

Advanced Educational Activities Pvt. Ltd.

CURRENT AFFAIRS CAPSULE (JULY 2024)

INTERNATIONAL

Hungary Takes Over Rotating Presidency of EU Council

Hungary has taken over the rotating Presidency of the Council of the European Union (EU) for six months. Hungary's European Union Affairs Minister Janos Boka has outlined the seven top priorities during Hungary's Presidency.

Iran's President-elect Pezeshkian to be sworn in August

Iran's Masoud Pezeshkian will be sworn in before parliament in early August as the Islamic Republic's ninth President. The swearing-in ceremony of the President will be held on August 4 or 5.

WHO launches MeDeVIS platform to enhance global access to medical devices

The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched the Medical Devices Information System (MeDeVIS), an open-access online platform to streamline global access to medical technologies and devices.

Death Toll From Southern Ethiopia Landslides Rises To 229

The death toll from two landslides in southern Ethiopia has jumped to 229 and could rise further as the search for survivors and casualties continues.

UN report says around 733 million people globally faced hunger in 2023

According to the latest State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) report, around 733 million people faced hunger in 2023. It said that the situation in Africa was particularly dire, with one in five people there experiencing hunger.

UN Says, 80% of Gazans now displaced

The UN humanitarian coordinator for Gaza said that 1.9 million people 80% of the territory's population were now displaced.

U.K. General Election 2024: Labour Party wins landslide victory

Britain's main opposition Labour party has won a landslide election win, with Keir Starmer replacing Rishi Sunak as Prime Minister, thereby ending 14 years of Conservative rule.

MAITREE Military Exercise held between India-Thailand

The Indian Army contingent has participated in the 13th edition of Exercise MAITREE, a joint military exercise with Thailand. The exercises took place at Fort Vachiraprakan in Tak Province, Thailand.

Belarus joins SCO as 10th member state

Belarus has joined the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), becoming its 10th member state. Belarus became a dialogue partner in the SCO in 2010 and an observer state in 2015.

UK PM Keir Starmer Appoints Cabinet

New UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer has appointed his cabinet, making Angela Rayner the Deputy Prime Minister and Rachel Reeves the country's first female Chancellor of the Exchequer. Starmer's cabinet included a record 11 women in the team of 25.

French President refuses Prime Minister's resignation

French President Emmanuel Macron has refused the resignation of the country's Prime Minister Gabriel Attal, asking him to remain temporarily as the head of the government after chaotic election results left the government in limbo.

Three Mongolian Parties Sign MoU to Form Coalition Govt

In Mongolia, the ruling Mongolian People's Party (MPP), the main opposition Democratic Party (DP), and the Hun Party signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to form a coalition government.

Japan, Philippines sign defence pact

Japan and the Philippines have signed a key defence pact Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA), allowing the deployment of Japanese forces for joint military exercises, including live-fire drills as they face an increasingly assertive China.

Pakistan says 1.45 million Afghan refugees can stay for another year

The Pakistani government announced that it is extending the stay of 1.45 million Afghan refugees who legally reside in the country, a day after a visit by the U.N. refugee agency. Afghan refugees with proper documentation will be able to remain in Pakistan until June 30, 2025.

Bangladesh, China sign 21 agreements

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina met President Xi Jinping and her Chinese counterpart Li Qiang in Beijing as the two countries signed 21 agreements, and MoUs and announced seven more projects to further elevate their strategic cooperative ties.

NATO & Korea Sign Agreement For Military Airworthiness Certification

South Korea and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) have signed an agreement on a mutual recognition process for military airworthiness certification. It is NATO's first such deal with an Asian country.

Argentina brands Hamas a terror group

Argentina has declared the Palestinian group Hamas an "international terrorist organization". The October 7 Hamas attack on southern Israel resulted in 1,195 deaths, mostly civilians.

France, Germany, Italy, and Poland agree to jointly develop long-range cruise missiles

France, Germany, Italy, and Poland have signed a letter of intent to develop ground-launched cruise missiles with a range beyond 500 km aiming to fill what they say is a gap in European arsenals exposed by Russia's war in Ukraine.

UN report says India's population to peak at 1.7 billion, in the next 35 years

According to the UN DESA report titled 'World Population Prospects 2024', India's population is expected to remain the world's largest throughout the century and is projected to peak at roughly 1.7 billion in the early 2060s before dropping by 12 percent.

India Releases 2.5 Million Dollars For Palestine Refugees

India released the first installment of 2.5 million dollars to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, UNRWA, for Palestine refugees for the year 2024-25.

Belarus to Introduce a 90-day Visa-Free Policy For 35 European Countries

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus said that it will introduce a 90-day visa-free policy for 35 European countries. The policy will take effect from July 19 and will last until December 31, 2024.

Millions face disruption after an outage hit Windows PC users globally

A massive Microsoft outage has created havoc on computer systems across the world, grounding flights and crippling banks, stock exchanges, payment systems and emergency services.

ICJ says Israel's Presence in Palestinian-Occupied Territories Is Unlawful

The U.N. top court, the International Court of Justice has said that the Policies and practices used by Israel in its occupation of Palestinian territories are in breach of international law.

Bangladesh Imposes Curfew Following Student Unrest

Bangladesh has announced the imposition of a curfew and the deployment of military forces after police failed to stop days of deadly unrest that has spread throughout the country.

Bangladesh Supreme Court Declares High Court Verdict on Quota System Illegal

Bangladesh's Supreme Court has termed the High Court verdict illegal and has scaled back the contentious quota system for civil service job applicants. The prior decision of Bangladesh's High Court led to nationwide clashes and the death of at least 133 people.

COP29 host nation Azerbaijan announces new fund CFAF

Azerbaijan, the host of COP29 climate summit, has announced a climate finance action fund (CFAF) with the goal of mobilizing \$1 billion for the support of new national climate targets in developing nations.

Ivory Coast joins UN Water Convention as 10th African nation

Ivory Coast has joined the United Nations Water Convention, becoming the 10th African nation to do so. It is now the 53rd Party (country) to the 1992 UN Water Convention, which is also known as the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes.

Typhoon Gaemi hits China's south-eastern coast

Typhoon Gaemi has hit China's south-eastern coast, after wreaking havoc in Taiwan and the Philippines. Gaemi, the third and most powerful typhoon to hit China's eastern seaboard this year, made landfall in Fujian province.

Ajit Doval Represents India at the 4th Annual BIMSTEC Security Chiefs Meeting

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval lead the Indian delegation at the annual meeting of BIMSTEC Security Chiefs in Myanmar. The 4th annual meeting was held in Naypyitaw.

India Assumes Chair of Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre

India has assumed the Chair of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC). ADPC is an autonomous International Organization for cooperation in and implementation of disaster risk reduction and building climate resilience in Asia and the Pacific region.

Italy, China sign 3-year action plan as Italy's Meloni tries to reset relations

Italy and China have signed a three-year action plan to implement past agreements and experiment with new forms of cooperation, Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni said on an official visit to the Chinese capital.

Nationwide Protests in Venezuela Following Nicolás Maduro's Presidential Election Victory

In Venezuela, protests spread across the country after the electoral authority officially declared Nicolas Maduro the winner of the Presidential Election. Security forces have fired tear gas and rubber bullets at protesters. Thousands of people descended on central Caracas.

India-Sri Lanka to sign MoU on public administration and governance

India and Sri Lanka are expected to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) focused on capacity development and the exchange of expertise in public administration and governance aimed at training around 1,500 Sri Lankan civil servants.

India & Bhutan Agree to Work Together In Field Of Environment And Climate Change

India and Bhutan have agreed to work together in the areas of climate change, air quality, forest, wildlife management, and capacity building in the field of environment and climate change.

India To Host 1st World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit In Goa

India will host the first World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit, WAVES in Goa from 20th to 24th November this year. India is one of the largest film producing countries in the world.

India Signs MoU with Marshall Islands To Implement 4 Community Development Projects

India has announced that it will develop community infrastructure projects in the Marshall Islands. The initiative includes the construction of a community sports centre, airport terminal, and two community centers and a MoU was signed regarding this as part of India's annual grant-in-aid.

Two-Day BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Retreat held In New Delhi

India hosted foreign ministers from the BIMSTEC member countries for a two-day retreat in the national capital, aimed at improving cooperation among Bay of Bengal countries.

PM releases three books on life of former Vice President Venkaiah Naidu

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released three books chronicling the life and journey of former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu ahead of the BJP veteran's 75th birthday. The books include a biography titled "Venkaiah Naidu - Life in Service", authored by S Nagesh Kumar. The two other books released by PM Modi include "Celebrating Bharat" & "Mahaneta - Life and Journey of M. Venkaiah Naidu"

Three new criminal laws came into effect on July 1.

The Centre's three new criminal laws namely Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita 2023 and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam 2023 have come into effect across the country from July 1, 2024, despite objections from Opposition-ruled States.

Bangladesh Navy Signs Contract For 'Made In India' 800 Tons Ocean Going Tug With India's GRSE

The Bangladesh Navy has signed a contract for 'Made in India' 800 tons Ocean Going Tug with India's Garden Reach Shipbuilding and Engineers.

India Gets One of Most Powerful Non-Nuclear Bombs, SEBEX 2

The Indian Navy has successfully developed and certified a new explosive named SEBEX 2 with a lethality 2.01 times greater than standard TNT (Trinitrotoluene). This explosive, developed by Solar Industries, is now among the most powerful non-nuclear explosives in the world.

PM Modi Lauds Successful Completion of Nine Years Of Digital India Initiative

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has lauded the successful completion of nine years of the Digital India initiative. He stated that due to the Digital India campaign, over 11 Crore farmers now receive money directly in their bank accounts.

Ashwini Vaishnav Inaugurates Global India AI Summit In New Delhi

Minister for Electronics and IT Ashwini Vaishnav inaugurated the Global India AI Summit in New Delhi. The two-day summit featured a diverse array of sessions designed to delve deep into critical aspects of AI application, governance, nurturing talent, and scaling AI innovations.

IAF chief inaugurates weapon systems school in Hyderabad

The Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief, Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari, inaugurated the Weapon Systems School (WSS) in Hyderabad.

India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise Begins In Meghalaya

The 16th edition of the India-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise Nomadic Elephant has begun at the Foreign Training Node in Umroi, Meghalaya.

Hathras stampede: Death toll rises to 121

The death toll in the stampede at a religious congregation in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras has risen to 121. Most of the casualties were the followers of Bhole Baba, popularly known as Jagat Guru Saakar Vishwahari.

Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan sign MoU for implementing river linking project

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal have signed an agreement for the implementation of the ₹72,000 crore Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal River linking project in Bhopal.

Centre extends Smart Cities Mission till March 2025

The Central government has extended the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) under the Union Urban Development Ministry till March 31, 2025. Under the SCM, launched in June 2015, 100 cities were chosen through a competition to be developed as smart cities.

Govt forms 8 Cabinet committees

The Union government has constituted eight Cabinet committees, with the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) getting three new faces and the two most powerful panels — the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) and Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) — remaining unchanged. Home Minister Amit Shah is the sole Cabinet member to feature on all these panels.

Defence Ministry allocates ₹300 crores to promote 'Aatmanirbharta'

The Ministry of Defence has sanctioned over ₹300 crore through its Technology Development Fund (TDF) to create an ecosystem aimed at enhancing capabilities in cutting-edge technology and promoting 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence.

Global INDIAai Summit 2024 concludes

The Global INDIAai Summit successfully ended at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Over the last two days, 12 side sessions were organized, which were attended by 2,000 global AI experts, Policy makers, Artificial Intelligence (AI) practitioners, Industry/Startups, and Academia.

Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train expected to begin operations in Gujarat by 2027 end

According to the National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL), the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train is expected to begin operations in Gujarat by 2027 end and will later be extended to Maharashtra.

NITI Aayog Launches Sampoonnata Abhiyan Campaign

National think tank NITI Aayog has launched Sampoonnata Abhiyan, a three-month campaign from July 4th to till 30th September to achieve saturation in each of the six identified indicators in the 112 Aspirational Districts and 500 Aspirational Blocks under the Aspirational Districts Programme and Aspirational Blocks Programme.

FSSAI To Make Mandatory Labelling of Salt, Sugar And Fat On Packaged Food Items In Bold Letters

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has approved a proposal to display nutritional information regarding Total Sugar, Salt and Saturated Fat in bold letters and increased font size on labels of packaged food items.

DRDO unveils light battle tank Zorawar

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) tested out its light battle tank Zorawar in Gujarat's Hazira. It was jointly developed by the DRDO along with Larsen & Toubro (L&T) as the lead integrator.

Jagannath Rath Yatra Begins In Puri, Odisha

The world-famous annual Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra, Devi Subhadra, and Lord Sudarshan began in the holy town of Puri in Orissa.

Fourth case of rare brain-eating amoeba infection reported in Kerala

Kerala state has reported another case of amoebic meningoencephalitis, a rare brain infection caused by a free-living amoeba found in contaminated waters, taking the total number of such cases to four. A 14-year-old boy, a resident of Payyoli in this north Kerala district, is afflicted with the disease.

SC asks Centre to frame model policy on menstrual leave for women

The Supreme Court of India has directed the Centre to frame a model policy on menstrual leave for women employees by holding consultations with States and other stakeholders.

Haj Committee now under Minority Affairs Ministry

The Central government has designated the Ministry of Minority Affairs as the Nodal ministry for the Haj Committee, taking over from the Ministry of External Affairs.

Rajasthan to become first State to adopt a road safety action plan for 10 years

Rajasthan will become the first State in India to adopt an action plan for road safety for the next 10 years. The action plan is to be accompanied by a government policy, which will be aimed at reducing road accidents in the State by 50% till 2030.

Finance Ministry permits IRS officer to change gender, name

The Finance Ministry has approved a name and gender change request for a high-ranking official in the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC). M Anusuya, currently posted as Joint Commissioner in the office of the Chief Commissioner, Customs Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal at Hyderabad, had requested a change of name to M Anukathir Surya, and gender from female to male.

India hosts maritime security conference in Mumbai

The Sixth East Asia Summit (EAS) Conference on Maritime Security Cooperation was held in Mumbai. The Conference was organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in partnership with the Governments of Australia and Indonesia.

SC Rules Muslim Woman Entitled to Maintenance From Husband After Divorce

The Supreme Court of India has said that a Muslim woman is entitled to maintenance from her husband under Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Around 8800 FPOs Set Up Across the Country As Against The Target Of 10,000 FPOs

Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that around eight thousand eight hundred Farmers' Producer Organizations (FPOs) have been set up across the country as against the target of ten thousand FPOs.

IAF Contingent to Participate in Exercise Pitch Black

An Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent has landed at the Royal Australian Air Force Base in Darwin, Australia to participate in the biennial, multinational exercise named

“Pitch Black”. The exercise which focuses on nighttime flying will take place from 12th July to 2nd August.

Central forces to implement 10% reservation for ex-Agniveers in vacancies

The central paramilitary forces BSF, CRPF, CISF, and SSB have announced that they will implement a 10 per cent reservation for former Agniveers.

DRDO approves seven technologies for development by private sector

The DRDO has sanctioned seven new projects for the private sector under the Technology Development Fund scheme as part of efforts to nurture industries, especially Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) and start-ups.

NITI Aayog Releases SDG India Index 2023-24

NITI Aayog released Sustainable Development Goals SDG India Index 2023-24. The composite score for India improved from 57 in 2018 to 66 in 2020-21 to further to 71 in 2023-24.

Kerala, Uttarakhand top NITI Aayog's SDG India Index for 2023-24

Uttarakhand and Kerala have taken the top spot among states in NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2023-24, which assesses sustainable development across states on the basis of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). While Bihar emerged as a laggard with 57 points, followed by Jharkhand at 62 points.

Union Minister Launches Comprehensive Skill India Digital Platform, SIDH

Union Minister Jayant Chaudhary has announced the launch of the SIDH (Skill India Digital Hub) Portal under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. The platform will provide complete information on skill development schemes.

Nirma University Wins Robot Competition DD-Robocon India 2024

The Nirma University's Institute of Technology in Ahmedabad, Gujarat has won the Robot Competition DD-Robocon India 2024. The winning team will now represent India at the international Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union Robocon 2024 in QuangNinh, Vietnam.

Indore Sets World Record by Planting 11 Lakh Saplings In A Day

Madhya Pradesh's Indore city has set a new world record by planting more than 11 lakh saplings within 24 hours.

India to host 2nd Asia Pacific Ministerial conference on civil aviation

The Second Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference is scheduled to be held in New Delhi on 11th and 12th September, this year. As many as 39 Member States of UN aviation safety body International Civil Aviation Organisation fall in the Asia Pacific region and are expected to participate.

Haryana Announces Reservation & Age Relaxation For Agniveers In Police And Other Departments

Haryana government will provide 10 percent horizontal reservation to Agniveers in recruitment to certain posts in police, mining and jail departments. Agniveers will be provided 10 percent reservation in direct recruitment to the posts of constable, mining guard, forest guard, jail warden, and SPO in Haryana.

President Droupadi Murmu's Speeches compilation 'Wings To Our Hopes, Volume I,' Released In New Delhi

The book titled 'Wings to Our Hopes, Volume I,' which compiles 75 significant speeches from the first year of President Droupadi Murmu's tenure, will be released in New Delhi. The book will be released in Hindi and English.

India & Malaysia to Increase Cooperation In Field Of Oil Palm, Other Sectors

India and Malaysia have decided to increase cooperation in the field of palm Oil and other sectors. Both nations discussed opportunities to deepen the bilateral agriculture cooperation between India and Malaysia.

India's thinktank NITI Aayog reconstituted

The NDA government has reconstituted the NITI Aayog, with four full-time members and 15 Union Ministers, including from BJP allies, as either ex-officio members or special invitees. Prime Minister Narendra Modi remains the chairperson and economist Suman K. Bery will continue to be the vice-chairperson of NITI Aayog. Scientist V K Saraswat, agricultural economist Ramesh Chand, pediatrician V K Paul and macro-economist Arvind Virmani will continue to be full-time members of the government think-tank.

Girish Chandra Murmu Inaugurates 'International Centre for Audit Of Local Governance' In Rajkot

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India Girish Chandra Murmu has inaugurated the International Centre for Audit of Local Governance (iCAL), at Rajkot in Gujarat.

The centre will serve as a think tank for addressing governance issues at the grassroots level across the nations.

Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh & Justice R Mahadevan Appointed As Judges Of SC

Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh and Justice R. Mahadevan have taken oaths as judges of the Supreme Court of India. The Chief Justice of India, Justice DY Chandrachud, has administered the oath to both judges.

Coal Ministry says, two of the World's Five Largest Coal Mines are in India

The Coal Ministry has said that two of the world's five largest Coal Mines are now in India. These mines, operated by Chhattisgarh-based Coal India subsidiary South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), namely Gevra and Kusmunda, rank second and fourth respectively among the world's largest coal mines.

GRSE bags ₹840 crore deal to make ocean research vessel

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd. has signed a deal with the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences for the construction and delivery of an ocean research vessel (ORV).

Home Minister Launches National Narcotics Helpline 'MANAS'

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has launched the National Narcotics Helpline 'MANAS' – 1933. Through this helpline, citizens can share information on drug trafficking, and connect with the Narcotics Control Bureau anonymously 24 hours a day to get advice on de-addiction and rehabilitation.

Centre Launches Second Phase Of KIRTI Initiative

Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the second phase of the Government's Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI) initiative in New Delhi. KIRTI has been envisioned to develop an integrated talent identification architecture based on modern ICT tools and global best practices..

PM Modi Inaugurates World Heritage Committee Meeting in New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 46th Session of the World Heritage Committee at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. India hosted the World Heritage Committee Meeting for the first time.

14-Year-Old Boy from Malappuram District Of Kerala Dies Of Nipah Virus

In Kerala, the 14-year-old boy from Malappuram district who was being treated for Nipah virus infection passed away.

Nipah virus is a bat-borne, zoonotic virus that causes Nipah virus infection in humans and other animals, a disease with a very high mortality rate.

SC Refuses to Cancel NEET-UG 2024 Examination & Order Re-Test

The Supreme Court of India has refused to cancel NEET-UG 2024 examination and order a re-test. The order paves the way for commencement of counselling process for admission to undergraduate courses in government and private medical colleges across India.

Uttarakhand Launches World's First Gross Environmental Product Index

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has launched the Gross Environmental Product-GEP index in the state capital Dehradun. Uttarakhand is the first state in the world where the development of the ecosystem will be assessed through the Gross Environmental Product Index.

Centre reports over 17000 Police Stations Connected Via CCTNS For Crime Tracking

The Union Government has said that over 17 thousand Police Stations across the country are connected so far and using Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems, CCTNS

Curb on use of Aadhaar enrolment ID for PAN from October 1

From October 1, 2024 the option of quoting the enrolment ID of the Aadhaar application form at the time of applying for a Permanent Account Number (PAN) or filing a return of income will be withdrawn.

Two Rashtrapati Bhavan halls renamed

President Droupadi Murmu has renamed two important halls at Rashtrapati Bhavan, with the Durbar Hall now to be called Ganatantra Mandap which translates to Republic Hall and Ashok Hall to be called Ashok Mandap.

Goa Shipyard Launches 1st Indigenous Advanced Frigate "Triput" For Indian Navy

Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) has successfully launched the first indigenous P1135.6 Frigate, Triput. The launch represents the first of two modern frigates being built by GSL for the Indian Navy.

Centre to create data bank on employment trends

The Union government has decided to create an Employment Data Collection Mechanism (EDCM) in collaboration with departments of all Ministries.

India & US Sign Cultural Property Agreement

India and the United States have signed a Cultural Property Agreement to repatriate stolen Indian artifacts from the US.

President Droupadi Murmu Appoints New Governors In Multiple States

President Droupadi Murmu has appointed new Governors in different States. Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde has been appointed Governor of Rajasthan. Jishnu Dev Varma has been appointed Governor of Telangana. Om Prakash Mathur appointed as Governor of Sikkim. Santosh Kumar Gangwar has been appointed as Governor of Jharkhand. Ramen Deka appointed as Governor of Chhattisgarh. C H Vijayashankar has been appointed as Governor of Meghalaya. C.P. Radhakrishnan has been appointed as Governor of Maharashtra.

Delhi has the highest proportion of Aadhaarlinked DigiLocker sign ups in India

Delhi has the highest proportion of Aadhaar-linked DigiLocker sign ups in India, with an estimated 29.38% of the population signed up on the service. Overall, 14.06% of Indians 20.05 crore individuals — have registered on DigiLocker and linked their Aadhaar with the service.

Government scraps auction of 3 critical mineral blocks

The Central government has scrapped the auction of three critical mineral blocks, including a lithium mine in Jammu and Kashmir, under the third tranche of sale of mines due to a lower-than-required number of bidders.

Sunken museum at Humayun's Tomb site in Delhi

India's first sunken museum at the Humayun Tomb complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, in Delhi was inaugurated on July 29.

BIS signs MoU with GBPUAT to develop first-of-its-kind Standardized Agriculture Demonstration Farm

The Bureau of Indian Standards-BIS has signed a MoU with Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology-GBPUAT to develop the first-of-its-kind Standardized Agriculture Demonstration Farm in India.

Centre approves proposals for advanced navigation system, interceptor boats

The capital acquisition proposals to enhance the capabilities of the Indian Army and the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) were approved by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh during the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) meeting.

143 Dead In Wayanad Landslides

At least 143 people have died and about 186 others were injured after a series of landslides hit Kerala's Wayanad district amid heavy rain. The massive landslide wreaked havoc in the region as houses and roads were damaged, trees uprooted and water bodies swelled, hindering rescue operations.

BANKING & ECONOMY

World Bank Approves 2nd Round Of 1.5 billion Dollars To Help India

The World Bank has approved a second round of 1.5 billion dollars in financing to help India accelerate the development of low-carbon energy. The financing is extended to promote a market for green hydrogen, electrolysers, and increased renewable energy penetration.

RBI appoints two new executive directors

The Reserve Bank of India has announced the elevation of Charulatha Kar and Arnab Chowdhury, who are currently chief general managers, as the new executive directors.

June's GST revenue growth slows to three-year low

Growth in India's gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections slowed to a three-year low in June, with revenues rising about 7.74% to about ₹1.74 lakh crore from ₹1,61,497 crore collected in the year-earlier period.

MoSPI sets up 26-member committee to decide new base year for GDP

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (Mospi) has set up a 26-member Advisory Committee under Biswanath Goldar on National Accounts Statistics (ACNAS) to decide the base year for gross domestic product (GDP) data.

Tata and Airbus to establish India's first private helicopter assembly

Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) and Airbus Helicopters have signed a deal to set up a final assembly line (FAL) in India for single-engine H125 choppers. This is the first instance of the private sector setting up a helicopter assembly facility in India.

India received \$120 billion in remittances in 2023: World Bank

The World Bank in its report has stated that India received USD 120 billion in remittances in 2023, which is almost twice of USD 66 billion received by Mexico during the same period.

RBI proposed rationalisation of norms governing export and import transactions

The RBI proposed rationalising regulations that cover export and import transactions with an aim to promote ease of doing business and empower banks to provide more efficient service to their foreign exchange customers.

Share of Russian crude oil imports up at 42% in June 2024

The share of Russian crude oil in Indian imports rose to 42% in June from 37% in May. India's crude oil imports from Russia rose to 1.97 million barrels per day (mbpd) during June 2024, the highest since July 2023.

RBI, ASEAN to create platform for fast cross-border retail payments

The Reserve Bank of India and ASEAN countries have decided to create a platform to facilitate instant cross-border retail payments. The RBI has now joined the "Project Nexus" - a multilateral international effort to bring about instant cross-border retail payments by interlinking domestic fast payment systems.

LIC Chairman Siddhartha Mohanty redesignated as MD & chief executive

Centre-owned Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has redesignated its chairman Siddhartha Mohanty as chief executive officer and managing director with effect from 30 June 2024.

Big fat Indian wedding valued at ₹10 lakh crore, expenses second only to food & grocery

According to Jefferies report, the Indian wedding industry size of approximately ₹10 lakh crore (\$130 billion) is second only to food and grocery.

India Initiates Anti-Dumping Probe into Import Of Glass Fibre From China, Thailand And Bahrain

India has initiated an anti-dumping probe pertaining to glass fibre imports from China, Thailand, and Bahrain, following a complaint from a domestic player.

India's First Integrated Agri-Export Facility Approved for Mumbai's Jawaharlal Nehru Port

India's first Integrated Agri-Export Facility will come up at Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai to bolster the country's agricultural export and import capabilities.

Mercedes-Benz R&D India ties up with BITS Pilani for tech research

Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India (MBRDI) had signed a five-year Master Research Agreement (MRA) with Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani for advanced technology research.

Windfall tax on domestically produced crude oil hiked to ₹6,000 per tonne

The Indian government has hiked the windfall tax levied on crude petroleum produced in the country. The tax has now been increased to ₹6,000 per metric ton, up from ₹3,250 earlier.

Japan issues new banknotes packed with 3D hologram technology

Japan issued its first new banknotes in two decades, yen packed with 3D hologram technology to fight counterfeiting.

Muthoot Finance selected for FATF Mutual Evaluation report 23-24

Muthoot Finance was the only Indian NBFC to be selected for The Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) Mutual Evaluation Report 2023-24.

SBI announces 11 new initiatives to mitigate risks in agri loan portfolio

Public lender SBI has announced 11 new initiatives including the enhancement of its digital banking features and opening of 35 new Agricultural Centralised Processing Cells to mitigate risks in its agricultural loan portfolio.

LIC raises stake in IDFC First Bank to 2.68%

LIC shareholding in IDFC First Bank increased after the insurer acquired 18,60,34,900 shares at ₹80.63 apiece in a private placement offer by the lender. From 0.20% of the pre-issue paid-up capital, the shareholding has increased to 2.68% of the post issue paid-up capital of the bank.

Panattoni Group plans to invest \$100 million in India a year to build industrial warehouses

U.S. based Panattoni Group, one of the world's largest industrial real-estate developers, is planning to invest \$100 million in India every year for a few years to expand its base in this emerging market.

Indiabulls Housing Finance's name changed to Sammaan Capital

Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd's name has been changed to Sammaan Capital Ltd, following its transformation into a board-run and diversely-held financial institution, from being a promoter-led and promoter-driven lender.

Bandhan Bank names Ratan Kumar Kesh as interim MD & CEO

Ratan Kumar Kesh, executive director and chief operating officer of Bandhan Bank, has been appointed as interim MD & CEO for a period of three months or till the new incumbent takes charge, whichever is earlier.

India's Indigenous defence production hits record high at ₹1,26,887 cr in FY24

The value of defence production in the country has gone up to a record-high figure i.e., ₹1,26,887 crore, reflecting a growth of 16.7% over the defence production of the previous financial year. The value of defence production in FY 2022-23 was ₹1,08,684 crore.

Centre reopens PLI scheme for white goods till October 12

The Central Government has reopened the application window for the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for white goods from July 15 to October 12, citing industry's appetite to invest more in the scheme originally launched in 2021.

Boeing to plead guilty in U.S. probe of fatal 737 MAX crashes

Boeing has agreed to plead guilty to a criminal fraud conspiracy charge to resolve a U.S. Justice Department investigation linked to two 737 MAX fatal crashes.

RBI approves Govind Singh's re-appointment as MD & CEO of Utkarsh SFB

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the re-appointment of Govind Singh as the managing director and chief executive officer of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank (Utkarsh SFB) effective from September 21, 2024.

EXIM Bank to offer \$2.5 million Line of Credit to Guyana

The Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) has entered into an agreement with the government of Guyana to provide a line of credit worth \$2.5 million for the installation of a solar photo voltaic power plant at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport in Guyana.

India, Russia target \$100 billion bilateral trade by 2030

India and Russia have set an ambitious target of \$100 billion in bilateral trade by 2030 to balance the lopsided trade, eliminate non-tariff trade barriers, and explore the possibility of a Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)-India Free Trade Area.

Tata Mutual Fund launches India's first tourism thematic fund

Tata Asset Management has launched the nation's first tourism index fund, comprising a collection of companies forming part of the Nifty 500. The Tata Nifty India Tourism Index Fund will track the Nifty India Tourism Index.

Financial inclusion index rises with growth across all segments: RBI

The Reserve Bank's Financial Inclusion Index, FI-Index, capturing the extent of financial inclusion across the country, rose to 64.2 in March 2024, showing growth across all parameters.

Equity MF Inflows Up 17% At Record High Of ₹40,608 Cr In June

According to data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI), inflows into the equity mutual funds hit a new high of 40,608 crore rupees in June, on the back of a buoyant equity market and huge fundraise through new fund offers.

PNB launches 'Safety Ring' to enhance security for internet, mobile banking

Punjab National Bank (PNB) has introduced a new security feature called 'Safety Ring' within its internet banking system and mobile banking system in response to the increasing number of cyber frauds.

BNP Paribas opens branch at GIFT-IFSC

The European Union's leading bank BNP Paribas has announced the start of operations at the Gujarat International Finance Tec - City - International Financial Services Centre (GIFT-IFSC) through a new branch.

Federal Bank, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance enter into bancassurance tie-up

Federal Bank has entered into a Bancassurance tie-up with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance, a private life insurer. This partnership will enable Federal Bank's customers to seamlessly access Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance's products, across the Bank's extensive network in India.

Sales Of Khadi And Village Industries Products Cross ₹1.55 Lakh Cr In 2023-24

The sales of Khadi and Village Industries products have crossed 1.55 lakh crore rupees for the first time in 2023-24. In 2013-14 the sales of Khadi products were around 31 thousand crore rupees.

ONGC to invest ₹2 lakh cr to meet net zero emission target

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will invest about ₹2 lakh crore in setting up renewable energy sites and green hydrogen plants and cutting gas flaring to zero to achieve its 2038 net-zero carbon emission goal.

RBI allows resident Indians to open FCA in IFSC, Gujarat

The RBI has allowed resident individuals to open Foreign Currency Account (FCA) in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) at GIFT City in Gujarat under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS).

ICICI Prudential MF launches India's first oil & gas ETF

ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has launched the ICICI Prudential Nifty Oil & Gas ETF, India's first exchange-traded fund (ETF) in the oil and gas sector.

16th Finance Commission sets up five-member Advisory Council

The Sixteenth Finance Commission, led by Arvind Panagariya, has set up a five-member Advisory Council aimed at expanding the scope of the Commission's work. This panel will be chaired by Poonam Gupta.

BOI pays ₹935.44 crore dividend to govt.

Bank of India has handed over a dividend cheque for ₹935.44 crore for the financial year 2023-24 to the Government of India.

SBI raises ₹10,000 crore from infra bond issue

State Bank of India (SBI) has raised ₹10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.36% payable annually for a 15-year term, through its sixth infrastructure bond issue.

India's Index of Industrial Production Grows By 5.9 % In May 2024

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) in India rose 5.9 percent in May this year over the corresponding period of previous year. The IIP growth rate in May 2023 was 5.7 percent.

Food inflation hits 9.4% in June 2024

India's annual consumer price inflation edged up to four-month high of 5.08% in June compared with 4.21% in previous month. The spike was led primarily by food inflation as it soared to 9.36%.

NABARD unveils ₹750-cr. agriculture fund to promote innovation

The NABARD has announced an agri fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises (Agri-SURE), with initial corpus of ₹750 crore to be managed by its wholly owned subsidiary Nabventures. The fund is structured to support about 85 agri start-ups with investment sizes of up to ₹25 crore each by the end of its term.

Direct tax collection surges 23% to ₹6.5 lakh crore

The Income Tax Department has collected over Six lakh 45 thousand crore rupees as direct tax for the financial year 2024-25 as well as has issued refunds of 70 thousand 902 crore rupees till 11th of July.

Government Appoints Robert Jerard Ravi as New CMD of BSNL

The Indian government has appointed Robert Jerard Ravi as the new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).

Jio Financial Services gets RBI nod to become Core Investment Company

Jio Financial Services has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to transition from a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) to a Core Investment Company (CIC).

India's Forex Reserves Hit All-Time High Of 657.16 Bn Dollar

India's forex reserves hit an all-time high in the week ended on 5th of this month. The reserves grew by 5.2 billion Dollars to 657.16 billion Dollars in that week.

India's Retail Digital Payment Likely To Double To 7 Trillion Dollars By 2030

India's retail digital payment is likely to double to 7 trillion dollars by 2030, says a joint study by Kerney and Amazon Pay.

India's June 2024 Exports Hit \$65.47 Bn

India's total exports combined for June 2024 are estimated at 65.47 Billion US Dollars, registering a positive growth of 5.4 percent compared to the same period last year. Total Import, combined for June 2024 is estimated at 73.47 Billion US Dollars, registering a positive growth of 6.29 percent as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

India's WPI rises to 3.36% in June

India's Wholesale inflation has surged to a 16-month high of 3.36 per cent in June on account of rise in prices of food articles, especially vegetables and manufactured items.

Centre Implements Uniform IGST Rate Of 5 % On All Aircraft & Aircraft Engine Parts

The Central government has implemented a uniform IGST rate of five percent on all aircraft and aircraft engine parts from July 15, 2024.

Softbank exits Paytm at loss of around \$150 million

Japan's Softbank investment arm Softbank Vision Fund has exited from Paytm in the June quarter at a loss of around \$150 million.

Zen Technologies launches AI-powered robot for global defense market

Hyderabad based Zen Technologies in collaboration with its subsidiary AI Turing Technologies has introduced AI-powered robot Prahasta, among other products, for the global defense market.

Bank of Maharashtra Q1 net profit surges 46.64% to ₹1,293 crore

The net profit of Bank of Maharashtra increased by 46.64 per cent to ₹1,293 crore during the first quarter of FY 2024-25 from ₹882 crore in the year-earlier period.

RBI revises rules to manage financial fraud

RBI has issued three revised master directions on fraud risk management for Regulated Entities such as commercial banks including regional rural banks and All India Financial Institutions.

IMF forecast India's GDP Forecast To 7% For FY25

The International Monetary Fund has upgraded India's economic growth forecast by 20 basis points (bps) to 7 percent year-on-year basis for the current financial year 2024-25.

BBVA Colombia and IFC issue the world's first biodiversity bond in the financial sector

BBVA, a Colombian bank, and the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, issued a US\$15 million first tranche of the world's first biodiversity bond that will amount to US\$70 million.

ADB retains India's FY25 GDP growth outlook at 7%

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its Asia Development Outlook July report stated that India's GDP growth is expected to be 7% this year with inflation averaging 4.6.

SBI, BoB & BoM woo depositors with special short-term fixed deposit schemes

SBI, Bank of Baroda, and Bank of Maharashtra, have introduced special fixed deposit accounts with elevated interest rates. SBI has launched a new term limited period deposit scheme known as "Amrit Vrishti", an FD scheme offering higher interest rates and catering to both domestic and non-resident Indian customers.

India Sets Target To Achieve USD 500 Billion In Electronics Manufacturing In Value Terms By 2030

NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Suman Bery has launched a report titled Electronics: Powering India's Participation in Global Value Chains in New Delhi. India has set a target to achieve 500 billion US dollars in electronics manufacturing in value terms by 2030.

Central Bank of India Q1 net profit doubles to ₹880 crore

Central Bank of India has reported first quarter net profit more than doubled to ₹880 crore from the year-earlier period.

HDFC Bank reports CSR spend of ₹945 crore in FY24

HDFC Bank Ltd. had spent ₹945.31 crore in FY24 on corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives, about ₹125 crore more than the previous year.

BIS signs MoU with IISc, Bengaluru To Promote Standardisation

Bureau of Indian Standards signs Memorandum of Understanding with Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, for the establishment of the 'BIS Standardization Chair Professor.

IOC targets \$1 trillion revenue by 2047: Chairman

India's largest oil firm Indian Oil Corporation is targeting to become a \$1 trillion company by 2047, combining growth in traditional oil refining and fuel marketing with clean energy avenues like green hydrogen and EV charging.

HDFC Bank Q1 net climbs 35%

HDFC Bank Q1 FY25 net profit grew 35.3% to ₹16,174.75 crores from ₹11,951.77 crores in the year-earlier period, while net non-performing assets (NPAs) almost doubled.

RBI Forms Panel to Investigate White-Label ATM Charges

The RBI has set up a committee to review the fee structure for white-label ATMs (WLAs). The committee, led by Indian Banks' Association CEO Sunil Mehta, will assess current policies, ATM infrastructure, and global best practices, reporting to RBI deputy governor T Rabi Sankar.

Arka Fincap signs co-lending partnership with Central Bank of India for MSME loans

Non-bank financial company Arka Fincap, a part of Kirloskar Group had partnered with Central Bank of India to offer MSME loans.

Finance Minister Sitharaman tables Economic Survey 2023-24 in Lok Sabha

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has presented the Economic Survey 2023-24.

Economic Survey 2023-24 Highlights:

- The survey projects the FY25 real GDP growth at 6.5-7%.
- India's real GDP grew by 8.2 per cent in FY24, exceeding 8 percent mark in three out of four quarters of FY24.
- Retail inflation reduced from 6.7 per cent in FY23 to 5.4 per cent in FY24.
- It adds that the RBI expects inflation to be 4.5 per cent in FY 25 and 4.1 per cent in FY26.
- Current Account Deficit (CAD) stood at 0.7 per cent of the GDP during FY24.
- 55% of tax collected accrued from direct taxes and remaining 45% from indirect taxes.
- India's banking and financial sectors have displayed a stellar performance in FY24.
- RBI maintained the status quo on the policy repo rate at 6.5 per cent in FY24.
- Agriculture and allied activities witnessed double-digit growth in credit during FY24.
- India's share in global goods exports was 1.8 per cent in FY24.
- India's services exports grew by 4.9 per cent to USD 341.1 billion in FY24.
- India is the top remittance recipient country globally, with remittances reaching a milestone of USD 120 billion in 2023.
- India's unemployment rate declined to 3.2 per cent in 2022-23.

Union Budget Highlights 2024 – 2025

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented her seventh straight Budget on July 23 for the fiscal 2024-25.

- The focus of the budget is on EMPLOYMENT, SKILLING, MSMEs, and the MIDDLE CLASS.
- Listed out 9 priorities for generating opportunities for all for 'Viksit Bharat'.
- The government's total expenditure comes to ₹48.21 lakh crore.
- Total receipts other than borrowings stand at 32.07 lakh crore.
- Fiscal deficit estimated at 4.9% of GDP for the current fiscal.
- Inflation continues to be low, stable and moving towards the 4% target.
- More than ₹11 lakh crore allocated towards capital expenditure, 3.4% of GDP.
- ₹2.66 lakh crore allocated for rural development, and rural infrastructure projects.
- ₹1.52 lakh crore allocated for agriculture and allied sectors.
- Allocation of more than ₹3 lakh crore for schemes benefiting women and girls.
- 5 Schemes and Initiatives for employment, skilling and other opportunities for 4.1 crore youth over a 5-year period.
- "Purvodaya", scheme covers the all-round development of eastern States including Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha & Andhra Pradesh.
- ₹26,000 crore for road projects in Bihar.
- 15,000 crores for the development of the capital city of Andhra Pradesh.

- The fourth phase of Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yojana will be launched.
- The National Pension Scheme, NPS (Vatsalya) scheme for the economic security of minors will be launched.
- Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan announced for 63,000 tribal villages, benefitting 5 crore tribals.
- Under the PM Awas Yojana Urban 2.0, housing needs of 1 crore urban poor and middle-class families will be addressed with an investment of ₹10 lakh crore.
- Centre will ask states to lower stamp duty.
- Rental housing scheme announced for working class.
- An Integrated Technology Platform to be set up for improving Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) outcomes.
- Mudra Loans will be increased to 20 lakhs from the current 10 lakh.
- E-commerce exports hub will be set in PPP mode.
- To set up a critical mineral mission for domestic production and recycling of critical minerals.
- Credit Guarantee schemes for MSMEs will be introduced.
- Centre to set up 100 branches of India Post Payments Bank in North East.
- 12 industrial parks to be set under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme.
- SIDBI to open 24 new branches to expand its reach within 3 years.
- A venture capital fund of ₹1,000 crore will be set up for Space Industry.
- Reduced customs duty on mobile phones, accessories, and chargers to 15%.
- New Tax slabs announced under New Tax Regime.
- Standard deduction of salaried employees to be increased from 50K rupees to 75K.
- Short-term capital gains were reduced to 20%.
- Raised the long-term capital gains tax LTCG Tax from 10 % to 12.50 %.
- Angel tax to be abolished for all investor classes.
- Corporate tax rate on foreign companies reduced from 40% to 35%.
- Security Transactions Tax on futures and options of securities increased to 0.02 per cent and 0.1 per cent respectively.
- To reduce custom duties on gold, silver to 6 percent and platinum to 6.4 percent.

Japan Sees Highest Number Of Bankruptcies Since 2014

In Japan, corporate bankruptcies surged 22 percent in the first half of the year due to rising costs, labor shortages, and waning financial support. The total number of bankruptcies from January to June came to 4,887, the highest since 2014.

Federal Bank names Krishnan Venkat Subramanian as new MD, CEO

Federal Bank Ltd. has announced the appointment of Krishnan Venkat Subramanian as its new Managing Director & CEO. He was the Joint Managing Director of Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited till April 30, 2024.

In a bid to support the economy, China cuts key rates

China lowered a key short-term policy rate, The People's Bank of China has cut the seven-day reverse repo rate to 1.7% from 1.8%, and would also improve the mechanism of open market operations.

RBI tightens norms for cash pay-outs at banks

The RBI has tightened norms related to cash pay-out service at banks, making it mandatory for lenders to keep a record of recipients. Cash pay-out refers to arrangements for amounts being transferred out of bank accounts to beneficiaries not having a bank account. The new norms will come into effect from November 1, 2024.

India Tops Global Milk Production

Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Rajiv Ranjan Singh has said that India is ranked first in milk production contributing 25 percent of global milk production.

Axis Bank Q1 net profit rises 4% to ₹6,035 crore

Axis Bank has reported first-quarter net profit rose 4% year on year (YoY) to ₹6,035 crore compared with ₹5,797 crore in the year earlier period.

Mankind Pharma to acquire BSV for ₹13,630 crore

Mankind Pharma had entered into a definitive agreement to acquire a 100% stake in Bharat Serums and Vaccines Ltd (BSV) from private equity firm Advent International for an enterprise value of about ₹13,630 crore.

RBI releases PCA framework for urban cooperative banks

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework for relatively weak urban co-operative banks (UCBs), with deposits above ₹100 crore (upper tier category), to nurse them back to health. It will replace the existing Supervisory Action Framework (SAF) and come into effect from April 01, 2025.

Government Launches Revised Model Skill Loan Scheme

The Centre has introduced a revised Model Skill Loan Scheme, designed to provide financial support for skill development courses to the nation's youth. The scheme aims to remove financial barriers to advanced skill education.

Manoj Mittal takes charge as SIDBI's CMD

Manoj Mittal has taken charge as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

Prior to this, he was the managing director (MD) of Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI).

Punjab National Bank records highest ever quarterly profit of ₹3,252 crore

Punjab National Bank (PNB) reported its highest ever quarterly standalone profit at ₹3,252 crore in April-June FY25.

ICICI Bank June quarter in FY25 net profit grows 14.6%

ICICI Bank Ltd. reported June quarter FY25 net profit grew 14.6% year-on-year (YoY) to ₹11,059 crore. Net interest income (NII) of the private sector bank for June quarter rose 7.3% YoY to ₹19,553 crore.

SEBI bars Mallya from securities trading for three years

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) barred businessman Vijay Mallya from accessing the securities markets for three years.

UltraTech enters into a pact with India Cements to buy an additional 32.72% stake for ₹3,954 crore

Aditya Birla group-owned UltraTech has entered into a share purchase agreement with the promoters and their associates of India Cements Ltd to purchase 10,13,91,231 equity shares or 32.72% stake for ₹390 apiece totalling to ₹3,954 crore.

WTO Report says India is the 2nd largest user of non-tariff measures in 2023

India stood second just behind in the US among World Trade Organisation (WTO) members in the initiation and imposition of anti-dumping duties last year. In 2023 India initiated 45 anti-dumping investigations last year and implemented duties in 14 cases .

MoD, NSE sign MoU to facilitate capital market access to MSMEs

Ministry of Defence and National Stock Exchange of India Limited has signed a MoU to facilitate capital market access to the Defence MSMEs.

India at forefront of digital revolution: RBI report

India is at the forefront of the digital revolution, leveraging on digital public infrastructure, a vibrant financial technology (FinTech) ecosystem. As per the RBI Report

on Currency and Finance (RCF) for the year 2023-24, India's digital economy is poised to constitute a fifth of GDP by 2026 from one-tenth at present.

RBI's Digital Payments Index increases across all parameters

The Reserve Bank of India's Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI) has increased to 445.50 as against 418.77 for September 2023. This was 395.57 in March 2023.

SEBI unveils chatbot 'SEVA' for investors

The Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has started its Virtual Assistant SEVA – an Artificial Intelligence (AI) based conversation platform for investors.

Number of Startups in the country has reached over 1,40,000: Jayant Chaudhary

Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister Jayant Chaudhary has said that the number of Startups in the country has reached over 1,40,000. The recognized startups have created over 15 lakh direct jobs in the country.

US National Debt Surpasses 35 Trillion Dollars For The First Time

According to the latest data released by the US Treasury Department, the United States of America's gross national debt surpassed \$35 trillion for the first time on July 29.

Indian Bank plans to recover bad debts of ₹7,000 cr. in FY25

PSU bank Indian Bank is planning to recover bad debts of ₹7,000 crore in FY25 against ₹8,800 crore recovered in the year ago period, said MD & CEO Shanti Lal Jain.

Ethiopia receives IMF relief after easing forex curbs

The International Monetary Fund has approved a loan to the African nation Ethiopia which is seeking a multibillion-dollar bailout. The IMF board has approved a four-year loan programme worth around \$3.4 billion (Sh442 billion) to support the reforms, with around \$1 billion (Sh130 billion) immediately disbursed.

Ola Electric Mobility fixes IPO price band at ₹72-76 per share

Ola Electric Mobility Ltd has announced an initial public offering (IPO) to raise up to ₹6,145.56 crore from the capital market. The price band of the IPO has been fixed at ₹72-76 per equity share of a face value of ₹10 each.

NIIT IFBI launches 'ACE Banker Program' in collaboration with HDFC Bank

NIIT Institute of Finance, Banking and Insurance (NIIT IFBI), a subsidiary of NIIT, announced the launch of the ACE Banker Program in collaboration with HDFC Bank.

Aditya Birla Group launches ₹5000 crore jewellery business brand 'Indriya'

The Aditya Birla Group has ventured into the rapidly expanding ₹6.7 lakh crore Indian jewelry market with the launch of its in-house brand Indriya. The brand aims to secure a position among India's top three jewellery retailers over the next 5 years with an investment of ₹5,000 crore.

AWARDS

India's Chandrayaan-3 wins the prestigious World Space Award

Chandrayaan-3, which made India the first country to land near the lunar South Pole, has been awarded the World Space Award by the International Astronautical Federation (IAF).

Rigoberta Menchú Tum honored with Gandhi Mandela Award

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Rigoberta Mench Tum has been honoured with the Gandhi Mandela Award 2020. Rigoberta Mench Tum, a Guatemalan human rights activist & feminist, has dedicated her life to advocating for the rights of Indigenous peoples in Guatemala

39 CBI officers awarded President's Police Medal, Indian Police Medal

Union Minister of Law and Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal has honored 39 officers of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) with the President's Police Medal (PPM) and Indian Police Medal (IPM) for their distinguished and meritorious service.

PM Modi Receives Russia's Highest Civilian Honour, The Order Of St Andrew The Apostle'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with Russia's most prestigious civilian honour, the Order of St Andrew the Apostle. President of Russia Vladimir Putin presented it to Mr Modi

Roshni Nadar Malhotra honoured with France's highest civilian award

Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Chairperson of HCL Tech, has been awarded France's highest Civilian award, "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour).

Indian ship captain, crew win 'exceptional bravery' awards for Red Sea rescue

Captain Avhilash Rawat and his crew of an oil tanker Marlin Luanda have been named among the winners of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) 2024 Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea for their extraordinary courage shown in a Red Sea rescue mission.

Prince Harry honored with Pat Tillman Award for Service

Prince Harry was honored with the Pat Tillman Award for Service at the ESPY Awards 2024. The award is named after NFL player Pat Tillman who joined the military after 9/11 and tragically died in Afghanistan in 2004.

India's Sand Artist Sudarshan Patnaik Wins Golden Sand Master Award In Russia

India's renowned sand artist Sudarshan Patnaik has won the coveted Golden Sand Master Award at the International Sand Sculpture Championship held at St Petersburg, Russia.

Prahlad Chandra Agrawal and Anil Bhardwaj honored at COSPAR conference

Two Indian space scientists namely Prahlad Chandra Agrawal and Anil Bhardwaj have received the honour at the Global Space Conference from the prestigious organization Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) conference in Busan. Prahlad Agrawal received the Harrie Massey Award. Anil Bhardwaj was awarded the Vikram Sarabhai Medal.

ICC Honors Six Nations In Associate Cricket With ICC Development Award For 2023

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has honored six nations namely Mexico, Oman, the Netherlands, the UAE, Nepal, and Scotland in associate cricket with the ICC Development Award for 2023.

President Murmu Presents 94 Distinguished Service Awards

President Droupadi Murmu presented 94 Distinguished Service Awards to the serving and retired personnel of the Armed forces and Indian Coast Guard. She conferred 31 Param Vishisht Seva Medals, four Uttam Yudh Seva Medal, two Bar to Ati Vishisht Seva Medals and 57 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals.

IISR Wins Best Technology Award

The Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) has received the best technology award for its pioneering work in the field of horticultural sciences.

Captain Anshuman Singh awarded Kirti Chakra posthumously

President Droupadi Murmu has conferred 10 Kirti Chakras, including seven posthumously, to personnel of the Army and paramilitary forces. Disregarding his own safety, Captain Anshuman Singh exhibited exceptional bravery and resolve to rescue many people in a major fire incident in Siachen.

Indian contingent bag medals at the 54th International Physics Olympiad 2024

The Indian delegation has bagged five medals at the 54th International Physics Olympiad 2024, held from July 21 to July 29 in Isfahan, Iran. All five Indian participants bagged medals, including 2 gold and 3 silver medals.

Delhi Metro wins Global Water Tech Award for environmental initiatives

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has received the 'Global Water Tech Award 2024' in the 'organization' category for its initiatives in environmental conservation.

Grevin Museum Paris honors Shah Rukh Khan with customised gold coins

Paris' Grevin Museum has honored Shah Rukh Khan with customised gold coins. With this, the superstar has become the first actor to have gold coins in his name at the museum.

56th International Chemistry Olympiad: Indian Team Wins one Gold, Two Silver, and a Bronze

In the 56th International Chemistry Olympiad, the Indian team won one Gold, two Silver, and one Bronze medal. The Competition was held in Riyadh city of Saudi Arabia from the 21st to the 30th of this month.

International Maths Olympiad: India claims its best-ever performance

An Indian contingent of six students have secured the fourth position globally in the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) 2024 held in the United Kingdom's Bath city. The Indian contingent has brought home four Gold and one Silver Medal.

Dr. Jitendra Singh conferred the prestigious "Lifetime Achievement Award"

In a ceremony to mark the International Meet of leading medical celebrities, professionals and Medicos from all over the country and abroad, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh was conferred the prestigious "Lifetime Achievement Award" in recognition of his exemplary dedication to the advancement of diabetology, diabetes care and diabetes research.

PERSONS IN NEWS (National and International)

Keir Starmer

The U.K.'s Labour Party, led by Keir Starmer, has won the July 4 general election by a landslide, securing 412 (+211) seats with outgoing Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's Conservative Party down to 121 (-250) seats in the 650-seat House of Commons.

Sumant Sinha

Sumant Sinha, Chairman and CEO of India's Clean energy company ReNew's was named Co-Chair of the Alliance of CEO Climate Leaders. It is the largest CEO-led climate alliance in the world, and a flagship initiative of the World Economic Forum.

Donald Trump

Former US President Donald Trump was injured in a shooting at his rally in Butler, Pennsylvania. A gunman and one audience member were killed in the shooting. Another spectator is in serious condition.

Massoud Pezeshkian

Massoud Pezeshkian has been elected as Iran's new President, defeating his hardline conservative rival, Saeed Jalili. Pezeshkian has secured 53.3% of the more than 30 million votes counted. Mr Jalili polled at 44.3%.

Georges Elhedery

HSBC Holdings Plc has appointed Georges Elhedery as its group chief executive, with effect from Sept. 2, making him the third CEO in less than eight years for the global lender.

Chief Min Aung Hlaing

Myanmar's acting President Myint Swe has taken medical leave and transferred his duties to Military Chief Min Aung Hlaing. Myanmar has been in turmoil since the military seized power in 2021, deposing the government of democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Kristen Michal

The Estonian parliament has voted for its current Climate Minister Kristen Michal to take over as Prime Minister, with 64 votes in favor and 27 against. Michal will succeed Kaja Kallas, who resigned as Prime Minister to become the European Union's new chief diplomat.

Shekhar Kapur

Veteran filmmaker Shekhar Kapur has been appointed festival director for the International Film Festival of India (IFFI). He will head the festival, held annually in Goa, for the 55th and 56th editions.

Roberta Metsola

Members of the European Parliament have re-elected Roberta Metsola (EPP, MT) as President of the EU until 2027. Roberta Metsola won the election in the first round of voting, where she received an absolute majority of 562 votes cast out of 699 by secret paper ballot.

Mohamed Ghazouani

Incumbent Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani has won a comfortable majority in the Mauritanian Presidential election.

Gitanas Nausėda

Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausėda was sworn in for a second five-year term. On this occasion, the 60-year-old economist, Mr. Nausėda proposed increasing Lithuania's defense budget to four percent of GDP.

Manoj Soni

Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Chairman Manoj Soni has resigned. Soni, who was appointed as UPSC Chairman on May 16, 2023, was originally slated to serve until 2029.

Paul Kagame

Rwanda's President Paul Kagame has been re-elected with 99.18% of the vote, extending his near quarter-century in office.

Ursula Von Der Leyen

The European Parliament has approved Germany's Ursula von der Leyen's bid for a second five-year term as President of the European Commission.

Vinay Mohan Kwatra

Former Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the United States of America.

Joe Biden

US President Joe Biden has withdrawn from the Presidential race for the upcoming November election in 2024. President Joe Biden has endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris as the Presidential nominee.

Kamala Harris

US Vice President Kamala Harris officially declared her candidacy for the US presidential election. The upcoming US presidential election on November 5 will see Ms Harris as the Democratic nominee, following US President Joe Biden's endorsement.

Nicolas Maduro

President Nicolas Maduro was declared the winner of Venezuela's Presidential election, even as his opponents were preparing to dispute the results. Mr. Maduro has secured 51% of the vote, overcoming Opposition candidate Edmundo Gonzalez, who garnered 44%.

Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'

Nepal's Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal, 'Prachanda' lost top executive post after failing to secure a vote of confidence in the parliament.

KP Sharma Oli

Nepal President Ram Chandra Paudel has appointed Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist-Leninist chairman KP Sharma Oli as the next Prime Minister. He was appointed Prime Minister for the third time to lead the new coalition government.

General Upendra Dwivedi

General Upendra Dwivedi took over as the 30th Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) of the 1.3 million Indian Army on June 30 from General Manoj Pande who superannuated after more than four decades of service

Dick Schoof

Dick Schoof, former head of the Dutch intelligence agency and counterterrorism office, signed the official royal decree at Huis Ten Bosch Palace to uphold his duties as the country's Prime Minister.

S.Jaishankar

India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has led the Indian delegation at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of State in place of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 3 and 4 in Astana Kazakhstan.

Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has achieved a significant milestone by surpassing 100 million followers on his social media account X. This notable growth includes an increase of about 30 million followers over the past three years. Mr. Modi now holds the distinction of being the world's most followed leader in office on X.

Soumya Swaminathan

Indian paediatrician and clinical scientist Dr. Soumya Swaminathan has been appointed as the Principal Advisor at the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme.

Vikram Misri

Vikram Misri has assumed charge as the new Foreign Secretary of India. He has succeeded Vinay Mohan Kwatra whose tenure ended recently.

Hemant Soren

Jharkhand Mukti Morcha executive chief Hemant Soren has taken oath as the 13th Chief Minister of Jharkhand, days after he walked out of jail in a money laundering case.

Jon Landau

Jon Landau, an Oscar-winning producer who worked closely with director James Cameron on three of the biggest blockbusters of all time, "Titanic" and two "Avatar" films, has died. He was 63.

Subhash Dandekar

Subhash Dandekar, the founder of iconic stationery brand Camlin died at the age of 86. He was serving as the chairman emeritus of Kokuyo Camlin after selling the brand to Japanese giant Kokuyo.

Nguyen Phu Trong

Nguyen Phu Trong, general secretary of Vietnam's ruling Communist Party and the country's most powerful politician, has died following months of ill health. He held the country's most powerful position for more than a decade.

Kamala Pujari

Padma Shri awardee and noted organic farmer Kamala Pujari died. Born in Patraput village of Baipariguda block in Koraput district, Pujari was a promoter of organic farming and had harvested 100 varieties of rice. She was associated with the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation.

R.Sampanthan

Veteran Sri Lankan Tamil leader Rajavarothiam Sampanthan, who dedicated his political life to pursuing a just solution to the island nation's Tamil question, passed away in Colombo. He was 91. He was Leader of the Opposition between 2015 and 2018.

Formula One: George Russell wins Austrian Grand Prix

Mercedes George Russell has claimed victory at the Austrian Grand Prix after a sensational late collision between series leader Max Verstappen of Red Bull and his nearest rival Lando Norris of McLaren.

MotoGP: Francesco Bagnaia claims third consecutive Dutch Grand Prix

Francesco Bagnaia has won his third consecutive Dutch MotoGP ahead of championship leader Jorge Martin to narrow the gap to 10 points in his quest for a third straight world title.

Ravindra Jadeja Announces His Retirement from T20 International Cricket

Indian all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has announced his retirement from T20 international cricket. This comes a day after India's star batters Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma announced their retirement after their second T20 world cup title in Barbados.

BCCI Announces ₹125 Cr Prize Money For Team India After T20 World Cup Win

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has announced a 125 crore rupees prize money for Team India on winning the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 in Barbados

Wimbledon Tennis Championship starts At All England Club In London

The Wimbledon Tennis Championship got underway at the All England Club in London. India's top men's singles player Sumit Nagal made his maiden Wimbledon main draw appearance this year.

ICC rankings: Hardik Pandya becomes No. 1 T20I all-rounder

India's all-rounder Hardik Pandya became the top-ranked all-rounder in men's T20Is in the latest ICC Men's T20I Rankings update. Pandya went level with Sri Lankan Wanindu Hasaranga and became the first Indian man to become No.1 in the category.

India Finishes On Top At U23 Asian Wrestling Championship In Jordan

India finished on top at the Under 23 Asian Wrestling Championship 2024, in Amman, Jordan. The young Indian grapplers have won a total of eight medals in freestyle wrestling, including four gold, two silver and two bronze medals.

Victory Parade held for T20 world cup winners At Marine Drive, Mumbai

The Indian Cricket team has received a rousing water salute as their aircraft landed in Mumbai. The team held a victory parade at Marine Drive and then take a victory lap at Wankhede Stadium and attended a special function arranged by the BCCI.

Chess: Viswanathan Anand wins his 10th title at Leon
India's top chess player Viswanathan Anand has defeated Spaniard Jaime Santos Latasa 3-1 in the finals to win the Leon Masters for a 10th time.

Badminton: India's Tasnim Mir & Tharun wins Singles Titles At Saint-Denis Reunion Open 2024

Indian shuttlers Tharun Manneppalli & Tasnim Mir have won the men's and women's singles titles at the Saint-Denis Reunion Open 2024.

Avinash Sable Sets New National Record In 3000m Steeplechase

India's Avinash Sable has set a new national record in the 3000m steeplechase at the Paris Diamond League in France. He bettered his record by more than a second.

Sable finished sixth at the event with a timing of 8:09.91 (8 minutes, 9 seconds, and 91 hundredths of a second).

Dhruv Sitwala wins The Asian Billiards Championship Title

In Billiards, Dhruv Sitwala has won the Asian Championship title. Sitwala defeated Ace Indian cueist and compatriot Pankaj Advani 5-2 in the final.

Abhay Singh Wins Both Men's Doubles And Mixed Doubles Squash Titles

In the Asian Doubles Squash Championships, India's Abhay Singh has won both the men's doubles and mixed doubles titles in Johor, Malaysia.

F1: Lewis Hamilton wins British Grand Prix for a record 9th time

Mercedes F1 driver Lewis Hamilton has claimed a record ninth British Grand Prix victory in front of his home fans.

Moto GP: Francesco Bagnaia wins German Grand Prix

Italian Grand Prix motorcycle racer Francesco Bagnaia has capitalized on Jorge Martin's late crash to win the 2024 German MotoGP.

Paris Diamond League: Yaroslava Mahuchikh sets new world record in women's high jump

Ukraine's Yaroslava Mahuchikh broke a 37-year-old world record at Diamond League Paris in the women's high jump with her leap of 2.10 meters.

Anupama Ramachandran wins the Senior Asian Women's Snooker Tournament

India's Anupama Ramachandran has won the Senior Asian Women's Snooker Tournament that was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Olympics 2024: Gagan Narang named Chef-de-Mission, PV Sindhu, Sharath Kamal to be India's flag bearers

Former shooter Gagan Narang will replace Mary Kom as India's Chef-de-Mission for the Games. PV Sindhu and table tennis star Achanta Sharath Kamal will be India's flag-bearers for the upcoming Paris Olympics 2024.

Gautam Gambhir is the new head coach of Indian men's cricket team

Former cricketer Gautam Gambhir has been appointed as the head coach of the Indian men's cricket team, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) confirmed. He has signed a three-year contract and will succeed Rahul Dravid.

Superbet Classic Chess: Caruana wins title

World number two Fabiano Caruana has defended his Superbet Classic title by winning all three rapid games in a thrilling four-way tiebreaker.

Jasprit Bumrah, Smriti Mandhana wins 'ICC Player Of The Month' Awards For June

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the winners of the ICC Player of the Month awards for June 2024 with India's Jasprit Bumrah and Smriti Mandhana both emerging victorious from last week's global vote.

President Murmu Unveils Durand Cup Trophy 2024

President Droupadi Murmu has unveiled the Trophies of the Durand Cup Football Tournament 2024 at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Adani Group Named Principal Sponsor For Team India At Paris Olympics

Gautam Adani, the chairman of the Adani Group, has announced that the conglomerate will be sponsoring the Indian team traveling to Paris for the 2024 Olympics

Games. BPCL, Reliance Foundation, Adani and Aditya Birla Capital are the principal sponsors for Team India at the Paris Olympics.

Barbora Krejcikova Lifts Women's Wimbledon Singles Trophy

Barbora Krejcikova of the Czech Republic defeated Jasmine Paolini of Italy to win her maiden Wimbledon women's singles title in London.

Sabeera Haris Wins Bronze In Shotgun Junior World Cup, Italy

In Shooting, India's Sabeera Haris has bagged the bronze medal in women's trap event at the International Shooting Sport Federation, ISSF Junior World Cup in Porpetto, Italy.

Carlos Alcaraz Of Spain wins Men's 2nd Singles Title At Wimbledon

Carlos Alcaraz of Spain has won the Men's Singles Wimbledon title 2024 for the second time defeating Novak Djokovic of Serbia, 6-2, 6-2, 7-6.

Spain wins Record 4th European Soccer Championship Title

Spain has won its record fourth European soccer championship after defeating England 2-1 in the finals of Euro 2024 in Berlin.

India Beat Zimbabwe In Final T20I, Clinch Series 4-1

India finished off its Zimbabwe tour by winning the five-match T20I series 4-1. India defeated the hosts in the fifth and final match by 42 runs in Harare.

Golf: Garcia ends title drought at LIV Golf Andalucia

Sergio Garcia has won his first professional win in four years as he got the better of India's Anirban Lahiri in a play-off at LIV Golf Andalucia.

Femke Bol becomes the second woman to break 51sec in 400m hurdles

World champion Femke Bol has become the second woman to break 51 seconds in the 400m hurdles at La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland. She ran 50.95 smashing her own European record of 51.45.

Copa America 2024 Final: Argentina Beat Colombia 1-0

Argentina has won the Copa America 2024 title with a 1-0 win against Colombia. Substitute striker Lautaro Martinez opened the scoring for Argentina in the 112th minute.

Boxing: Ennis retains welterweight title

Jaron Ennis has retained his IBF welterweight title with a fifth-round TKO victory over David Avanesyan before 14,000-plus at Philadelphia's Wells Fargo Center.

Kazakh MotoGP canceled and replaced by Emilia-Romagna race

The Kazakhstan MotoGP scheduled for September has been canceled due to issues caused by devastating floods in the country earlier this year and will be replaced by Emilia-Romagna.

India's Paris Olympics Contingent includes 117 Athletes, 140 Support Staff

India's final contingent for the upcoming Paris Olympics will have 117 athletes accompanied by 140 support staff and officials. The games will run from 26th of this month to the 11th of next month.

Saudi Arabia will host the inaugural Olympic Esports Games in 2025

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has partnered with the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of Saudi Arabia to host the inaugural Olympic Esports Games 2025 in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

FIFA Rankings: India Retains 124th Spot, Argentina occupies Top Position

The Indian football team has retained its 124th spot while Lionel Messi's Argentina consolidated the top position in the latest FIFA rankings.

Indian fencers win four medals At Commonwealth Championship In New Zealand

Indian fencing athletes have won four medals including one silver and three bronze medals at the Commonwealth Fencing Championship in New Zealand.

Nagaland Madrigal Singers Win Two Gold Medals in World Choir Games 2024

The Nagaland Madrigal Singers representing India has won two Gold Medals at the World Choir Games, 2024 in New Zealand. The World Choir Games- the Largest Choral Competition was held at Auckland, New Zealand.

Paes, Amritraj formally inducted into International Tennis Hall of Fame

Indian tennis stars Leander Paes and Vijay Amritraj were formally inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame as its 265th and 267th members.

F1 Hungarian Grand Prix 2024: McLaren 's Oscar Piastri wins the race

Oscar Piastri has won his first Formula One race after completing a McLaren one-two with Lando Norris at the 2024 Hungarian Grand Prix.

Golf: Xander Schauffele wins the 152nd Open Championship

American Golfer Xander Schauffele has held off the challenge of Justin Rose to win the 152nd Open Championship at the end of a captivating week at Royal Troon.

Tarun Kumar winner helps India win the Gothia Special Olympics Trophy

Tarun Kumar scored the match-winner in India's 4-3 victory over Denmark in the Gothia Special Olympics Trophy football tournament in Sweden.

Tadej Pogacar wins Tour de France 2024

Slovenia's Tadej Pogacar became the first bicycle rider to achieve the Giro d'Italia/Tour de France double since 1998 when he claimed his third Tour title, cementing his domination by winning the final stage for his sixth stage success.

Golf: Nick Dunlap makes history with PGA Tour Barracuda Championship win

Nick Dunlap made history as the first player to win tournaments as a professional and an amateur in the same PGA Tour season as he secured the Barracuda Championship.

25% of Indian contingent at Paris Summer Olympics 2024 are Khelo India Athletes

The union government has said that 25 per cent of the Indian contingent at the forthcoming Paris Summer Olympics 2024 are Khelo India Athletes. Out of a total 117 athletes, 28 athletes of Khelo India will participate in the Olympic Games 2024.

Indian Olympic Association announces BPCL as principal sponsor of Indian contingent

Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has announced that Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has joined them as the official Principal Sponsor for four years, starting from the Paris Olympics 2024 through Los Angeles Olympics '28.

Australia's Titmus wins women's 400m freestyle gold

Australia's Ariarne Titmus defeated arch rivals Summer McIntosh of Canada and USA's Katie Ledecky to defend her 400m freestyle title at the Paris Olympics 2024.

F1: Lewis Hamilton declared winner of Belgian GP after Russell disqualified

Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton has won the Belgian Grand Prix after teammate George Russell, who had originally come home in first, was disqualified following the race for an underweight car.

Paris Olympics: Manu Bhaker wins bronze in 10m pistol shooting

Manu Bhaker has won India's first medal at the Paris Olympics securing bronze in the women's 10m pistol event with a score of 221.7. She finished in third place

Sri Lanka lifts Women's T20 Asia Cup

Sri Lanka Women have won their maiden T20 Asia Cup, beating India by 8 wickets in the final at Dambulla.

Jiya Rai becomes world's youngest & fastest female para swimmer to swim solo across English Channel

Para swimmer Jiya Rai has become the world's youngest and fastest female para swimmer to swim solo across the English Channel successfully. The 16-year-old covered the 34 km stretch, from Abbots Cliff in England to Pointe de la Courte-Dune in France, in 17 hours and 25 minutes on Sunday and Monday.

Paris Olympics 2024: Manu Bhaker & Sarabjot Singh Win Bronze

In the 2024 Paris Olympics, India's Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh clinched a historic bronze medal in the 10m air pistol mixed team shooting event after defeating South Korea on Day 4 of the Paris Olympics 2024. Bhaker became the first athlete in the history of independent India to win two medals in a single Olympics edition.

India defeats Sri Lanka in third T20, wins series 3-0

India defeated Sri Lanka in the final T20 International, making a clean sweep of the three-match series. Put into bat, India managed to score 137 runs for 9 wickets. Chasing the target of 138 runs, Sri Lanka was restricted to 137 for 8 wickets by Indian spinners, taking the game into the super over.

MISCELLANEOUS

Japan launches advanced Earth-observing satellite on 3rd flight of H3 rocket

Japan's H3 rocket has successfully launched an Earth observation satellite on its third flight. The H3 rocket lifted off from the Tanegashima Space Center carrying the Advanced Land Observing Satellite-4 (ALOS-4), also known as DAICHI.

Aditya-L1 Mission Completes Its First Halo Orbit

India's first solar mission, the Aditya-L1 spacecraft, has completed its first halo orbit around the Sun-Earth Lagrangian point L1. The Aditya-L1 mission is an Indian solar observatory.

India ranks 72 in IMF's Artificial Intelligence Preparedness Index (AIPI)

The IMF has released an Artificial Intelligence Preparedness Index (AIPI) Dashboard on their website. Singapore (0.80), Denmark (0.78), and the United States (0.77) are among the highest-rated AEs, with India categorised as an EM with a 0.49 rating. India ranks 72 in a total of 174 countries.

India Ranks 82nd On Henley Passport Index With Visa-Free Access To 58 Countries

According to the Henley Passport Index, India has been ranked 82nd spot on a global passport index, allowing Indians visa-free entry to 58 countries. Singapore has occupied the top spot in the Index with its citizens having visa-free entry to 195 countries.

SERA, Blue Origin offer trips to edge of space

The U.S.-based Space Exploration and Research Agency (SERA) partnership with Blue Origin will fly citizens from India, Nigeria, and the small island developing states (SIDS) to the edge of the atmosphere in the space tourism venture of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos.

Hong Kong, Singapore most expensive cities to live in the world

According to Mercer's cost-of-living data report, Hong Kong, Singapore and Zurich are currently the costliest cities for international workers in 2024. The two most affordable cities are Lagos (225) and Abuja (226), both located in Nigeria (on the African continent). Mumbai is the highest Indian city taking 136th place, while the national capital, Delhi is at 165th place.

Chinese Geologists Discovers Two New Minerals In Northern China

Chinese geologists have discovered two new niobium-scandium minerals, named Oboniobite and Scandio-fluoro-eckermannite, at the world's largest rare-earth mine in northern China.

NASA creates alien-hunting telescope HWO

The US space agency NASA is planning to launch an 'alien-hunting' telescope Habitable Worlds Observatory (HWO) that experts believe will uncover an inhabited planet by 2050.

UNESCO designates 11 new Biosphere reserves

UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme has approved the designation of 10 new biospheres reserves in 9 countries, and one transboundary biosphere reserve across 2 countries. With these new designations, the World Network now totals 748 sites in 134 countries, including 23 transboundary sites.

SpaceX launches Turkey's first home-grown communications satellite

SpaceX has launched Turkey's first domestically built communications satellite Turksat 6A towards geostationary orbit.

Vietnam tops list of most affordable countries for expats: InterNations

In a recent study by InterNations, Vietnam has been crowned as the most affordable destination for immigrants for the fourth year in a row. Meanwhile, India secured the 6th position in the top 10 expat destinations list.

Global Conference On Space Research held In South Korea's Busan

A global conference on space research held in South Korea's Busan city to foster international scientific research in space. About 3,000 space scientists and industry officials from 60 nations attended the 45th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR).

India's first overseas Jan Aushadhi Kendra opens in Mauritius

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has inaugurated India's first overseas Jan Aushadhi Kendra in Mauritius. He was joined by Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth during the inauguration.

China launches new Gaofen-11 high-resolution spy satellite

China has added a fifth Gaofen-11 high-resolution satellite to its China High-definition Earth Observation System, CHEOS constellation with a new launch. A Long March 4B rocket lifted off from Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center, in north China.

SCO countries hold first joint live anti-terror drills

Security officials from the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) have held their first joint anti-terrorism drill named the 'Interaction-2024' in China focusing on live drills and specialized operations such as the eradication of terrorist groups.

OpenAI Tests New Search Engine SearchGPT

American artificial intelligence research organization OpenAI is testing a new search engine called SearchGPT, which aims to challenge Google's long-standing dominance in the search market.

India's Moidams Inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List

"Moidams – the Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty" from Assam has been officially inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The term 'Moidam' comes from Tai words meaning "to bury" and "the spirit of the dead."

Multilateral peacekeeping exercise Khaan Quest begins in Mongolia

An Indian contingent is part of the 21st edition of "Khaan Quest", a multinational peacekeeping exercise, which commenced in Mongolia with an opening ceremony held at the Five Hills Training Area in the Mongolian capital of Ulaanbaatar.

Three Indian locations are among TIME magazine's list of 'World's Greatest Places of 2024'

Three Indian destinations have been named on the TIME magazine's list of 'World's Greatest Places of 2024'. Museum of Solutions (MuSo), a unique children's museum in Mumbai, Manam Chocolate, a factory in Hyderabad, and NAAR, a restaurant in Himachal Pradesh have been recognized in the prestigious list.

UNESCO Adds 26 New Sites To World Heritage List During 46th World Heritage Committee Session

The 46th session of the World Heritage Committee inscribed 26 new cultural and natural properties on UNESCO's World Heritage List. The Committee inscribed 26 new properties, including making 2 major extensions to properties which are considered as new inscriptions. The other inscriptions include 20 cultural properties, 5 natural properties and 1 mixed site.

National Doctor's Day 2024 observed on July 1

National Doctor's Day is celebrated in India annually on July 1st every year. The Centre chose this date to honour the birth and death anniversary of Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy, a renowned physician, freedom fighter, and former West Bengal Chief Minister.

Chartered Accountants Day (CA Day) observed on July 1

Chartered Accountants Day (CA Day) is observed on July 1 every year to mark the establishment of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI).

International Plastic Bag Free Day: 3rd July

International Plastic Bag Free Day is observed every year on July 3. The day is dedicated to raise awareness about the harmful effects of plastic bags on our environment.

International Day of Cooperatives Day: 6th July

International Day of Cooperatives is observed on the first Saturday of July, in 2024 it will fall on July 6th. The theme for International Day of Cooperatives 2024 is "Cooperatives Building a Better Future for All".

World Population Day 2024 observed on July 11

World Population Day is observed on July 11, every year with an aim to raise awareness about global population issues and their impact on society. "Leave no one behind, count everyone" is the theme for World Population Day 2024.

Ashoora-E-Muharram Observed on July 17

The Ashoora-e-Muharram was observed on July 17 across the nation with due reverence and solemnity. The day marks the martyrdom of Prophet Muhammad's grandson, Hazrat Imam Hussain and his devoted companions.

Nelson Mandela International Day was observed on July 18

Nelson Mandela International Day is observed on July 18 every year to celebrate the life and legacy of Nelson Mandela, the first black President of South Africa. The theme for this year is "It's still in our hands to combat poverty and inequality."

World Chess Day: 20th July

World Chess Day is observed annually on July 20th to commemorate the founding of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) on July 20, 1924, in Paris.

Kargil Vijay Diwas: 26th July

Kargil Vijay Diwas is celebrated every year on 26th July to mark the victory of Indian soldiers in capturing the mountain heights that were occupied by the Pakistani Army on Jul 26, 1999 known as the Kargil War

World Hepatitis Day: 28th July

World Hepatitis Day is observed every year on July 28th to raise awareness about viral hepatitis. The theme for World Hepatitis Day 2024 is "It's Time for Action".

Nature Conservation Day: 28th July

World Nature Conservation Day is observed every year on July 28th. The theme of World Nature Conservation Day 2024 is "Connecting People and Plants, Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation."