on Farmers Producer Organisation, FPO in the cooperative sector and released the action plan for formation of 1,100 new FPOs by Primary Agricultural Credit Societies in New Delhi.

### **G20 Conference on Crime and Security in the Age of NFTs, AI & Metaverse held in Gurugram**

The G20 Conference on Crime and Security in the Age of NFTs, AI and Metaverse held in Gurugram successfully concluded with the release of the Chair's Summary. The conference aimed to address the challenges posed by cybercrime and security in the era of new technologies like NFTs, AI, and Metaverse.

### **IIT Delhi to set up campus in Abu Dhabi**

The Union Ministry of Education and Abu Dhabi's Education and Knowledge Department (ADEK) signed a MoU for setting up an IIT Delhi campus in the Gulf country. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi is the second IIT to announce setting up an offshore campus after IIT Madras. IIT Madras signed an MoU for setting up a campus in Tanzania's Zanzibar.

### **Dharmendra Pradhan launched free online training programme on Artificial Intelligence**

Education and Skill Development Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has launched AI for India 2.0, a free online training programme on Artificial Intelligence, on the occasion of World Youth Skills' Day. It is a joint initiative of Skill India and GUVI, which is an IIT Madras incubated startup tech platform that enables tech learning in vernacular languages.

### **Government reduced subsidized tomato price to ₹80 a kg**

The Centre started selling tomatoes at ₹80 per kg from July 16, as against ₹90 per kg earlier, to provide relief to people from high prices of the key kitchen item in retail markets. The Centre started to sell tomatoes at a discounted rate of ₹90 per kg in Delhi-NCR through mobile vans.

### **Over 13 crore people lifted out of poverty in 5 years between 2015-16 and 2019-21, says NITI Aayog**

The number of persons living in multidimensional poverty in the country has fallen from 24.85 percent to 14.96 percent between 2015-16 and 2019-21. NITI Aayog CEO B.V.R. Subrahmanyam has said, 13.5 crore people have escaped from multidimensional poverty in this period. Uttar Pradesh has registered the highest decline in the number of poor with 3.43 crore people followed by Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

### **Gujarat: Third G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting held in Gandhinagar.**

The third G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBGs) meeting was held in Gandhinagar. During the day-long deliberations, the representatives discussed issues pertaining to the global economic outlook, economic risks, and policy responses to support recovery.

### **Union Health Minister inaugurates Global Food Regulators Summit 2023**

Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the Global Food Regulators Summit 2023 in New Delhi. The two-day summit is aimed at creating a global platform for regulators on enhancing food safety systems and regulatory frameworks through collaboration.

### **Four High Courts got new Chief Justices**

The President of India has appointed new Chief Justices to four High Courts across the country. One of them, Allahabad High Court judge, Justice Sunita Agarwal, as the new Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court. Justice Alok Aradhe is the new Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court. The President has also notified the appointment of Justice Subhasis Talapatra as the Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court. Justice Ashish Jitendra Desai would take over as the new Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court.

### **Monsoon session of Parliament began 31 bills to be taken up during the session**

The Monsoon Session of Parliament began on July 20. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi has said that 31 bills will be taken up in the monsoon session. The Monsoon session will continue till 11th of next month and there will be a total of 17 sittings in this session spread over 23 days.

### **India, Japan signed MoU to develop resilient semiconductor supply chain.**

India signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with Japan to develop a resilient semiconductor supply chain. Japan is an important semiconductor producer and technology developer. The India Semiconductor Mission, ISM was launched in 2021 with a total financial outlay of ₹76,000 crore under the aegis of the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY).

### **Nuclear power capacity set to increase from over 7000 MW to over 22,480 MW by 2031: Govt in RS**

Minister of State for Atomic Energy and Space Dr Jitendra Singh has said that nuclear power capacity has set to increase from over seven thousand Mega Watt to over 22 thousand 480 Mega Watt by 2031. The present installed nuclear power capacity in the country is seven thousand 480 Mega Watt comprising 23 nuclear power reactors.

### **Ayush Ministry organized Conference of India and ASEAN on traditional medicines in New Delhi**

The Ministry of Ayush has organized a Conference of India and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on traditional medicines in New Delhi. A total of 75 delegates from India and ASEAN participated in the Conference. The Conference on traditional medicine provides a platform to deliberate on various dimensions of Traditional Systems of Medicine for attaining Sustainable Development Goals.

### **Supreme Court urged Centre to transfer cheetahs to another location.**

The Supreme Court of India has told the Union Government that the deaths of 40% of the 20 cheetahs brought from South Africa and Namibia to the Kuno National Park (KNP) in under a year does not present a good picture. A Bench headed by Justice B.R. Gavai urged the government to move the big cats to a more conducive environment, if required, and not make it a "prestige issue".

### **India, Sri Lanka exchange five agreements**

India and Sri Lanka exchanged five agreements covering crucial areas of economic cooperation. The agreements include a Memorandum of Understanding on renewable energy and Memorandum of Cooperation for economic development projects in Trincomalee district of Sri Lanka. Another key outcome is an agreement between NIPL and Lanka Pay for UPI application acceptance in Sri Lanka.

### **India signed contract with Bangladesh to modernise signalling system of Dhaka-Tongi-Joydebpur rail line**

India and Bangladesh signed a contract for installation of computer based interlocking signalling system for Dhaka-Tongi-Joydebpur rail line at Rail Bhaban, Dhaka. Implementation of this project will ease congestion and improve efficiency of Dhaka-Tongi-Joydebour section which is one of the busiest rail lines in Bangladesh.

### **Missile boat Kirpan decommissioned from Indian Navy**

In a step aimed at deepening defense ties with Vietnam, the Indian Navy decommissioned INS Kirpan and handed over the indigenously built missile corvette to the southeast Asian country's navy at Cam Ranh as a gift. This is the first time India has gifted a fully operational, in-service corvette to any friendly foreign country.

### **4 lakh lost children in the country have been rescued, says govt**

The Union government says four lakh lost children in the country have been rescued and returned to their families. Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani credited the achievement to TRACK THE MISSING CHILD. It is a portal dedicated to the cause of tracking missing and vulnerable children.

### **Amit Shah laid foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Andhra Pradesh**

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh through video conferencing. The statue will be built at a cost of over 500 crore rupees. In his address, Mr. Shah said the statue to be installed in Mantralayam will give the message of Sanatan Dharma to the entire world, and it will strengthen the Vaishnava tradition.

### **Centre plans nationwide events under 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign in August**

The Union government has launched the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign, envisaged as a culminating event of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebration of 75 years of Indian Independence, in which soil collected from different parts of the country in August will be used to develop a garden along the Kartavya Path in Delhi.

### **Considering merging of civil areas of certain Cantonments with neighbouring State municipalities: Defence Ministry**

In order to bring uniformity in municipal laws governing civil areas of Cantonments and adjoining State municipal areas, it has been decided to consider to excise civil areas of certain Cantonments and merge them with neighbouring State municipalities, the Defence Ministry informed Parliament.

**New Chief Justice for Andhra Pradesh High Court**  
Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court. He was a judge of the Bombay High Court.

**PM Modi dedicates to nation 2,700 crore rupees International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has dedicated to the nation the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) complex at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. It was developed as a national project at a cost of about 2,700 crore rupees. With a campus area of approximately 123 acres, the IECC complex has been developed as India's largest MICE - Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions - destination.

**Parliament passes Constitution (STs) Order (5th Amendment) Bill**

Parliament has passed the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2022 with the Rajya Sabha approving it. The Bill seeks to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order 1950. The Bill includes the Dhanuwar, Dhanuwar, Kisan, Saunra, Saonra, and Binjhia communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Chhattisgarh.

**Lok Sabha Speaker accepts the no-confidence motion moved by the Opposition against the Modi government**

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has accepted the no-confidence motion moved by the Opposition against the Narendra Modi government over Manipur violence. He has requested time to discuss the issue and fix the time of debate later. Deputy leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi had moved a no-confidence motion against the Modi government.

**Lok Sabha passes Forest Conservation (Amendment) Bill**

Lok Sabha passed the Forest Conservation (Amendment) Bill without any changes from the version first introduced on March 29. The contentious Bill was introduced to amend the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

**West Bengal government announces a 'mangrove cell'**

West Bengal, which is home to about 40% of the mangrove forests in India, has announced the setting up of a 'mangrove cell' in the State, on the occasion of the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem.

**SC extends Sanjay Kumar Mishra's tenure as ED Director till September 15**

The Supreme Court in a special hearing, extended Enforcement Directorate (ED) Director Sanjay Kumar Mishra's tenure till September 15, 2023, to serve "public and national interest".

**Bengaluru becomes first Indian city to join World Cities Culture Forum**

Bengaluru has become the first Indian city to become part of the World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF,) a global network of cities that share research and intelligence, and explore the role of culture in future prosperity.

**Rajya Sabha passes Cinematograph Amendment Bill, 2023 aimed at curbing film piracy**

The Rajya Sabha passed the Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 2023 that introduces stringent anti-piracy provisions, expanding the scope of the law from censorship to also cover copyright. It proposes a jail term of up to three years and a fine up to 5% of a film's production cost for persons who use any audio-visual recording device in a place licensed to exhibit films.

**Virtual platform of cultural asset mapping of villages launched**

A unique virtual platform 'Mera Gaon Meri Dharohar' (My Village My Pride) which provides insights into the cultural was launched from the national capital's iconic heritage

site Qutub Minar. The project is being undertaken under the National Mission on Cultural Mapping in coordination with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA).

**At 120, Kerala reports highest deaths due to heatwave this year.**

As many as 120 people died in Kerala due to heatwave till June-end, the highest in the country. Kerala was followed by Gujarat with 35 deaths, Telangana 20.

**Delhi, West Bengal top list of rabies deaths**

Delhi saw the highest number of deaths due to rabies in the country in 2022, as per the information given by the Health Ministry. While Delhi reported 48 fatalities, West Bengal saw 38 deaths.

**Meta signs MoU with gov't's INDIAai for research and collaboration on AI**

Social media giant Meta has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with government's INDIAai, initiative, for collaboration on artificial intelligence and emerging technologies, which will make Meta's open-source AI models available for use by Indian AI ecosystem.

**Prime Minister Narendra Modi calls upon global private players to invest in India's semiconductor industry**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that India has emerged as a powerful energy conductor for the semiconductor industry of the world today. Inaugurating the Semicon India 2023 conclave in Gandhinagar, he urged global private players to grab the right opportunity to invest in the Indian semiconductor industry. He said, the government is giving 50 per cent financial assistance to the technology players who wish to set up semiconductor manufacturing in the country.

**Two key health Bills passed without debate in Lok Sabha**

Two key health Bills – the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill (NNMC), and the National Dental Commission Bill – were passed by Lok Sabha during the ongoing Monsoon Session of Parliament without debate and amid Opposition uproar. The Bills are aimed at repealing the Dentists Act, 1948, and the Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947, and will enhance transparency and quality in the fields of nursing, midwifery, and dentistry.

**Product basket of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana increases to 1,800 medicines & 285 Surgical Equipment**

The product basket of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana has increased to 1,800 medicines and 285 Surgical equipment. These products are available at 50 to 90 percent lower prices compared to the market.

**NHA launches 100 Microsites Project under ABDM**

The National Health Authority has launched 100 Microsites Project under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) to promote digital health adoption and make healthcare more accessible to all. The Ministry of Health said that these Microsites will be a cluster of all small and medium scale clinics, nursing homes, hospitals and other healthcare facilities that are ABDM-enabled.

**Startup20 engagement Group and Jagriti Foundation to launch 'Global Yatra'**

The Startup20 engagement Group and Jagriti Foundation under India's G20 presidency decided to launch Global Yatra in promoting inclusive entrepreneurship across the globe. It is set to be one of the world's largest entrepreneurship journeys ever undertaken, with a diverse cohort of 350 Indian participants and 70 foreign delegates from G20 countries.

**Law Commission extended deadline for submitting views on UCC till July 28**

The Law Commission has extended the deadline for the public to send their views on a uniform civil code (UCC) till July 28. On June 14, the law panel sought

responses from organisations and the public on the UCC. The one-month deadline for filing responses ended on July 14, following which it was extended.

### **Lok Sabha passes the Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill 2023**

The Lok Sabha passed the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2023 amid the din. The Bill amends the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 which regulates the mining sector. As per the Bill, the exploration license will be issued for 29 minerals which include gold, silver, copper, cobalt, nickel, lead, potash, and rock phosphate.

### **India's tiger population rises, Madhya Pradesh has most big cats**

India's tiger population increased to 3,682 in 2022, up from 2,967 in 2018, according to an estimate released. This is an upward revision from April this year, when a minimum of 3,167 animals were estimated by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), which coordinates the quadrennial tiger census.

In 2022, the maximum number of tigers, 785, was reported to be in Madhya Pradesh, followed by Karnataka (563).

### **LS Speaker inaugurates 20<sup>th</sup> annual conference of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association**

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has inaugurated the 20<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, India Region. The conference will deliberate on natural disasters and strategies for management with special reference to the northeast region.

### **Ministry of Education signs 106 MoUs with various esteemed organizations & institutions**

The Ministry of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship signed 106 MoUs with various esteemed organizations and institutions in New Delhi. The event took place on the occasion of the Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam 2023 and the 3rd anniversary of the National Education Policy.

### **ISRO successfully launches 7 Singaporean satellites on board PSLV-C56**

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) 's PSLV-C56 rocket has successfully launched the Singapore's DS-SAR satellite and six co-passenger payloads from the first launch-pad of SDSC-SHAR in Sriharikota.

### **Over 1200 Biogas plants including 320 CBG plants across India registered on GOBARdhan portal**

The Centre said that over 1200 Biogas plants including 320 Compressed Biogas Plants-CBG plants across the country have been registered on the GOBARdhan portal so far. Since its launch, the Unified Registration Portal for GOBARdhan has been witnessing laudable enthusiasm from States, Union Territories, Biogas operators and investors.

## **BANKING & ECONOMY**

### **Govt permitted all PSBs and eligible Private Sector Banks to implement and operationalize MSSC , 2023**

Government has permitted all Public Sector Banks and eligible Private Sector Banks to implement and operationalise the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate, 2023. Under this scheme, an account can be opened on or before the 31st of March 2025 for a tenure of two years.

### **Tamil Nadu topped NITI Aayog export preparedness index 2022, Gujarat skids to 4th slot**

Tamil Nadu has been ranked the No. 1 State in Export Preparedness Index (EPI) for 2022. It is followed by Maharashtra and Karnataka. Gujarat has been pushed to the fourth slot this time. Tamil Nadu has been in the top 5 list among Large/Coastal States' categories in the past two years.

### **Govt revised interest rates for small saving schemes for next three months**

The government revised the interest rates for small saving schemes for the next three months. Recurring deposit holders would get a 6.5%. One-year term deposit will get 6.9% and two-year term deposit will earn 7%. The interest rates for PPF have been retained at 7.1 per cent. The interest rate on the National Savings Certificate remained unchanged at 7.7 per cent. Sukanya Samridhi account scheme will continue to get 8 per cent interest.

### **Reached staff-level agreement with Pakistan on 3-billion-dollar stand-by arrangement :IMF**

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced that it has reached a staff-level agreement with Pakistan on a 3-billion-dollar stand-by arrangement.

### **GST mop-up raised 12% to over ₹1.61 lakh cr. in June.**

GST collections crossed ₹1.60 lakh crore mark for the fourth time since the roll-out of the indirect tax regime, rising 12% to over ₹1.61 lakh crore in June.

### **Payments using ICC on foreign visits to not attract TCS**

Payments made by using international credit cards (ICC) during overseas visits will not attract Tax Collected at Source (TCS), as per a notification issued by the finance ministry.

### **Centre plans to make geotagging, biometric authentication mandatory to curb fake assesses.**

To curb the practice of fake GST invoices and bogus entities, the central government is planning to make geotagging of addresses of all companies mandatory. Also, there are plans to make biometric authentication mandatory for entities found to be risky.

### **India doubles its share of global commercial services exports between 2005 and 2022**

India has doubled its share of global commercial services exports to 4.4% in 2022 from 2% in 2005, according to a World Bank and World Trade Organization (WTO) report.

### **Made-in-India Harley-Davidson X440 debuts in India starting ₹2.29 lakh.**

India's Hero MotoCorp, and American motorcycle-maker Harley-Davidson have introduced their co-developed premium motorcycle--the Harley-Davidson X440 in India at price starting ₹2,29,000.

### **Jio unveils Jio Bharat internet-enabled phones**

Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd. has introduced Jio Bharat internet-enabled phones at ₹999. The company has also announced unlimited voice calls and 14 GB data for ₹123 per month for the users of this phone.

### **HSBC started global private banking in India**

HSBC has started its global private banking business in India to serve high net worth and ultra-high net worth professionals, entrepreneurs and their families.

### **Triumph, Bajaj Auto unveiled Speed 400, Scrambler 400 X in India**

British motorcycle maker Triumph, in collaboration with Bajaj Auto, has unveiled Speed 400 and Scrambler 400 X in the India market. The motorcycles will be manufactured at Bajaj Auto's new Chakan plant.

### **Karnataka Bank opened technology and business hub in Bengaluru**

Karnataka Bank opened a state-of-the-art 'Technology & Digital Hub' at Artisan RPS Tech Centre, J.P. Nagar in Bengaluru. The aim is to consolidate all its tech and digital operations under one roof.

### **Meta officially launched Twitter rival Threads.**

Meta has officially launched a new app called Threads, which is intended to offer a space for real-time conversations online.



### **Market valuation of BSE-listed firms hit lifetime peak of ₹301.10 lakh crore**

The market capitalisation (m-cap) of BSE-listed firms hit a lifetime peak of ₹301.10 lakh crore in morning trade on July 6, driven by a positive trend in domestic equities.

### **Finance Minister reviews performance of Public Sector Banks for financial year 2022-23**

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired a meeting to review the performance of Public Sector Banks, (PSBs) in New Delhi. She said the asset quality of PSBs has improved significantly with gross NPAs at 4.97 percent and net NPAs at 1.24 percent in March 2023. During the last financial year, PSBs earned a record aggregate net profit of around one lakh five thousand crore rupees.

### **Geocoding Functionality For Businesses Now Available In All States, UTs**

The GST Network (GSTN) announced geocoding functionality is now available in all states and union territories. Geocoding enables the identification of the precise location of registered entities, aiding in the detection of fraudulent registrations.

### **Adani bought 30% in Trainman**

Adani Enterprises has bought almost 30% stake in Start Enterprises Pvt. Ltd, which owns the online train ticket booking platform Trainman.

### **India, Tanzania started trade settlements in local currencies**

India and Tanzania have started trade settlements in local currencies and this new initiative will help in promoting commerce between the two countries. Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, and Canara Bank have operations in Tanzania.

### **3rd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting was held in Kevadia, Gujarat**

As part of India's G20 presidency, the third Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting was held in Kevadia, Gujarat. More than 75 international delegates from various G20 countries are taking part in the three-day meeting at Kevadiya.

### **NHB operationalizes ₹10,000-crore Urban Infrastructure Development Fund**

The National Housing Bank (NHB) has operationalized the ₹10,000-crore Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF) announced in this year's Budget for creation of urban infrastructure in tier-2 and tier-3 cities. The initial corpus for this fund managed by NHB is ₹10,000 crore.

### **Foxconn withdrew from India's semiconductor JV with Vedanta**

Taiwan-based Hon Hai Technology Group, better known as Foxconn, has pulled out of its joint venture with the Vedanta Group. Under the \$19.5 billion joint venture, the two firms were set to jointly invest into a semiconductor fabrication plant in Gujarat, which would make 28-nanometre semiconductors.

### **India overtakes China as most attractive emerging market for investing**

India has overtaken China as the most attractive emerging market for investing for sovereign wealth funds in 2023 due to its solid demographics, political stability and proactive regulation, a report by the Invesco Global Sovereign Asset Management said.

### **India poised to become world's 2nd-largest economy by 2075 crossing Japan, Germany & US**

Investment Bank Goldman Sachs has said that India is poised to become the world's second-largest economy by 2075 crossing Japan, Germany and the US. With a population of 1.4 billion people, India's GDP is estimated to expand remarkably, reaching 52.5 trillion dollars surpassing the US GDP projection.

### **IoTWorld bagged order from IFFCO for supply of 500 agri-drones**

Agri-drone maker IoTWorld Avigation has secured a large contract from cooperative fertiliser major IFFCO for supplying 500 drones, which will be primarily used for spraying nano liquid urea and DAP.

### **Net direct tax mopped -up grows 16% to ₹4.75 lakh crore so far this fiscal**

Direct tax collections have picked up pace over the past month, with net inflows rising 15.9% to ₹4.75 lakh crore by July 9, helping the government meet more than 26% of its target for this year.

### **India & Bangladesh started bilateral trade in rupees**

India and Bangladesh have started bilateral trade in rupees. Bangladesh thus became the 19th country to trade with India in rupees.

### **Uniform 28% GST on full face value of casino, online game, horse race bets**

GST Council has recommended 28 per cent rate at full face value for online gaming, casinos and horse racing. The Council also decided to exempt import of cancer drugs and food for special needs from GST, besides clarifying that food and beverages bought separately in a cinema hall is to attract GST at the rate of 5 per cent.

### **IMF Approved \$3 Billion Bailout For Pakistan**

The International Monetary Fund's board had approved a \$3 billion bailout programme for Pakistan, which will immediately disburse about \$1.2 billion to help the South Asian country.

### **IIP grew by 5.2% in May 2023 from 4.2% in April 2022**

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew by 5.2 percent in May 2023 from 4.2 percent in April this year. As per the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation data, the manufacturing sector's output grew 5.5 percent and Mining output rose by 5.8 percent for the reported period.

### **Retail inflation increased to 4.81% in June 2023**

Retail inflation, based on Consumer Price Index (CPI), stood at 4.81 percent in June this year. Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) for the last month rises to 4.49 percent as compared to 2.91 percent in May, mainly due to a rise in vegetable prices.

### **LIC raised holding in Tata Consumer Products, Deepak Nitrite**

Life Insurance Corporation of India has increased its holding in Tata Consumer Products and Deepak Nitrite by about 2 percentage points each.

### **Rajnish Kumar, Mohandas Pai to join BYJU'S advisory council**

Rajnish Kumar, former chairperson of the State Bank of India, and Mohandas Pai, investor and former CFO of Infosys would joined the newly constituted advisory council of BYJU'S, the edtech firm said.

### **Bank of Baroda rolled out MSSC scheme for women**

Bank of Baroda has announced the introduction of the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) Scheme, a new initiative which was announced in the Union Budget 2023-24 for the benefit of women.

### **Ramco Industries, Ramco Cements sold their holding in LYNK Logistics to Swiggy**

Ramco Industries Ltd. and Ramco Cements Limited have decided to sell their entire stake in LYNK Logistics Ltd. to Bundl Technologies, which owns Swiggy, the online food delivery platform.

### **India's overall exports in June 2023 estimated at 60.09 billion dollars**

India's overall exports in June 2023 is estimated to be 60.09 billion dollars. Trade deficit has improved by 28.26 percent during April to June 2023 to 22.59 billion dollars from 31.49 billion dollars in April to June 2022.

### **India and UAE set to use rupee, dirham for trade**

India moved a step closer to increasing circulation of the rupee in the Gulf region with the signing of two memoranda of understanding (MoU) between the Reserve Bank of India and the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates.

### **India and UAE signed historic Memorandum of Understanding on LCS system.**

India & UAE have signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding on the Local Currency Settlement (LCS) system. This groundbreaking agreement, signed between the Reserve Bank of India and the Central Bank of the UAE, aims to revolutionize cross-border transactions between the two nations.

### **Piyush Goyal launches sale of subsidized Chana Dal at ₹60/kg under 'Bharat Dal' brand.**

Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution Minister Piyush Goyal has launched the sale of subsidized Chana Dal under the brand name 'Bharat Dal' at the rate of 60 rupees per kilogram for one-kilogram pack and 55 rupees per kilogram for 30-kilogram pack.

### **ADB retains India's growth forecast at 6.4% for current fiscal**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has retained India's economic growth forecast at 6.4 per cent for the current financial year and 6.7 per cent for the next.

### **Tata Sons to build battery cell gigafactory in U.K. with investment of £4 billion**

Tata Sons has announced plans to establish a global battery cell gigafactory in the U.K. with a capacity to produce 40GW of cells annually. This investment of over £4 billion is an integral part of Tata Group's commitment to electric mobility and renewable energy storage solutions in UK.

### **Sundaram Clayton renamed TVS Holdings Ltd.**

Auto components manufacturer Sundaram Clayton Ltd. (SCL) has been renamed TVS Holdings Ltd. (TVSH). This follows the amalgamation of TVS Holdings Pvt. Ltd. with SCL effective from June 16.

### **Centre prohibits export of non-basmati white rice to ensure availability at reasonable prices**

The Centre has prohibited the export of non-basmati white rice to ensure adequate domestic availability at reasonable prices.. Non-Basmati White Rice constitutes about 25 percent of total rice exported from the country.

### **India's share in world foodgrain exports increased from 3.38% in 2010 to 7.79% in 2022**

India's share in the world foodgrains market based on export values stands at 7.79 percent in 2022. India's exports of foodgrains have registered a steady growth in the last few years which is reflected in the increase in India's share in world foodgrain exports from 3.38 percent in 2010 to 7.79 percent in 2022.

### **India's coal sector recorded highest ever production**

India's coal sector has recorded highest ever production of over 223 million tonnes in the April - June quarter of 2023-24.

### **PACS provide services offered by Common Service Centres across country.**

The Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) will provide services offered by Common Service Centres (CSC) from, July 21 across the country. The Union Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah said that the PACS will provide more than 300 services.

### **Twitter launches new logo, drops bluebird for X as part of wider rebranding.**

Twitter has launched its new logo, dropping the blue bird on its website for an X as part of a wider rebranding. Twitter owner

Elon Musk and its Chief Executive Officer Linda Yaccarino unveiled the new logo for the social media network.

### **Interest rate on deposits under EPF scheme hiked to 8.15% for FY 2022-23**

The Centre has approved an interest rate of 8.15 percent on deposits under the Employees Provident Fund scheme for the financial year 2022-23.

### **ITC approves demerger of hotels business**

ITC Ltd said its board has accorded in-principle approval to demerge the hotels business. Under the scheme of arrangement, ITC will hold a stake of about 40 per cent in the new entity and the balance 60 per cent will be held directly by its shareholders proportionate to their shareholding in the company.

### **SEBI plans instantaneous settlements by next year**

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is working to implement instantaneous settlements in secondary market trades and is likely to complete the process next fiscal year.

### **RIL partners Brookfield for data centre business in India**

Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) had entered into an agreement to invest alongside Brookfield Infrastructure and Digital Realty in their Indian SPVs set up for developing data centres in India.

### **IMF projects Indian economy to grow at 6.1% in 2023**

The IMF has projected a growth rate of 6.1% for India in 2023, which is a 0.2 percentage point upward revision compared with the April projection.

### **China names Pan Gongsheng to lead central bank, succeeding Yi Gang**

Pan Gongsheng was named China's central bank governor in the widely anticipated final major appointment of the ruling Communist Party's once-a-decade change of power.

### **Canara Bank Q1 net up 75%**

Canara Bank has reported net profit for the June-ended quarter rose almost 75% to ₹3,534.8 crore year-on-year. The lender's net interest income grew 27.7% to ₹8,665.7 crore.

### **Axis Bank Q1 net profit rises 40% to ₹5,797 crore.**

Private sector lender Axis Bank has posted a 40.5% increase in standalone net profit to ₹5,797 crore in the April-June quarter, mainly due to decline in bad loans and improvement in interest income.

### **U.S. Q2 GDP growth unexpectedly accelerates to 2.4% despite Fed hikes**

The U.S. economy surprisingly accelerated to a 2.4% annual growth rate from April through June, showing continued resilience in the face of steadily higher interest rates resulting from the Federal Reserve's 16-month-long fight to bring down inflation.

### **Pakistan granted rollover on \$2.4bn Chinese loan**

China has granted Pakistan a two-year rollover on a \$2.4 billion loan, giving the debt-saddled nation breathing space in its balance-of-payments crisis.

### **Govt. allows Indian companies to list on foreign exchanges through IFSC**

Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said that Indian companies can now list their shares on foreign exchanges operating at GIFT City-based International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in Gujarat.

### **India SaaS ecosystem may generate \$50-\$70 bn revenue by 2030: report**

The India SaaS ecosystem is expected to generate anywhere between \$50 billion to \$70 billion in revenue and \$500 billion in enterprise value by 2030, showed a report by SaaSBoomi and McKinsey.

### **India, Tanzania began trade settlements in local currencies**

India and Tanzania have started trade settlements in local currencies and this new initiative will help in promoting commerce between the two countries. Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, and Canara Bank have operations in Tanzania. India-Tanzania bilateral trade has seen very strong growth and stood at \$6.4 billion in 2022-23.

**U.S. chipmaker AMD to invest \$400 mn in India**  
U.S. chipmaker Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) has announced a \$400-million investment in India over the next five years and said it will build its largest design centre in Bengaluru.

**IDFC First Bank Q1 net profit rises 61% to ₹765 crore**  
IDFC FIRST Bank reported first-quarter net profit climbed 61% year-on-year to ₹765 crore, from ₹474 crore a year earlier, driven by strong growth in core operating income.

**Walmart buys Tiger Global's Flipkart stake for \$1.4 billion**  
Walmart has paid \$1.4 billion to buy out hedge fund Tiger Global's investment in e-commerce firm Flipkart. The transaction brings the value of the e-commerce firm to \$35 billion from nearly \$38 billion after it sold its shares to Japan's SoftBank, U.S. retailer Walmart and other investors in 2021.

**Nestle India to invest ₹4,200 crore till 2025**  
Nestle India is committed to making investments of about ₹4,200 crore till 2025, which will include investments in setting up its tenth factory in Odisha.

## **AWARDS**

### **The Hindu ePaper Learning Corner bags second prize at WAN-IFRA Digital Media Awards**

The Hindu ePaper Learning Corner has won the second prize at the WAN-IFRA Digital Media Awards Worldwide 2023 under the best ePaper concept category.

### **PM Narendra Modi to be awarded prestigious Lokmanya Tilak Award 2023**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be conferred with Lokmanya Tilak National Award in Pune on August 1 in recognition of his supreme leadership and for awakening the feeling of patriotism among citizens.

### **Six-member Indian team secured two Gold medals at 64th International Mathematical Olympiad 2023**

The six-member Indian team secured two gold medals at the 64th International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) 2023 held at Chiba, Japan. The Indian team also managed to get two Silver and two Bronze medals and finished 9th out of 112 countries. This is the fourth time India secured a position in the top 10.

### **President Murmu presented 'Bhoomi Samman' 2023 in New Delhi**

President Droupadi Murmu presented "Bhoomi Samman" 2023 in New Delhi. Bhoomi Samman will be given to nine State Secretaries (IBO) by securing four gold medals. The winners are Megh Chhabda from Jalna district of Maharashtra, Dhruv Advani from Bengaluru in Karnataka, Ishan Pednekar from Kota, Rajasthan and Rahit Panda from Risali, Chhattisgarh

### **India topped in the medals tally in 34th International Biology Olympiad, secured four gold medals**

India topped the medals tally at the 34th International Biology Olympiad (IBO) by securing four gold medals. The winners are Megh Chhabda from Jalna district of Maharashtra, Dhruv Advani from Bengaluru in Karnataka, Ishan Pednekar from Kota, Rajasthan and Rahit Panda from Risali, Chhattisgarh

### **Best Web Series Award introduced at IFFI-Goa**

Union Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said the "Best Web Series Award" at the International Film Festival of India-Goa would be presented beginning this year, to an exceptional web series for its artistic merit, storytelling excellence, technical prowess and overall impact.

### **President Murmu accepted credentials from envoys of five nations**

President Droupadi Murmu has accepted credentials from envoys of five nations. Ambassadors from the Republics of Chad, Burundi, Finland, Angola and Ethiopia presented their credentials.

### **Indian-Origin 7-Year-Old Schoolgirl Wins UK PM's Points Of Light Award**

An seven-year-old Indian-origin schoolgirl Moksha Roy, who started volunteering for a United Nations' sustainability initiative against microplastic pollution when she was just three, has been awarded the British Prime Minister's Points of Light award.

**Italy Honoured Indian Army contribution in 2<sup>nd</sup> World War**  
Remembering the supreme sacrifices of the Indian Soldiers, the Commune of Monotone (in Italy) and Italian Military historians have unveiled "V.C Yeshwant Ghadge Sundial Memorial" at Montone (Perugia, Italy) as a tribute to the Indian troops who fought during Italian Campaign during the Second World War.

### **President Droupadi Murmu presents National Geoscience Awards-2022 in New Delhi**

President Droupadi Murmu presented the National Geoscience Awards-2022. Twenty-two geoscientists, including two women, were awarded.

The National Geoscience Award for Lifetime Achievement: Dr. Om Narain Bhargava

The National Young Geoscientist Award: Dr. Amiya Kumar Samal

## **PERSONS IN NEWS (National and International)**

### **Admiral Lisa Franchetti**

USA President Joe Biden has nominated Admiral Lisa Franchetti to lead the Navy, an historic step that would break a gender barrier in the U.S. military by making her the first woman to command the service and to become a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

### **Pedro Sanchez**

Pedro Sanchez was formally named caretaker Prime Minister of an interim government that will remain in place until Spain resolves the political uncertainty that emerged from Sunday's inconclusive elections.

### **Dr Thani Al Zeyoudi**

UAE Minister for Foreign Trade Dr Thani Al Zeyoudi has been elected as the chair of the World Trade Organisation's 13th Ministerial Conference that will be held in Abu Dhabi in February 2024.

### **Hun Sen**

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, one of the world's longest-serving leaders, said he will resign and hand power to his eldest son after almost four decades of hardline rule. His Cambodian People's Party (CPP) won a landslide victory in an election on Sunday with no meaningful opposition.

### **Tushar Mehta**

Senior advocate Tushar Mehta was re-appointed as the Solicitor General of India for a term of three years. Mehta was appointed as Solicitor General on October 10, 2018 and since then he had been granted extension twice.

### **Rajaraman**

Telecom Secretary K Rajaraman will be the next chairman of the International Financial Services Centre's Authority (IFSCA). He has been appointed as IFSCA chief for three years from the date of his assuming charge of the post.

### **Mark Rutte**

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte has announced that he was quitting politics after nearly 13 years in power, in a shock end to his time as the longest-serving leader in the history of the Netherlands.

### **James Skea**

James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea of the United Kingdom was elected as the new chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in Nairobi, Kenya. Skea beat his nearest rival, Thelma Krug of Brazil, in a run-off.

### **Hirsh Vardhan Singh**

Hirsh Vardhan Singh, an Indian American engineer has become the third Indian-American vying for the Republican nomination for the 2024 US presidential race after former South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley and entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy.

### **Nisha Biswal**

Indian American policy expert Nisha Biswal is confirmed by the Senate to serve as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of a US finance agency. Ms. Biswal will serve as the Deputy CEO of the United States International Development Finance Corporation.

### **Ajit Pawar**

The Nationalist Congress Party leader Ajit Pawar, led a vertical split in his NCP party and joined hands with the National Democratic Alliance. Mr. Ajit Pawar took oath as the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra for the fifth time.

### **Naveen Patnaik**

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik achieved a remarkable milestone, equaling the record set by former West Bengal CM Jyoti Basu as the second longest-serving Chief Minister in India. Mr. Patnaik has held the position for an impressive 23 years and 138 days, sharing this rank with the late veteran CPI (M) leader.

### **Bimaljit Singh**

Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin has appointed Indian American gastroenterologist Bimaljit Singh Sandhu to a key administration position in the health sector. Mr. Sandhu was sworn in as a Board member of the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority.

### **Rakesh Pal**

Rakesh Pal has been appointed as the 25th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). He is an alumnus of the Indian Naval Academy and joined Indian Coast Guard in January 1989.

### **P Vasudevan**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed P. Vasudevan as a new Executive Director. Prior to being promoted as ED, Mr. Vasudevan was the Chief General Manager-in-charge of the Department of Payment and Settlement Systems.

### **McCray Penson**

Two-time Olympic gold medalist (1996 Atlanta and 2000 Sydney Games) Nikki McCray-Penson has died aged 51. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2013. She was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 2012.

### **Milan Kundera**

Milan Kundera, the author of "The Unbearable Lightness of Being" whose dark, provocative novels delved into the enigma of the human condition, has died.

### **Oommen Chandy**

Senior Congress leader Oommen Chandy, who served as the chief minister of Kerala twice, died in Bengaluru. He was the chief minister twice for a total of seven years (2004–2006 and again from 2011–2016).

### **Tony Bennett**

The legendary New York pop and jazz singer Tony Bennett died on Friday aged 96. Bennett was known for songs such as The Way You Look Tonight, Body and Soul and (I Left My Heart) In San Francisco.

### **Sinead O'Connor**

Irish singer Sinead O'Connor, who shot to fame in the 1990s with the song "Nothing Compares 2 U", has died at the age of 56.

## **SPORTS**

### **Neeraj Chopra clinched Lausanne Diamond League 2023 title**

Neeraj Chopra clinched the Lausanne Diamond League 2023 title with the best throw of 87.66 meters. Neeraj returned from an injury that had caused him to miss some competitions after his win at Diamond League 2023 event in Doha in May.

### **Dipika Pallikal and Harinderpal Singh Sandhu won Asian Mixed Doubles Squash Championships**

India's Dipika Pallikal and Harinder Pal Sandhu won the gold medal at the Asian Mixed Doubles Squash Tournament in Hangzhou.

### **India beat Iran to win Asian Kabaddi Championship in Busan, South Korea**

India beat Iran 42-32 in the final of the Asian Kabaddi Championship 2023 in Busan, Korea. This is India's eighth title in nine editions.

### **Two-time champions West Indies fail to qualify for ICC World Cup 2023**

Two-time champions West Indies failed to qualify for the 2023 ODI World Cup in India after suffering a shock seven-wicket defeat against Scotland in a Super Six match of the qualifier in Harare on 1st July 2023.

### **Yuki Bhambri won maiden ATP doubles title in Mallorca, Spain**

India's Yuki Bhambri has clinched his maiden title on the ATP World Tour, winning the doubles trophy at the Mallorca Championships with South African partner Lloyd Harris, in Spain.

### **Indian cricket team to be sponsored by Dream11 for three years.**

Fantasy gaming company Dream11 will be the lead sponsor of India's national cricket team for three years, the country's cricket board announced.

### **India lifts SAFF Championships trophy for ninth time**

India have lifted the SAFF Championships trophy for the ninth time, beating Kuwait 5-4 in the penalty shoot-out in the final after a 1-1 stalemate at the end of regulation time at Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru.

### **Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee appointed Ajit Agarkar as Chairman**

Ajit Agarkar has been appointed as chairman of the Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee. The Selection Committee now consists of Ajit Agarkar, Shiv Sundar Das, Subroto Banerjee, Salil Ankola, and Sridharan Sharath.

### **37th Hyderabad Sailing Week & Laser National Championship takes off in Hyderabad**

The prestigious 37th Hyderabad Sailing Week and Laser National Championship has taken off under the aegis of

EME Sailing Association (EMESA), Laser Class Association of India, and Secunderabad Sailing Club at Hussain Sagar Lake in Hyderabad.

#### **World Archery Youth Championships: Indian pair Priyansh & Avneet Kaur won gold**

Indian archers Priyansh and Avneet Kaur won gold in the junior mixed team compound event, defeating Israel in the final of the World Archery Youth Championships in Limerick, Ireland.

#### **Indian archers won U-21 women's compound team gold**

The Indian compound U-21 women claimed another gold in the World youth archery in Limerick, Ireland. Avneet Kaur, Parneet Kaur and Pragati trounced their Mexican rivals 222-214 in the summit clash.

#### **Aditi clinched compound u-18 women's individual gold**

Aditi Swami defeated USA's Leann Drake 142-136 in the final to emerge the compound under-18 women's individual champion in the World youth archery championships at Limerick, Ireland.

#### **Lakshya Sen clinched Men's Singles title of Canada Open Badminton**

Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen clinched Men's Singles title of the Canada Open 2023 badminton tournament defeating Li Shi Feng of China 21-18, 22-20 in the in Calgary, Canada.

#### **British GP: Verstappen won sixth straight race**

Max Verstappen reeled off his sixth straight win in British Grand Prix with Lando Norris for McLaren in second. Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton completed the Silverstone podium.

#### **England beats Spain to win dramatic Under-21 Euro final.**

England won the under-21 European Championship for the first time since 1984 as Curtis Jones' goal beat Spain 1-0 in final.

#### **Parth Salunkhe became first Indian to win Youth World Championship in recurve category**

Parth Salunkhe warded off a strong challenge from Korean Song In Jun 7-3 in the final to become the recurve under-21 men's individual champion in the World youth archery championships in Limerick, Ireland.

#### **Rudransh created world record on way to pistol gold at WSPS World Cup**

India para-shooters Rudransh Khandelwal and Nihal Singh won the gold and silver respectively in the P4 Mixed 50m pistol SH1 category at the World Shooting Para Sport (WSPS) World Cup. Rudransh created a world record in the event, shooting a score of 231.1 in the final.

#### **Australian Cameron Smith won the LIV Golf London event**

Australian Cameron Smith has won the LIV Golf London event at Centurion Golf Club, Hemel Hempstead. Playing in his final event before defending his title this month - went into the final day of the 54-hole event with a three-stroke lead.

#### **Allisen Corpuz Claimed Biggest Purse In Women's Golf History With U.S. Open**

Allisen Corpuz from Hawaii has won her first LPGA title ever at the 2023 U.S. Women's Open in Pebble Beach, California. With this she also won the biggest payout in women's golf history. The 2023 Women's U.S. Open boasted a record-setting \$11 million purse, the largest in tour history.

#### **Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships begun at Gautam Budh University, Greater Noida**

Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships has begun at the Gautam Budh University, Greater Noida. As many as 253 weightlifters, including 52 Indians, are competing across the senior, junior, and youth categories in the five-day tournament.

#### **Nishad Kumar clinched silver medal in ongoing Para Athletics World Championships 2023**

India's Nishad Kumar has clinched a silver medal in the ongoing Para Athletics World Championships 2023. Nishad bagged this medal in the High Jump T47 Event.

#### **India bagged 3 gold medals on opening day of Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships**

India has won three gold medals so far in the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships, which began at the Gautam Budh University, Greater Noida. Athlete Jyotsna Sabar has clinched gold in 40 kg Youth Category, Asmita in 45 kg Youth & Junior Category, and Komal Kohar in 45 kg Senior category.

#### **Badminton: India bagged nine medals in World Deaf Youth Championships**

India ended their campaign in the 3rd World Deaf Youth Badminton Championship on a successful note, winning nine medals in the event held in Para de Minas, a municipality town in Brazil. India bagged four silver and five bronze medals in the championship held from July 10-12.

#### **Ashwin became first Indian bowler to dismiss father and son in his Test career**

Senior Indian off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin achieved a rare distinction of getting the wickets of both father and son in his illustrious Test career when he dismissed Tagenarine Chanderpaul on the opening day of the first Test against the West Indies. Ashwin had earlier dismissed Tagenarine's father Shivnarine Chanderpaul during his maiden appearance in the longest format.

#### **Ashwin became second highest wicket taker for India**

R. Ashwin became the second-highest wicket-taker for India behind Anil Kumble (953) in international cricket. He surpassed Harbhajan Singh's tally (707) during the first Test against West Indies in Dominica. Ashwin took 12/131 in the match and now has 709 wickets in 271 international matches.

#### **Sangeeta won bronze at Hungary Ranking Series wrestling event**

Sangeeta Phogat won a bronze medal in the non-Olympic 59 kg category that featured six grapplers at the Hungary Ranking Series tournament.

#### **Tennis, Carlos Alcaraz wins maiden Wimbledon title**

Spain's Carlos Alcaraz ended Novak Djokovic's long reign at the All England Club to win his first Wimbledon 2023 title and his second Grand Slam title with a 1-6 7-6(6) 6-1 3-6 6-4 victory in the final at the Centre Court in London. Meanwhile, Marketa Vondrousova becomes first unseeded woman to win singles title at the All England Club.

#### **Asian Athletics Championships 2023: India finished 3rd with 27 medals in Bangkok, Thailand**

In Asian Athletics Championships in Bangkok, India finished third, winning 27 medals, with 6 Gold, 12 Silver and 9 Bronze. Japan finished on top with 37 medals, including 16 Gold medals.

#### **Martina Devi won 2 Silver medals in Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship**

In Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship, India's Martina Devi has won 2 silver medals in Women's 81kg Youth category and 87kg Junior category, with a total lift of 213 kg.

#### **Prithviraj Tondaiman bagged bronze medal at ISSF Shotgun World Cup in Italy**

In shooting, India shooter Prithviraj Tondaiman bagged the bronze medal in the men's trap event at the ISSF Shotgun World Cup Lonato 2023 in Italy. Prithviraj Tondaiman's bronze was India's only medal at the Lonato shooting meet.

### **Australia's state of Victoria not to host 2026 Commonwealth Games**

Australia's state of Victoria will not be hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games due to projected exceeding expenditures. This has raised doubts on the multi-sport event that takes place every four years.

### **Mexico beats Panama 1-0 in CONCACAF Gold Cup final.**

Santiago Giménez scored after an electrifying sprint in the 88th minute, and Mexico won the Concacaf Gold Cup for the record ninth time with a 1-0 victory over Panama.

### **Golf: McIlroy won Scottish Open**

Rory McIlroy birdied the last two holes for a 2-under 68 to win the Genesis Scottish Open, his first victory on Scottish soil.

### **Satwiksairaj sets Guinness world record for fastest badminton shot.**

Indian Shuttler Satwiksairaj Rankireddy has set the Guinness world record for the fastest shot by a male player in badminton, recording a mindboggling 565 kilometres per hour with his smash during the game.

### **ISSF Junior World C'ships: Harmehar Singh Lally, Sanjana Sood win silver medal**

In shooting, India bagged one silver to stay in the second position of the medal tally on Day 4 of the ISSF Junior World Championships, in Changwon, Korea. Indian pair of Harmehar Singh Lally and Sanjana Sood won a silver medal in the skeet mixed team event.

### **Indian Surf Team won bronze medal at Asian Surfing Championship in Maldives**

Indian Surf Team have won the bronze medal at the Asian Surfing Championship, held at Thulisdhoo Island in Maldives.

### **England's Stuart Broad became second pace bowler to take 600 wickets in Test cricket.**

England's Stuart Broad has become the second pace bowler to take 600 wickets in Test cricket. He reached the mark by removing Australia's Travis Head on day one of the fourth Ashes Test at Old Trafford. England team-mate James Anderson is the only other quick bowler to achieve the feat.

### **Virat Kohli equals Sir Don Bradman's record of most test centuries after smashing his 29th ton**

India scored 438 in the first innings of the second Test at Port of Spain in Trinidad. In that innings, Virat Kohli smashed a magnificent 121 runs. With this ton, Virat Kohli has reached a milestone of 29 Test centuries in his highly anticipated 500th international game. He equalled legendary Sir Don Bradman in the list of most test centuries.

### **World Archery Para Championships: Compound archers Sarita and Rakesh won first-ever gold**

Indian compound archers Sarita and Rakesh Kumar gave a fine performance to claim the country's first-ever gold medal in the World Archery Para Championships in Pilsen, Czech Republic.

### **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy-Chirag Shetty lifted Korea Open Badminton men's doubles title**

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty continued their winning streak by lifting the Korea Open Badminton men's doubles title in Yeosu. They defeated the world no. one pair of Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto of Indonesia in a thrilling 3-game final match.

### **Denmark's Vingegaard claimed second straight Tour de France win**

Danish rider Jonas Vingegaard has won the Tour de France for a second straight year as cycling's most storied race finished on the famed Champs-Élysées.

### **F1: Verstappen delivered Red Bull record win in Hungarian Grand Prix**

Max Verstappen dominated the Hungarian Grand Prix to deliver his Red Bull team a record-breaking 12th consecutive Formula One win. Red Bull surpassed the feat of McLaren who won 11 races in 1988 with this latest demonstration of supremacy over the rest of the grid.

### **Emerging Asia Cup Final: PAK A wins by 128 runs, lifted second straight title.**

Pakistan A won the Emerging Asia Cup for the second consecutive time beating India A by 128 runs in the final on Sunday in Colombo. India A were all out in the 40th over, scoring 224 runs while chasing a target of 353 in 50 overs.

### **Golf: Brian Harman won the British Open in his first major championship**

Brian Harman shot a 1-under-par 70 to win his first major title British Open at The 151st Open Championship at Royal Liverpool Golf Club in Hoylake, England. At age 36, he is the oldest first-time major winner since Sergio Garcia was 37 when he won the Masters in 2017.

### **IND vs WI 2nd Test: India win series 1-0 after match drawn due to rain**

The test between India and West Indies ended in a draw in Port of Spain, Trinidad after the 5th day play was washed off due to rain.

### **Kamaljeet bags two gold medals in free pistol**

Kamaljeet helped India add two more gold medals by bagging the individual and team honours in the 50 m free pistol event in the Junior World Championship in Changwon, Korea.

### **India finish 2nd on medals tally at ISSF World Championship in South Korea**

India finished 2nd on the medals tally at the recently concluded ISSF Junior Shooting World Championships 2023 in Changwon, South Korea. Indian shooters bagged 17 medals, which include 6 Gold, 6 Silver, and 5 Bronze.

### **NADA has launched Anti-Doping helpline number for athletes.**

National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) has launched an Anti-Doping helpline number for the athletes and athlete support personnel to provide information about Anti-Doping rules and guidelines. The helpline number is 1800-119-919.

### **Harmanpreet Kaur suspended for two matches.**

International Cricket Council (ICC) has handed heavy punishment to India women's team skipper Harmanpreet Kaur for her aggressive behaviour during the third ODI against Bangladesh. She has been suspended for the next two international matches following two separate breaches of the ICC Code of Conduct.

### **Malaysian seamer Syazrul Idrus records best men's T20I figures**

Malaysian seamer Syazrul Idrus has become the first male cricketer to take seven wickets in a T20 International when he achieved the feat against China in the opening game of the T20 World Cup Asia B Qualifier.

### **Russia and Belarus omitted from Paris Olympics invitees.**

The IOC international Olympic Committee president Thomas Bach formally invited 203 countries, but not Russia and Belarus, to participate in the Paris Olympics. It however left the door open for Russian and Belarusian athletes to compete as neutrals in the 2024 Games without their teams competing.

### **Sports Minister inaugurates Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2023 in Greater Noida**

Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur has inaugurated the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2023 in Greater Noida. The event is being held in India for the first time. The international event will see the participation of more than 30 Indian weightlifters.

### **1000 Khelo India centres across country will be dedicated to nation in next 3 months.**

Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Youth Affairs & Sports Anurag Singh Thakur announced that 1000 Khelo India centres across the country will be dedicated to the nation in the next three months.

### **Indian Women's team clinches three gold medals at FISU Summer World University Games in Chengdu**

India opened its account at the FISU Summer World University Games with three gold medals on the opening day of the medal events in Chengdu, China. The Indian Women's team comprising Manu Bhaker, Yashaswini Deswal and Abhidhya Patil clinched gold in the 10 m Air Pistol event, ahead of China and Iran.

### **Max Verstappen wins F1 Belgian Grand Prix**

Defending Formula 1 champion Max Verstappen has won the 2023 Belgian Grand Prix. Verstappen claimed another dominating win as he stayed ahead of team-mate Sergio Perez and Ferrari's Charles Leclerc in third.

### **Indian women's team wins 100th Anniversary Spanish Hockey Federation - International Tournament in Terrassa**

Indian women's hockey team won the 100th Anniversary Spanish Hockey Federation - International Tournament in Terrassa, with a 3-0 victory over hosts Spain

### **Indian team clinches Gold in mixed team compound archery event at FISU World University Games**

The Indian team of Aman Saini and Pragati have clinched gold in the mixed team compound archery event at the FISU World University Games in Chengdu, China.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Google launched ChatGPT rival Bard in EU, Brazil**

Google launched its AI chatbot Bard in the European Union and several more nations entering a key market in its race against Microsoft-backed ChatGPT after a delay over data privacy concerns.

### **Singapore Passport is world's most powerful, replacing Japan**

Singapore has replaced Japan for having the world's most powerful passport, allowing visa-free entry to 192 global destinations, according to the latest Henley Passport Index. Afghanistan stands at the bottom of the ranking; its passport holders can visit just 27 destinations without a visa.

### **India-Mongolia joint military exercise "Nomadic Elephant - 2023" commenced in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**

Indian Army contingent comprising of 43 personnel left for Mongolia. The contingent participated in the 15th edition of bilateral joint military exercise "NOMADIC ELEPHANT-23". The exercise was conducted at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from 17 to 31 July 2023.

### **U.N. Secretary-general António Guterres says July 2023 is hottest month ever recorded**

U.N. Secretary-general António Guterres has said that the July 2023 is the hottest month ever recorded. Mr. Guterres also said the era of global boiling has arrived.

### **National Postal Worker Day was observed on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2023**

On July 1, National Postal Worker Day is observed as a way to show gratitude and recognize the tireless efforts of postal workers.

### **National Chartered Accountants Day was observed 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2023**

National Chartered Accountants Day, also known as CA Day, is observed on July 1 to commemorate the establishment of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI).

### **National Doctor's Day 2023 was observed on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2023.**

Every year on July 1st, India observes National Doctor's Day to pay tribute to the esteemed Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, who was not only a renowned doctor but also a distinguished politician, a freedom fighter, and a champion of education.

### **Chocolate Day was celebrated on 7th July, 2023**

Every year, on the 7th of July, people around the world unite to celebrate World Chocolate Day.

### **World Population Day 2023 was observed on 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.**

World Population Day is observed on the 11th of July every year. The theme for World Population Day 2023 is 'Unleashing the power of gender equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world's infinite possibilities.'

### **World Youth Skills Day was observed 15th July, 2023**

World Youth Skills Day is an annual observance held on July 15th to emphasize the significance of equipping young individuals with essential skills and encouraging their active engagement in the workforce.

### **World Brain Day 2023 was observed on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2023**

World Brain Day, also known as International Brain Day, is a worldwide healthcare event that takes place annually on July 22. In 2023, the theme for World Brain Day is "Brain Health and Disability: Leave No One Behind."

### **National Mango Day 2023 was celebrated on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2023**

National Mango Day is annually observed on July 22. Mango is one of the most-relished fruit, as well as an integral part of Indian history.

### **National Broadcasting Day 2023 was observed on July 23, 2023**

National Broadcasting Day is observed on July 23 every year in India. This day also marks the start of organised radio broadcasts in the country by All India Radio. On July 23, 1927, the India Broadcasting Company came into existence and became the first radio company in India.

### **Parents' Day 2023 was celebrated on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2023**

Parents' Day, which falls on the fourth Sunday of July each year, is a special occasion dedicated to acknowledging and appreciating parents for their selflessness.

### **Nation celebrates Kargil Vijay Diwas on July 26**

The Nation celebrates the Kargil Vijay Diwas on July 26. On this day, the country commemorates the Army's triumph over Pakistani troops in Kargil, Ladakh, in 1999, after more than 60 days of battle.

### **International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem: 26<sup>th</sup> July**

International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem is celebrated every year on July 26. This International Day was adopted by the General Conference of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2015.