

Advanced Educational Activities Pvt. Ltd.

CURRENT AFFAIRS CAPSULE (JUNE 2023)

INTERNATIONAL

UAE Withdraws from United States Led Maritime Coalition

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has announced its withdrawal from a maritime coalition led by the United States. It had pulled out of the Combined Maritime Forces two months ago as part of its ongoing evaluation of effective security cooperation with all partners.

G20: Third Employment Working Group meeting organized at ILO headquarters

The Indian G20 Presidency organized the third Employment Working Group EWG meeting at ILO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. It is a G20 tradition since the inception of the EWG, to organize an Employment Working Group at the side-lines of the ILO's annual International Labour Conference in Geneva.

Brazil lawmakers vote to limit demarcation of Indigenous reserves.

Brazil's lower house of Congress approved a legislation that would limit expanded demarcations of Indigenous lands, which are considered key to protecting the Amazon and its native peoples.

U.S. reopens Embassy in Seychelles after 27-year absence

The United States has reopened its Embassy in Seychelles after a 27-year absence during which China and other U.S. rivals made significant inroads in the Indian Ocean islands.

US President Joe Biden signs debt ceiling bill

President Joe Biden has signed legislation that lifts the nation's debt ceiling, averting an economically disastrous default on the federal government's debt.

Japan, US and South Korea agreed to upgrade their security relationship.

Japan, the United States, and South Korea have agreed to upgrade their security relationship to enable real-time monitoring of missiles launched by North Korea. The three countries will activate the new data-sharing mechanism by the end of the year.

Ukraine accused Russia of destroying major dam near Kherson, warns of widespread flooding.

Ukraine has accused Russian forces of blowing up a major dam and hydroelectric power station in a part of southern Ukraine they control, threatening a massive flood that could displace hundreds of thousands of people, and ordered residents downriver to evacuate.

Iranian Embassy reopened in Saudi Arabia

Iran is set to reopen its embassy in Saudi Arabia following a seven-year closure, sealing a Chinese-brokered rapprochement deal announced in March.

U.S., China join naval drills in Indonesia despite rifts

The United States and China have sent warships to the multinational naval drills 2023 Multilateral Naval Exercise (MNEK) that began in Indonesia, despite the rifts between the two powers.

BIMSTEC Centre for energy cooperation will be inaugurated in India this year

The BIMSTEC Energy Centre which will act as the Secretariat for BIMSTEC energy cooperation will be formally inaugurated in India later this year, said BIMSTEC Secretary General Tenzin Lekphell in Dhaka.

US Vice President announces more than 100 million US Dollars assistance for Caribbean

United States Vice President Kamala Harris has announced that her country is investing more than 100 million US Dollars in the Caribbean region to crack down on weapons trafficking, help alleviate Haiti's humanitarian crisis and support climate change initiatives.

WFP temporarily suspends food aid to Ethiopia after diversion of supplies

The United Nations World Food Program has said it is temporarily suspending food aid to Ethiopia because its supplies are being diverted. Earlier United States Agency for International Development also said to stop the supplies.

Russia to deploy tactical nuclear weapons in Belarus in July

Russia will start deploying tactical nuclear weapons in Belarus after special storage facilities are ready on July 7-8, President Vladimir Putin said.

India, France, and UAE Concluded Successful Trilateral Maritime Exercise in Gulf of Oman

India, France, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) successfully concluded their first trilateral maritime exercise in the Gulf of Oman. The two-day exercise, which began on June 7, involved the participation of naval assets from all three countries.

Opposition coalition in Guinea-Bissau won majority in parliament.

An opposition coalition in Guinea-Bissau has won an overall majority in parliament following elections. With this result, President Umaro Sissoco Embaló will have to share power with a prime minister nominated by the PAI-Terra Ranka coalition, which includes the former ruling PAIGC party.

U.S. decided to rejoin UNESCO

UNESCO announced that the United States planned to rejoin and pay more than \$600 million in back dues after a decade-long dispute sparked by the organisation's move to include Palestine as a member.

Major air defence exercise started in Germany

Allied air forces began the largest deployment exercise in NATO's history on 12 June 2023. Twenty-five nations took part in the two-week long "Air Defender" exercise, with around 10,000 personnel and 250 aircraft.

UN Secretary-General calls for international watchdog to monitor Artificial Intelligence

United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has expressed his support for the establishment of an international watchdog similar to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to oversee the monitoring of Artificial Intelligence.

Germany gave \$1.4 billion to Holocaust survivors globally in 2024

The organisation that handles claims on behalf of Jews who suffered under the Nazis said that Germany has agreed to extend another \$1.4 billion (€1.29 billion) overall for Holocaust survivors around the globe for the coming year.

EU lawmakers approved plan on bloc's future AI rules

EU lawmakers voted to adopt a key text forming the basis of a future law regulating artificial intelligence systems like ChatGPT, while aiming to foster innovation in the technology. Negotiations on the final law will begin later between the European Parliament and the EU's 27 member countries.

UNGA adopted resolution introduced by India to honour fallen peacekeepers.

India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj introduced the draft resolution titled 'Memorial wall for fallen United Nations peacekeepers'. The UN General Assembly has adopted a draft resolution introduced by India to establish a memorial wall in the UN Headquarters to honour fallen peacekeepers.

U.S. military gets access to Papua New Guinea bases

The U.S. military now can develop and operate out of bases in Papua New Guinea, according to a landmark security pact underpinning Washington's effort to outflank China in the Pacific.

PM Modi proposed G20 membership for African Union

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has written to the leaders of the G20 nations, proposing that the African Union be given full membership of the grouping at its upcoming summit in India.

Pakistan received \$1 billion from China

Cash-strapped Pakistan has received \$1 billion from its close ally China to support its critically low foreign reserves amidst the uncertainty to revive a stalled International Monetary Fund loan.

Swiss get behind net-zero climate law

Almost 60% of Swiss voters have backed plans to severely cut emissions by 2050 despite opposition from the right-wing Swiss People's Party. In a second vote, 78.5% supported a minimum tax of 15% for multinational firms.

Mali cast referendum on new constitution

Malian voters cast ballots on a new draft constitution in a referendum that the country's coup leader says will pave the way toward holding new elections in 2024.

United Nations adopted first-ever treaty to protect marine life in high seas

The United Nations has adopted the first-ever treaty to protect marine life in the high seas. UN Secretary-General António Guterres hailed the historic agreement as giving the ocean a fighting chance. Delegates from the 193 member nations approved the treaty with jubilation.

India gifted missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam

India gifted the indigenously built in-service missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam to enhance that country's naval capabilities. *INS Kirpan* is a Khukri class missile corvette displacing 1,350 tonnes and was commissioned into the Navy on January 12, 1991.

Indian Army Contingent participates in multinational peacekeeping Joint Exercise Ex Khaan Quest 2023

The Indian Army Contingent has participated in the multinational peacekeeping Joint Exercise Ex Khaan Quest 2023 in Mongolia. Military contingents and observers from over 20 countries have participated in this exercise.

Joe Biden to announce over six hundred million dollars in climate investments.

President of United States Joe Biden will announce over six hundred million dollars in climate investments to help coastal communities around the country fight climate change.

UAE and Qatar Reopened Embassies to Restore Diplomatic Ties

The United Arab Emirates and Qatar have reopened their respective embassies in Abu Dhabi and Doha, respectively. This marks the restoration of diplomatic ties between the two countries, which had been severed in 2017.

China inked deal with Pakistan to set up nuclear power plant in Punjab province.

China has inked an agreement worth a whopping \$4.8 billion with cash-strapped Pakistan to set up a 1,200-megawatt Chashma-V nuclear plant at Chashma in the Mianwali district of Punjab.

Titanic tourist submersible goes missing

A five-person submersible vessel taking wealthy adventurers on a \$250,000 trip to see the wreckage of the 1912 Titanic disaster 12,500 feet (3,800m) undersea is missing in the Atlantic off Canada.

U.S., India announces deals across defence, space travel, microchips

The U.S. and India announced a series of agreements in defence cooperation, critical and emerging technology, health, environment and visas, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Joe Biden held bilateral talks during the Prime Minister's state visit to the U.S.

India and UAE signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Authorized Economic Operators

In a move aimed at promoting greater trade facilitation and ease of doing business, India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Authorized Economic Operators.

India and US signed Artemis Accord

India has signed the Artemis Accords, a US-led effort to send humans to the moon again by 2025, with the ultimate goal of expanding space exploration to Mars and beyond. The program aims to build a permanent presence in lunar orbit and on the surface, over half a century after the Apollo missions ended.

Summit for New Global Financing Pact kicked off in Paris, France

The Summit for a New Global Financing Pact was held in Paris, France, with more than 300 participants from various sectors. France organized the Summit on 22 and 23 June 2023 to meet the common challenges relating to our planet and development.

Submersible Titan has imploded near the site

All five members onboard the ill-fated vessel has been declared dead in the 'catastrophic implosion', ending the multinational five-day search. The submersible, Titan, which set out on an expedition to the Titanic shipwreck site, almost 13,000 feet below sea level, has imploded near the site where the British passenger liner sank in 1912.

Germany approves new immigration law to attract skilled workers to country

The German Parliament approved a new immigration law designed to attract skilled workers to the country. This comes as the country is suffering from an unprecedented labour shortage that is belabouring the economy.

Greece's conservative New Democracy party storm to victory in parliamentary election

Greece's conservative New Democracy party has stormed to victory in a parliamentary election, as voters have given reformist Kyriakos Mitsotakis another four-year term as the Prime Minister.

Pakistan's National Assembly passed a bill seeking amendment to Elections Act 2017

In Pakistan, the National Assembly has passed a bill seeking an amendment to the Elections Act 2017, aimed at limiting the disqualification of lawmakers to five years with retrospective effect.

Sri Lanka's govt announced approval of agreement with World Bank to secure 500 million US dollar

Sri Lanka's government has announced its approval of an agreement with the World Bank to secure a 500 million US dollar in budgetary support. The government disclosed that the funds will be disbursed in two instalments.

Belarusian President confirms mercenary Wagner Group chief Yevgeny Prigozhin arrives in his country

Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko, who quelled the feud between the Wagner Group and Russia, has confirmed that mercenary chief Yevgeny Prigozhin has arrived in his country.

UK Court of Appeal rules government's plan to deport asylum seekers to Rwanda unlawful

In UK, the Court of Appeal has ruled that government's plan to deport asylum seekers to Rwanda is unlawful. The Court of Appeal has concluded by a majority of two to one that Rwanda could not be treated as a safe third country.

Turkmenistan unveiled \$5 billion city in honour of national leader

Turkmenistan has inaugurated Arkadag, a \$ 5-billion "smart" city built in honour of former strongman leader Gurbanguly Berdimukhamedov, cementing one of the most extraordinary personality cults in the world.

President Xi Jinping will attend virtual SCO summit hosted by India

Chinese President Xi Jinping will attend next week's virtual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) being hosted by India.

India & Tanzania concludes second edition of Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting

India and Tanzania have concluded the second edition of Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting in Arusha. In a two-day defence cooperation meeting, both sides have discussed a wide range of opportunities for collaboration with a view to enhancing security in the Indian Ocean Region.

India removed from UNSG report on impact of armed conflict on children

United Nations has removed India from his annual report on the impact of armed conflict on children, citing "measures taken by the Indian government to better protect" them.

Indian marching contingents, Rafale jets to take part in French Bastille Day parade

Marching contingents of the three Services and a military band, making up a total of 242 personnel, will take part in the French Bastille Day parade on July 14 in Paris, while three Rafale fighter jets of Indian Air Force (IAF) will be part of the flypast as Prime Minister Narendra Modi witnesses it as the Chief Guest.

Cabinet approves to establish Regional Office of Universal Postal Union in New Delhi

The Union Cabinet has approved to establish Regional Office of the Universal Postal Union, UPU, in New Delhi. The aim is to undertake UPU's development cooperation and technical assistance activities in the region by entering into an agreement with UPU.

Health Ministry notifies new rules for anti-tobacco warnings on OTT platforms

Union Health Ministry has notified new rules for anti-tobacco warnings on OTT platforms. The notification mandates OTT platforms to carry anti-tobacco warning messages.

India joins CLN for testing vaccines

India has joined the Centralized Laboratory Network (CLN) which currently has 15 partner facilities in 13 countries that works to test vaccines which can be used during pandemic, epidemic disease outbreak.

Cabinet approves CITIIS 2.0 for integrated waste management and climate oriented reform.

The Centre has approved the second phase of the City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain (CITIIS) project, a programme under the ambit of the Smart Cities Mission, which aims to promote integrated waste management and climate-oriented reform actions. The CITIIS 2.0 will be implemented in 18 cities which would be selected based on a competition.

Govt invites applications for setting up of Semiconductor Fabs and Display Fabs

The Centre has decided to invite new applications for setting up of Semiconductor Fabs and Display Fabs in India. The applications will be accepted under the Modified Semicon India Programme from June 1, 2023.

World's largest grain storage plan: Centre to implement pilot project in 10 districts

The Union Cabinet has approved the constitution and empowerment of an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) for facilitation of the "world's largest grain storage plan in cooperative sector" by convergence of various schemes of the Ministries of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Food Processing Industries.

Centre launches Electronics Repair Services Outsourcing

The Union government launched Electronics Repair Services Outsourcing ERSO Pilot initiative to validate certain transformational policy and process changes to make India the Repair Capital of the World.

India and Nepal sign seven agreements in various fields

India and Nepal have signed seven agreements in the fields including trade and commerce, cross-border petroleum pipeline, development of Integrated Check Posts, hydroelectric projects and payment mechanisms.

First IIT in Tanzania to open in October 2023

IIT-Madras will open its first-ever overseas campus in Tanzania's Zanzibar in October 2023 with a batch of 50 undergraduate students and 20 master's students. The new IIT campus will be set up in Zanzibar under the name IIT Madras at Zanzibar.

Medium-range ballistic missile Agni-1 test-fired in Odisha

A successful training launch of a medium-range ballistic missile, Agni-1 was carried out by the Strategic Forces Command from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha. The missile is a proven system, capable of striking targets with a very high degree of precision.

Odisha train collision toll rises to 238.

At least 238 passengers were feared dead and more than 900 seriously injured in a major rail accident involving two express trains in Balasore district of Odisha. The accident took place when two coaches of Yashwantpur-Howrah Express derailed near Bahanaga Railway station in Balasore district.

After Odisha tragedy, Railways to secure signalling equipment with double locks

Days after the devastating train accident which claimed the lives of 275 passengers and left over 900 injured in Odisha, the Indian Railways has decided to secure the goomties housing signalling equipment on railway station premises with a 'double-lock' arrangement.

President Murmu held talks with Suriname President

President Droupadi Murmu has held restricted talks and delegation-level talks with Suriname President Chandrikapersad Santokhi. Three MoUs in Health and Agriculture sectors were signed.

No of MBBS seats in the country crossed 1.7 lakh mark

Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has said that number of MBBS seats in the country has crossed one lakh seven thousand mark. Eight thousand 195 MBBS Undergraduate seats have been added this year.

Air India Express made history with all-women Haj flight

India's first all-women Haj flight successfully took off from Kozhikode to Jeddah in Saudi Arabia. This remarkable feat was made possible by an all-women crew of Air India Express (AIXL), an international budget airline.

All panchayats to be declared UPI-enabled on August 15: Centre

All panchayats across the country will mandatorily use digital payments for development work and revenue collection this Independence Day onwards, and be declared UPI-enabled, a letter issued by the Panchayati Raj Ministry said.

Union Minister of Mines unveiled India's first-ever report on Critical Minerals for India

Union Minister of Mines, Pralhad Joshi, has unveiled India's first-ever report on Critical Minerals for India. The report identifies 30 critical minerals essential for sectors including defence, agriculture, energy, pharmaceuticals, and telecom.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired PRAGATI meeting

Prime Minister Narendra Modi reviewed twelve projects worth over one lakh 21 thousand crore rupees spread across 10 states and two Union Territories. The projects were reviewed during the 42nd edition of the PRAGATI meeting chaired by the Prime Minister.

Agriculture Minister launches PM Kisan Mobile App with Face Authentication Feature for e- KYC

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched the PM Kisan Mobile App with a face authentication feature. Through this App, remote farmers can do e-KYC by scanning their faces without OTP or fingerprint.

US Company GE Aerospace signed MoU with HAL to produce fighter jet engines for Indian Air Force

US aerospace major, GE Aerospace, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Indian aerospace company Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, to produce fighter jet engines for the Indian Air Force. This major decision has come at a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi is on an official visit to the United States.

Govt constituted Peace Committee in Manipur to facilitate dialogue.

The Centre has constituted a peace committee in Manipur under the chairpersonship of State Governor Anusuiya Uijey to facilitate the peacemaking process among various ethnic groups. The Committee, which comprises Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, some State Ministers, MPs, MLAs and leaders from different political parties.

IIT-M generates hydrogen from seawater using solar energy

Researchers from the Department of Physics at IIT-Madras have developed critical components for a highly efficient, cost-effective way to electrolyze seawater to generate hydrogen.

Cyclonic storm 'Biparjoy' hits Gujarat

Cyclone Biparjoy made landfall on Gujarat's Kutch coast. the State government has started preparations by deploying teams from both national and State disaster response forces in coastal areas and set up shelters in six coastal districts in the Saurashtra and Kutch regions.

CAG hosted SAI20 Summit under India's G20 Presidency in Goa

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) hosted a three-day Supreme Audit Institutions SAI20 Summit under India's G20 Presidency in Goa from June 12.

Education Ministry hosted 4th & final EdWG Meeting under India's G20 presidency .

The Education Ministry hosted the 4th and final Education Working Group (EdWG) Meeting under India's G20 presidency in Pune from the 19th to the 21st of this month.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari laid foundation stone of 10 National Highway projects worth more than ₹8415 crores in UP

Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has laid the foundation stone of 10 national highway projects worth more than 8415 crores in Uttar Pradesh. Five national highway projects worth 2,200 crore rupees are in the Pratapgarh region while five projects worth 6,215 crore rupees are in the Deoria Region of State.

W20 summit held at Mahabalipuram.

The W20 summit was held at Mahabalipuram near Chennai. Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually addressed the inaugural session. Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Irani delivered the keynote address.

Centre checks price rise by discontinuing sale of rice, wheat to States under OMSS

The Centre has discontinued the sale of rice and wheat from the central pool under the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) to State governments, a move that will hit some States, including Karnataka, offering free grains to the poor.

Chandrayaan 3 to be launched on 13th of next month, confirms ISRO

Chandrayaan 3 will be launched on the 13th of next month around 2:30 PM. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch its ambitious Chandrayaan-3 Mission aimed at demonstrating critical technology to land the spacecraft on the Moon.

Union Cabinet approved schemes for farmers worth over 3.7 lakh crore rupees

The central government has approved a unique package of innovative schemes for farmers with a total outlay of over 3.7 lakh crore rupees. It approved continuation of the Urea Subsidy Scheme to ensure constant availability of urea to the farmers at the same price of 242 rupees per 45 kg bag.

The Centre has also decided for the introduction of Sulphur coated Urea (Urea Gold).

It also approved the PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness Generation, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth (PMPRANAM). It also approved the fair and remunerative price of 315 rupees per quintal for sugarcane farmers for the season 2023-24.

International toy fair to begin from July 8

A three-day toy fair 14th Toy Biz International B2B Expo 2023 will begin on July 8 in the national capital Delhi, which is expected to see participation from about 5,000 buyers and industry players from at least 25 countries.

Over 1.25 lakh people performed yoga in Surat

More than 1.25 lakh people have performed yoga together on 21st June in Surat city of Gujarat on the occasion of the International Day of Yoga to set a Guinness Book of World Record.

Health Ministry organizes G20 co-branded event titled 'Health of Youth-Wealth of Nation' in New Delhi

Health Ministry in collaboration with the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, Child Health, Geneva is organizing a G20 co-branded event titled 'Health of Youth-Wealth of Nation' in New Delhi.

Childline to be merged with Emergency Response Support System in nine States and Union Territories

The Ministry of Women and Child Development had announced the merging of the child helpline (1098) run so far by Childline, with the women's helpline and Emergency Response Support System (112), under its "One Nation, One Helpline" policy.

PM Modi gifted eco-friendly lab-grown diamond to U.S. First Lady Jill Biden

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is in the U.S. for a three-day State visit, has gifted an eco-friendly lab-grown 7.5-carat diamond, placed in Kashmir's exquisite Papier mâché box, to the U.S. First Lady Jill Biden.

North India's first Skin Bank inaugurated at New Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital

North India's first Skin Bank has been inaugurated at New Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital. It is a bank where deceased donors can donate their skin which will be helpful in treating burns.

Google will open global fintech centre in Gujarat

Google and Alphabet CEO Sundar Pichai said that Google is investing \$10 billion in India's digitisation fund and announced the opening of its global fintech operation centre in Gujarat.

Modi, Biden affirmed plans for procurement of armed drones for Indian defence

The US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi welcomed India's plans to procure General Atomics MQ-9B High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) Unmanned Aerial vehicles (UAV). This sets the stage for the acquisition of 31 armed UAVs — 15 for the Indian Navy and eight each for the Indian Army and Air Force.

Centre gave nod to National Research Foundation Bill, 2023

The Central government has decided to bring the National Research Foundation (NRF) Bill, 2023 to strengthen the research ecosystem in the country. The Bill will pave the way to establish NRF to seed, grow and promote research and development and foster a culture of research and innovation throughout India's universities, colleges, and research institutions.

Centre provided financial incentives to 12 states to accelerate power sector reforms.

Centre has provided financial incentives to 12 states to accelerate power sector reforms. The Finance Ministry said, these states will receive over 66 thousand crore rupees incentives for reforms in the power sector. These states include Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Manipur and Andhra Pradesh.

Defence Ministry signed ₹500 cr contract to strengthen Indian Army's communication system

The Defence Ministry signed a contract of 500 crore rupees with an indigenous firm ICOMM Tele Limited of Hyderabad for the supply of Radio Relay Containers to strengthen the Indian Army's communication system.

VAIBHAV new fellowship programme launched to connect Indian STEM, R&D institutions

The Government of India has launched the Vaishvik Bhartiya Vaigyanik (VAIBHAV), a new fellowship programme to connect the Indian STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and Medicine) diaspora with Indian academic and R&D institutions for collaborative research work leading to sharing of knowledge, wisdom and best practices in the frontier areas of Science & Technology.

Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu emerged Top Achievers in Wind Energy Adoption

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India joined the worldwide celebrations of 15th June as Global Wind Day, through the organization of a day-long event in New Delhi. The Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Bhupinder Singh Bhalla congratulated the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu for their achievements during the financial year 2022- 23.

'Abundance in Millets', song featuring PM Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has collaborated with Grammy Award-winning Indian American singer Falguni Shah for a special song to promote the benefits of millets and their potential to alleviate world hunger.

Nehru Memorial Museum and Library renamed

The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML) Society, an autonomous body under the Government of India, announced that the institution would be renamed as the 'Prime Ministers Museum and Library Society'.

First COVID-19 booster vaccine developed in India for highly transmissible Omicron variant launched

Science and Technology Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched mRNA-based Covid Booster Vaccine - GEMCOVAC-OM in New Delhi. The vaccine is the first booster COVID-19 vaccine developed in India against the highly transmissible Omicron variant.

PM Modi & Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi held bilateral talks in Cairo

Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi for bilateral talks in Cairo. Three Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) in the fields of agriculture, archaeology and antiquities, and competition law were also signed.

A first in over 6 decades, monsoon hits Delhi and Mumbai on same day

Heavy rain lashed Delhi and Mumbai as monsoon arrived in both the cities on the same day — the first such occurrence since 1961. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the monsoon began two days earlier than usual in Delhi while its entry over Mumbai was delayed by two weeks.

Centre looking to design Human Development Index for 28 lakh Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups

The Union government is now looking to design a survey that can gauge the Human Development Index (HDI) specifically for about 28 lakh people of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) living in over 22,000 villages across the country, Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda said.

Law Commission sought fresh suggestions on UCC

The 22nd Law Commission of India has sought fresh suggestions from various stakeholders, including public and religious organisations, on the Uniform Civil Code (UCC).

Biparjoy longest duration cyclone since 1977: IMD

Cyclone Biparjoy, which wreaked havoc in Gujarat was the longest-duration cyclonic storm in the northern Indian Ocean since 1977, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

Tomato prices soar across country due to dip in supply, cost ₹80-100 per kg

Tomato prices have recently shot up in the markets across the country from ₹10-20 per kg to a price of ₹80-100 per kg. The reason behind this is the dip in supply due to heatwaves in tomato-growing areas and heavy rain.

Centre allowed Aadhaar authentication for registration for births and deaths

The Centre has allowed the Office of Registrar General of India (RGI) to perform Aadhaar authentication during registration of births and deaths in the country. However, Aadhaar is not mandatory for such registration.

Hardeep Singh Puri launches PM SVANidhi mobile app to ease loan process

Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has launched PM SVANidhi mobile app for street vendors, to ease the loan application process and provide various information to them regarding the scheme.

Ministry Of Jal Shakti Launches Unified Registration Portal For GOBARdhan

The Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched the Unified Registration Portal for GOBARdhan which will act as a one stop repository to assess investment and participation in Biogas/CBG sector at pan India level and more importantly streamline the process of setting up CBG/Biogas plants in India.

80 castes to be added to Central OBC list

Approximately 80 more castes in six States are now likely to be added to the Central List of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the coming months, with the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) already processing the approval for most of them, panel chairperson Hansraj Gangaram Ahir said.

Seven products from UP got GI tag

The Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai has given tags to seven different products from Uttar Pradesh. 'Amroha Dholak', 'Mahoba Gaura Patthar Hastashlip',

'Mainpuri Tarkashi', 'Sambhal Horn Craft', 'Baghpat Home Furnishings', 'Barabanki Handloom Product' and 'Kalpi Handmade Paper' are the products that been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

PM inaugurates 17th Indian Cooperative Congress in New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress (ICC) on July 1 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. It was chaired by the Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah.

IIT-Kharagpur to develop tamper-proof signalling system for railways

The IIT Kharagpur, is developing a tamper-proof signalling system based on blockchain technology for the Indian Railways. Embedded with enhanced safety measures, the new system would complement the existing Data Logger which is considered the 'Black Box' of rolling stock.

Govt allows 2,000 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies to open PMBJAKs.

The Central government has decided to allow two thousand Primary Agricultural Credit Societies PACS to open Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras across the country. The decision was taken in a meeting of Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah with Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister Mansukh Mandaviya in New Delhi.

PM Modi-led Yoga session at UN creates Guinness World Record

Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Yoga celebration at the UN headquarters has created a Guinness World Record for the participation of people of most nationalities.

TAPAS UAV achieved major milestone off Karwar

The indigenously developed TAPAS 201 UAV has achieved a major milestone as the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy have successfully demonstrated transferring of command-and-control capabilities of the UAV from a distant ground station to onboard INS Subhadra, 148 km from Karwar Naval Base.

Government expects to unveil New Cooperation Policy in July this year.

The Union government has said that the New Cooperation Policy is expected to be unveiled next month, in July. It will be unveiled after consulting all the stakeholders including State governments, Central Ministries, and National Cooperatives.

Navy carried out successful test of Made in India heavyweight Torpedo.

The Indian Navy has carried out a successful test to destroy underwater target using Made in India heavyweight Torpedo.

India conducted successful flight test of Agni Prime ballistic missile off Odisha coast

New Generation Ballistic Missile Agni Prime was successfully flight-tested by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The missile was flight tested from Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha.

ISRO chairman S Somnath informed Chandrayaan 3 mission is planned to be launched by mid-July

ISRO chairman S Somnath has informed that Chandrayaan 3 mission is planned to be launched by mid-July 2023. The aim of the mission is to place Rover on the surface of the moon.

IAF, Army carried out joint exercise in central sector

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has carried out a joint exercise with the Indian Army in the central sector with deployment of multiple combat assets to check the operational readiness of the two forces. Multiple combat assets were employed to simulate realistic combat situations for all participants.

INS 'Vagir' embarked on operational visit to Colombo

Indian Navy's state-of-the-art submarine, INS 'Vagir', has embarked on an operational visit to Colombo from June 19 to June 22. This visit is in commemoration of the 9th edition of the International Day of Yoga and aligns with the theme of 'Global Ocean Ring'.

HCL Foundation signs MoU with NCUI to train over 5,000 women & youth from marginalised communities

HCL Foundation has partnered with the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) to train over 5,000 women, youths and artisans from marginalised communities for sustainable income-generating opportunities.

BANKING & ECONOMY

Core sectors' growth slips to six-month low of 3.5% in April

India's eight core sectors' output growth slid from 3.6% in March to 3.5% in April, marking the slowest pace in six months.

India's GDP expanded 6.1% in 2022-23's last quarter.

India's GDP growth accelerated to 6.1% in the January to March 2023 quarter, lifting the economy's uptick in 2022-23 to 7.2% from the 7% estimated earlier, according to the National Statistical Office (NSO).

Alstom to make 100 Vande Bharat trains with sleeper coaches

French rail company Alstom will manufacture 100 aluminium bodied Vande Bharat trains with sleeper facility, after bidding the lowest for the tender at a price of ₹150.9 crore per train.

Sebi proposes mandating additional disclosure for high-risk FPIs

SEBI came out with a proposal mandating enhanced disclosures from high-risk Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) to guard against possible circumvention of the Minimum Public Shareholding (MPS) requirement.

Reliance climbed eight spots to 45th rank on Forbes' Global 2000 list

Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd. climbed eight spots to the 45th rank, the highest for an Indian company on Forbes' latest Global 2000 list of public companies worldwide. JPMorgan, America's biggest bank with \$3.7 trillion in assets, is at the top of the list for the first time since 2011.

Adani Green Ranked First In Asia And Among Top 10 RE Companies Globally For ESG Performance

Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL), India's largest renewable power producer and the renewable energy arm of the diversified Adani portfolio, has been ranked First in Asia and among the top 10 companies globally in the renewable energy sector by ISS ESG.

India transformed in less than a decade: Morgan Stanley

India will emerge as a key driver of Asia's growth within the next decade, Morgan Stanley said in its latest report. Highlighting the reforms that have taken place in the country since 2014, it said India is different from what it was in 2013 and has gained "positions in the world order".

Europe sees inflation drop to 6.1%

Europe's inflation took a positive turn with a significant drop to 6.1%. The annual figure in May eased from 7% in April for the 20 countries that use the euro currency.

IRDAI eyes insurance push in rural areas with Bima Vahak

IRDAI's plan to improve insurance awareness and penetration in the hinterland is all set to gain momentum with the insurance regulator issuing draft guidelines for Bima Vahak, a dedicated distribution channel to reach out to every Gram Panchayat.

RBI releases draft master directions on cyber security for PSOs

The Reserve Bank of India has released the draft Master Directions on Cyber Resilience and Digital Payment Security Controls for Payment System Operators, PSO's. The draft covers governance mechanism for identification, assessment, monitoring and management of cybersecurity risks.

IRDAI directs SBI Life to take over Sahara India Life Insurance business

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India has directed SBI Life Insurance Co Ltd to take over the nearly 200,000 policies of Sahara India Life Insurance Co Ltd in order to protect the interests of policyholders of the defunct insurance arm of the Sahara Group.

DG of Foreign Trade simplified policy for export of Drones meant for civilian uses from India

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has simplified and liberalized the policy for export of Drones meant for civilian end uses from India. This decision has been taken in line with the emphasis laid in India's Foreign Trade Policy 2023 on facilitating the export of high-tech items which includes the promotion of exports of drones manufactured in India.

India achieves milestone of 101 Million Cubic Meters per Day of gas production

India has achieved the milestone of 101 Million Metric Standard Cubic Meters per Day of gas production. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said, since India imports about 50 per cent of its natural gas requirement, enhanced gas production within the country will reduce import dependence.

Indian pharma industry likely to grow to \$130 billion in size by 2030.

The Indian pharmaceutical industry is projected to grow at a CAGR of over 10% to reach a size of \$130 billion by 2030. The Indian Pharmaceutical industry is valued at around \$50 billion and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 10.7% by 2030.

Walmart shareholding in PhonePe drops to 85%

Retail giant Walmart's shareholding in decacorn fintech firm PhonePe has dropped to 85 per cent from 89 per cent following its ongoing fundraise of \$1 billion. PhonePe has now raised a total of \$850 million of primary capital in the current round till the end of May.

India's import of Russian oil scaled new high in May

India's import of cheap Russian oil scaled another record in May and is now more than the combined oil bought from Saudi Arabia, Iraq, UAE and the US. India took 1.96 million barrels a day from Russia in May 2023.

ICAI Central Council approves renewal of MRAs with CPA Canada, CPA Ireland

The CA Institute's Central Council has approved the renewal of the existing mutual recognition agreement (MRA) with CPA Canada and CPA Ireland.

Saudi Arabia cuts oil output by 1 million barrels per day to boost sagging prices.

Saudi Arabia said that it will reduce how much oil it sends to the global economy, taking a unilateral step to support the sagging cost of crude after two earlier production cuts by members of the OPEC+ alliance of major oil-producing countries failed to push prices higher.

UAE to extend oil production cuts by over 140,000 barrels per day until 2024 end

The UAE announced that it will extend its voluntary oil output cut by 144,000 barrels per day until the end of 2024. This decision was made in accordance with the agreement reached at the thirty-fifth ministerial meeting of OPEC Plus held on June 4th, 2023.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das launches Financial Inclusion Dashboard – ANTARDRIHSTI

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has launched a Financial Inclusion Dashboard - ANTARDRIHSTI. As the name suggests, the dashboard will provide the required insight to assess and monitor the progress of financial inclusion by capturing relevant parameters.

Cabinet approved increase in MSP for all mandated Kharif Crops for Marketing Season 2023-24

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved an increase in Minimum Support Price, MSP, for all mandated Kharif Crops for Marketing Season 2023-24. MSP of the common grade variety of paddy has been increased by 143 rupees to 2,183 rupees quintal for the 2023-24 crop year.

Bank of Maharashtra raised ₹1,000 crore via QIP

Bank of Maharashtra had raised ₹1,000 crore (base issue of ₹500 crore and a green shoe option of ₹500 crore) through qualified institutional placement (QIP).

Va Tech Wabag secured ₹420-cr. order from CIDCO Maharashtra

Va Tech Wabag (Wabag) has secured a ₹420-crore order from City and Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. (CIDCO) towards design, build and operation of a water treatment plant (WTP) with a capacity of 270 million litres per day at Jite, Raigad.

RBI held rates, vows to keep price stability

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to keep the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) unchanged at 6.50%. The standing deposit facility (SDF) rate remains unchanged at 6.25% and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 6.75%.

Growth in India is expected to slow to 6.3% in FY2023: World Bank

Growth in India is expected to slow to 6.3% in FY 2023/24 (April-March), a 0.3 percentage point downward revision from January, the World Bank said.

RBI allowed banks to use RuPay Prepaid Forex cards

In order to expand payment options for Indians traveling abroad, the Reserve Bank has decided to allow issuance of RuPay Prepaid Forex cards by banks in India for use at ATMs, PoS machines, and online merchants overseas.

Forex reserves jumped from \$5.9 bn to \$595 bn

India's forex kitty jumped \$5.929 billion to \$595.067 billion for the week ended June 2. It may be noted that in October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of \$645 billion.

Govt asked regulator CERC to begin process for coupling power exchanges

The power ministry has asked Central Electricity Regulatory Authority (CERC) to initiate the process of coupling multiple power exchanges, a mechanism which seeks to ensure uniformity in price discovery of energy at trading platforms.

Centre announced four important initiatives to strengthen over 1,500 UCBs in country

The Centre has announced four important initiatives to strengthen 1,514 Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) in the country. The measures which have been notified by the RBI include allowing the Urban Cooperative Banks to open new branches, permitting these banks for One Time Settlement at par with Commercial Banks, giving them two years more to meet the priority sector lending targets and designating a Nodal Officer in RBI.

Retail inflation based on CPI eases to a 25-month low of 4.25% in May 2023

Retail inflation, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), eased to a 25-month low of 4.25 percent in the month of May this year. Inflation in April had stood at 4.7 percent.

Industrial Output of India rose to 4.2% in April 2023

The Industrial output of the country rose to 4.2 percent in April this year. The index of industrial production (IIP) expanded as the manufacturing sector's output grew 4.9 percent in April while Mining output rose by 5.1 percent.

Centre released 3rd instalment of tax devolution to State governments amounting to ₹1,18,280 crores

The Centre released the third instalment of tax devolution to State governments amounting to 1 lakh 18 thousand 280 crore rupees, as against the normal monthly devolution of 59 thousand 140 crores.

India & UAE looking forward to taking bilateral trade in non-petroleum products to 100 billion dollars by 2030

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal has said that India and UAE are looking forward to take the bilateral trade in the non-petroleum products to 100 billion dollars by 2030. Currently India-UAE trade in non-petroleum products is worth 48 billion dollars.

Government imposed stock limits on wheat to prevent hoarding

In order to manage overall food security and to prevent hoarding and unscrupulous speculation, the union government has decided to impose stock limits on wheat for traders, wholesalers, retailers, big chain retailers and processors. The order will be applicable with immediate effect and will be applicable until March 31, 2024.

ADB approved USD 400 million to Bangladesh

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 400 million loan to Bangladesh to advance reforms in domestic resource mobilisation, improve efficiency and productivity of public spending, and help small businesses, especially women-led businesses to access low-cost innovative bank financing.

IRDAI nod for SBI MF to pick upto 10% in ICICI Lombard

Insurance regulator IRDAI has accorded SBI Mutual Fund approval to acquire up to 10% of total paid-up equity share capital of ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company through market purchase.

US central bank held interest rates steady in first since 2022

The US central bank has announced it will hold interest rates steady - the first time it has opted against a rise in more than a year. The Federal Reserve kept the target for its benchmark rate at 5%-5.25% saying it wanted time to assess the impact of rate hikes so far.

IMF warned Kazakhstan to stick to tight monetary policy

Kazakhstan's Central Bank may have to stick to a tight monetary policy stance against the backdrop of elevated external uncertainty and growing state spending, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) warned.

New Zealand's economy dipped into recession.

New figures released show that New Zealand's economy has dipped into recession, as higher interest rates take their toll. According to Statistics New Zealand (SNZ), the country's public service department, the Gross Domestic Product fell by 0.1% in the March quarter, following a revised 0.7% fall in the previous quarter.

ECB raised rates to 22-year high

The European Central Bank raised borrowing costs to their highest level in 22 years and left the door open to more hikes, extending its fight against inflation. It lifted the deposit rate by 25 basis points to a 22-year high of 3.5%.

CoRover plans to introduce BharatGPT for Indian firms

CoRover, a human-centric Conversational and Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) platform, would soon introduce BharatGPT, a Generative AI (text, voice, video) for Indian organisations.

National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development raised ₹10,000 crore

The National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) has raised ₹10,000 crore by issuance of listed bonds in its maiden issuance. The issue received overwhelming response from the investors with bids worth ₹23,629.50 crore.

Foxconn to start manufacturing iPhone in India Karnataka by April 2024

Taiwan's Foxconn Technology Group will start manufacturing iPhones at its proposed Devanahalli plant, north of Bengaluru city in Karnataka, by April 2024.

Direct tax collections at ₹3.8 lakh crore, up 11.2% so far in FY24

The Centre has collected ₹3.8 lakh crore in the form of direct taxes in the first two-and-a-half months of 2023-24. Direct tax collected was 11.2 percent higher compared to the same period last financial year.

Govt to set up resolution panel to settle unforeseen disputes between developers, REIAs

The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) has revised the dispute settlement mechanism to include the creation of a panel that will settle disputes between developers and renewable energy implementing agencies (REIAs).

Deposit of ₹2,000 notes could result in a boost in bank deposits

Deposit of ₹2,000 notes, which RBI decided to withdraw from circulation as a part of its currency management, in Banks could result in a boost in bank deposits, repayment of loans, consumption, RBI retail CBDC (central bank digital currency), and a possible GDP boost, according to State Bank of India's economic research report 'Ecowrap'.

IndiGo announced 500 Airbus narrowbody plane order

Budget carrier IndiGo has announced a firm order of 500 Airbus A320 family of narrowbody aircraft, the largest-ever single aircraft purchase by any airline in the world. The aircraft will be delivered between 2030 and 2035.

BRICS pitches for using local currencies in international trade

The BRICS nations has underlined the need for using local currencies in international trade and financial transactions besides committing themselves to supporting rule-based open and transparent global trade.

HDFC divests 90% stake in HDFC Credila for ₹9,060 crore

Housing Development Corporation Ltd (HDFC) has entered into definitive agreements with Kopvoorn B.V., Moss Investments Limited, Defati Investments Holding B.V. and Infinity Partners to divest 90% in HDFC Credila Financial Services, its 100% subsidiary for ₹9,060.49 crore.

Max Life picks up 2.99% stake in Capital Small Finance Bank for ₹49.5 crore

Capital Small Finance Bank has secured an equity investment of little more than ₹49.5 crore from Max Life Insurance Company Ltd. which has been allotted a total of 10,57,700 equity shares.

Upstox plans to become one-stop shop for investors

Ratan Tata and Tiger global-backed Upstox is gearing up to become a one-stop shop for investors, according to co-founder Shrini Viswanath. In the next three quarters, Upstox will be coming out with new products such as sovereign gold bonds, digital gold receipts and bank fixed deposits.

Bangladesh to adopt IMF mandated method to calculate its Forex reserve

Bangladesh will adopt the International Monetary Fund (IMF) mandated method to calculate its foreign reserves, said the Bank of Bangladesh in its announcement on Monetary policy.

Alibaba Group said Eddie Wu to succeed Daniel Zhang as CEO

Alibaba Group said Eddie Yongming Wu, chairman of its Taobao and Tmall Group, would succeed Daniel Zhang as chief executive officer in the Chinese e-commerce giant's biggest executive reshuffle since its restructuring.

World Bank likely to approve substantial aid package worth 700 million to crisis-hit Sri Lanka

World Bank is likely to approve a substantial aid package worth \$700 million to crisis-hit Sri Lanka. The proposed funding would comprise \$500 million for budgetary support, likely to be disbursed in two instalments of \$250 million each.

Airbnb partners with Indian Tourism Ministry to promote heritage stays, cultural tourism

Online accommodation hosting platform Airbnb has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Union Ministry of Tourism to showcase India's heritage stays and promote cultural tourism.

Karur Vysya Bank opens 800th branch in Chennai

Karur Vysya Bank has announced the inauguration of its 800th branch and nine more branches in Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

SBI's Swaminathan Janakiraman appointed RBI Deputy Governor

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has selected State Bank of India Managing Director Swaminathan Janakiraman for the post of Deputy Governor in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Amazon to collect expiring ₹2,000 notes from customers

Amazon said it will collect soon-to-be-withdrawn ₹2,000 notes from customers in India and credit them to online wallets to help people struggling with the exchange process.

Piramal Enterprises exits Shriram Finance

Piramal Enterprises had divested its entire stake 8.34% stake in non-banking financial company Shriram Finance for ₹4,824 crore through an open market transaction. Piramal Enterprises offloaded 3,12,21,449 shares, amounting to an 8.34% stake in Shriram Finance.

LIC pares stake in State-owned miner NMDC

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has pared its stake in state-owned mining major NMDC to 9.62% by divesting 6.06 crore shares. From 11.69% on March 14, the holding has been reduced by two percentage points in a little over three months through open market sale at an average price of ₹107.59 per share.

Largest AI and Tech Cluster in MENA: Dubai's 'AI & Web 3.0 Campus' Aims for 500 Companies

The Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) has unveiled plans to establish the 'Dubai AI & Web 3.0 Campus', a groundbreaking initiative aimed at attracting over 500 AI and Web 3.0 companies to the region by 2028.

IFFCO started exporting world's first Nano urea invented and manufactured indigenously in India to US

Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has started exporting the world's first Nano urea invented and manufactured indigenously in India to the US. An agreement to export Nano urea was signed between IFFCO and Kapoor Enterprises Inc of California. It came amid Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ongoing visit to the US.

Bank of England raised rates to 5% in a surprise move to tackle stubborn inflation

The Bank of England raised interest rates by a bigger-than-expected half a percentage point. The BoE's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) voted 7-2 to raise its main interest rate to 5% from 4.5%, the highest since 2008 and its largest rate increase since February, following stickier inflation and wage growth since policymakers last met in May.

Eviden bagged \$100 mn weather modelling supercomputer projects in India from NCMRWF

Eviden, an Atos Group business with an annual revenue of €5 billion, has been awarded a \$100 million contract by NCMRWF on behalf of the India Ministry of Earth Sciences, to build two new supercomputers dedicated to weather modelling and climate research for the Indian Institute of Technology–Madras and NCMRWF.

Indians' funds in Swiss banks down 11% to ₹30,000 cr. on dip in customer deposits

Funds parked by Indian individuals and firms in Swiss banks, including through India-based branches and other

financial institutions, declined by 11% in 2022 to 3.42 billion Swiss francs (almost ₹30,000 crore), annual data from Switzerland's central bank showed.

Ashok Leyland ties up with IDBI Bank, offering channel financing partnership for dealers

Ashok Leyland had partnered with IDBI for a channel financing partnership for its dealers. The company has signed a MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with IDBI Bank, under which the partners will offer customised financial solutions for dealers.

Meesho, NPCI: Two Indian companies in TIME's 100 most influential companies list 2023

Two Indian companies, Meesho and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), were included in TIME magazine's annual list of the 100 most influential companies in the world.

Amazon intends to invest \$15 billion more in India, says CEO Andy Jassy

Ecommerce major Amazon plans to invest \$15 billion more in India, taking its total investment in the country to \$26 billion, after CEO Andy Jassy met Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to the US. PM Modi welcomed Amazon's initiative of promoting digitisation of MSMEs in India.

Micron plant to produce first made-in-India chip in December 2024

The \$2.7-billion semiconductor assembly and testing plant to be built by U.S.-headquartered Micron in India will produce its first chip in six quarters, that is, in December 2024, Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnav said.

LIC unveiled new non-linked period plan Dhan Vridhhi

National insurer Life Insurance Corporation has unveiled a new close-ended plan Dhan Vridhhi. The new plan will be on sale from June 23 through September 30. Dhan Vridhhi is a non-linked, non-participating, individual, savings, single premium life plan, offering a combination of protection and savings.

India in bilateral talks with Brazil to resolve sugar dispute at WTO

India is in negotiations with Brazil to resolve a sugar dispute at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is coordinating with concerned departments for the same. India is also following a similar process for other complainants of the sugar dispute at the Geneva-based WTO.

S&P retained India's growth projection at 6% for FY24

S&P Global Ratings has retained India's GDP growth forecast at 6 per cent saying it will be the fastest growing economy among Asia Pacific nations.

Centre approved ₹56,415 crores to 16 States for Capital Investment in current financial year

The Centre has approved 56 thousand 415 crore rupees to 16 States for Capital Investment under the 'Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24' scheme in the current financial year.

More than two-thirds of ₹2,000 notes returned within a month of withdrawal: Das

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das has said that within a month of the recall order, more than two-thirds of the ₹2,000 currency notes have returned to the system. In a surprise move, but as part of the clean note policy, the Reserve Bank had on May 19 ordered the recall of ₹2,000 banknotes worth around ₹3.62 lakh crore.

Merger of HDFC with HDFC Bank effective from July 1, says Deepak Parekh

The merger of housing finance major HDFC with the country's largest private lender HDFC Bank will be effective from July 1, HDFC Chairman Deepak Parekh said.

Gujarat, U.S. chipmaker Micron signed MoU on June 28 for semiconductor unit

The Gujarat government signed an MoU with American computer storage chipmaker Micron Technology for a semiconductor assembly and test facility at Sanand in Ahmedabad district. On June 22, Micron had announced it will set up a semiconductor assembly and test plant in Gujarat entailing a total investment of \$2.75 billion (around ₹22,540 crore).

Unicorn start-ups declined : Hurun Index

India is currently home to 83 unicorns, 51 gazelles, and 96 cheetahs, as against 84 unicorns, 51 gazelles, and 71 cheetahs in the 2022 index, according to the latest Future Unicorn Index published by Hurun Research Institute in association with ASK Private Wealth.

Amara Raja group firm bagged \$130 million solar project in Bangladesh

Amara Raja Infra Pvt. Ltd. (ARIPL), an engineering, procurement and construction firm specialising in power and civil projects, in collaboration with solar modules manufacturer Premier Solar Powertech, has secured a solar project valued at \$130 million in Bangladesh.

RBI informed GNPA ratio of Scheduled Commercial Banks fallen to 10 year low of 3.9% in March 2023

Reserve Bank of India has stated that the Gross Non-Performing Assets (GNPA) ratio of Scheduled Commercial Banks has fallen to 10 year low of 3.9 percent in March 2023 and net non-performing assets (NNPA) ratio declined to 1 percent.

Indian auto industry has grown to ₹8.7 lakh crore in FY23: Report

The Indian automobile sector has grown into a ₹8.7 lakh-crore (\$108 billion) industry by producing 2.7 crore vehicles in FY23, management consulting firm Primus Partners said in a report.

ADNOC Distribution Signed Agreement with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation

ADNOC Distribution has announced a strategic agreement with HPCL to expand their lubricants business in the UAE, India, and other potential markets.

Sri Lanka unveiled a comprehensive restructuring plan for its domestic debt

Sri Lanka has unveiled a comprehensive restructuring plan for its domestic debt to meet the targets set by the International Monetary Fund. The plan involves exchanging the existing treasury bills for long-term bonds with three options for holders of locally issued dollar-denominated bonds.

Mahindra achieved 9 lakh production milestone for Scorpio

SUV maker Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (M&M) said it had achieved a production milestone of 9 lakh units for the Scorpio, its iconic SUV, over a period of two decades. The Mahindra Scorpio was first launched in the country in 2002.

US Spelling Bee: Indian-Origin Boy Dev Shah Wins

Indian-origin Dev Shah won the prestigious 2023 Scripps National Spelling Bee title, taking away a \$50,000 cash prize.

Asmi Jain Wins Apple Swift Student Challenge

Asmi Jain from Indore, Madhya Pradesh, is among the three winners of Apple's Swift Student Challenge this year.

Murmu conferred with Suriname's highest civilian award

President Droupadi Murmu was conferred with Suriname's highest civilian award Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star' by President Chandrikapersad Santokhi to honour the deep-rooted bilateral ties.

Jacinda Ardern receives New Zealand's second highest honour

Former Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has received one of New Zealand's highest honours Dame Grand Companionship for her service leading the country through a mass shooting and coronavirus pandemic.

Guwahati Railway Station awarded 'Eat Right Station' certification by FSSAI

The Guwahati Railway Station in Assam under North East Frontier Railway has been awarded 'Eat Right Station' certification by FSSAI in recognition of providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers.

5 buildings and structures from Telangana selected for International Green Apple Awards

Five buildings and structures from Telangana have been selected for the 'International Green Apple Awards for Beautiful Buildings' under the Urban and Real Estate Sector category, from a London-based independent non-profit organisation - 'The Green Organisation'.

Arundhati Roy received European Essay Prize for lifetime achievement

Writer Arundhati Roy has been awarded the 45th European Essay Prize for lifetime achievement. Ms. Roy has been awarded the prize for the French translation of her compilation of essays titled "Azadi" (2021).

Mudit Dani scripts history, became the first Indian to bag NCTTA Male Athlete of Year award

Mudit Dani became the first Indian to win the National Collegiate Table Tennis Association (NCTTA) Male Athlete of the Year award. He won the award for 2022-23 season.

Gita Press, Gorakhpur, awarded Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021

The Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 will be conferred on Gita Press, Gorakhpur, one of the largest publishers of religious texts such as the Bhagavad Gita, the Ramayana and the Upanishads.

President Droupadi Murmu confers National Florence Nightingale Awards 2022-2023

India's President Droupadi Murmu has conferred the National Florence Nightingale Awards for the years 2022 and 2023 to the nursing professionals at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Thirty nursing professionals were awarded the prestigious award for their dedication, duty and service to the community.

Egypt's 'Order Of The Nile' Latest Addition To PM Modi's List Of Honours

During his official visit to Egypt, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was bestowed with the highest state honour of Egypt, known as the 'Order of the Nile.'

President conferred Distinguished Service Awards on armed forces personnel

President Droupadi Murmu had conferred Distinguished Service Awards, including 52 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals, on 84 serving and retired personnel of the armed forces and the Indian Coast Guard .

PERSONS IN NEWS (National and International)

Recep Tayyip Erdogan

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan took the oath of office for a new presidential term at the Turkish Parliament after winning a historic runoff election and securing another five years in power.

Ajay Banga

Indian American Ajay Banga took over as the President of the World Bank, making him the first person of colour to head either of the two global financial institutions, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Donald Trump

Former US president Donald Trump was indicted on 37 counts in the Mar-a-Lago documents case after he illegally kept top secret files on US nuclear and weapons programs and defence plans after leaving the White House.

Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi remains the world's most popular leader with an approval rating of 75 percent. This was revealed in a Global Leader Approval Ratings released by a US-based consulting firm Morning Consult. Swiss President Alain Berset stands at second position followed by Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador.

Janardan Prasad

Janardan Prasad has been appointed as the new Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI). The GSI is an attached office to the Ministry of Mines.

Kyriakos Mitsotakis

Greece's centre-right leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis was sworn in as the Prime Minister for a second term, a day after voters handed him a huge election victory for the second time in five weeks.

Aarti Holla-Maini

Indian-origin satellite industry expert Aarti Holla-Maini has been appointed as the Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) in Vienna.

Ravi Sinha

Senior IPS officer Ravi Sinha was appointed as the new chief of India's external intelligence agency RAW. Mr. Sinha, a 1988 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre.

Nitin Agarwal

Nitin Agarwal, a 1989-batch IPS officer of Kerala cadre, was appointed as the new Director- General of the Border Security Force (BSF).

Amit Agrawal

Amit Agrawal, a 1993 batch IAS officer, took charge as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), which administers Aadhaar.

Celeste Saulo

Celeste Saulo of Argentina has been appointed as the first female Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

Yevgeny Viktorovich Prigozhin

The head of the private Russian military company Wagner, Yevgeny Prigozhin ordered his troops to move to neighboring Belarus as part of a deal to defuse rebellion tensions between Russia and their private army.

Rajat Verma

DBS Bank India has appointed Rajat Verma as the new Managing Director and Head of Institutional Banking for India. In his new role, Mr. Verma will lead the growth of the institutional banking franchise for DBS Bank in India.

Vasudevan P. N.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) gave its nod for the re-appointment of P. N. Vasudevan as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of private sector Equitas Small Finance Bank.

Amir Raza Husain

Amir Raza Husain, a noted theatre actor and director, has passed away. Hussain was known for his large outdoor stage productions such as "The Fifty Day War" based on the Kargil War and "The Legend of Ram".

Sulochana Didi

Veteran Actress Sulochana Didi passed away in Mumbai. She was 94. Sulochana didi is famous for her role as a mother in Bollywood.

Gitanjali Aiyar

One of the finest news anchors that the country has seen, Gitanjali Aiyar passed away in Delhi. One of the prominent faces of Doordarshan's prime-time news at 9 p.m. for decades.

Ivan Menezes

Ivan Manuel Menezes, the India-born CEO of the world's biggest spirits company Diageo, died, days after the firm said he was hospitalised for treatment.

Silvio Berlusconi

Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, a billionaire businessman who created Italy's largest media company before transforming the political landscape, has died. He served as Prime Minister in 1994-1995, 2001-2006 and 2008-2011.

Shri Thanedar

Indian American Congressman Shri Thanedar has announced plans to form a 'Hindu Caucus' in the U.S. Congress that will bring like-minded lawmakers under one umbrella to ensure that there is no hate and bigotry against Hindus in the country.

Gopichand Hinduja

Gopichand Hinduja has taken over as chairman of the \$34.5 billion-worth Hinduja Group following the death of his brother, Srichand Hinduja last month.

Glenda Jackson

Glenda Jackson, a two-time Academy Award-winning performer has died at age 87. She performed with the Royal Shakespeare Company and won two Academy Awards, for Women in Love in 1971 and A Touch of Class in 1974.

Daniel Ellsberg

Daniel Ellsberg, the history-making American whistleblower who leaked the Pentagon Papers in 1971, has died at the age of 92.

Imtiaz Ahmad

Renowned sociologist, author and former professor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Imtiaz Ahmad passed away. Prof. Ahmad is known for his works on caste in Islam.

Sylvester daCunha

Sylvester daCunha, the marketer who created the popular Amul girl, passed away in Mumbai. He has been part of Amul's advertising for six decades.

John Goodenough

John Goodenough, who shared the 2019 Nobel Prize in chemistry for his work developing the lithium-ion battery that transformed technology with rechargeable power for devices ranging from cellphones, computers, and pacemakers to electric cars, has died at 100.

Hardwar Dubey

Bharatiya Janata Party's Rajya Sabha MP Hardwar Dubey passed away at a hospital in Delhi. The Rajya Sabha MP had also held many positions in the organisation in Uttar Pradesh.

SPORTS

Sevilla beat Roma on penalties 4-1 to win 7th title

Sevilla won a record-extending seventh Europa League title after overcoming Roma 4-1 on penalties in final in Budapest following a 1-1 draw after extra time.

India lifts Men's Junior Asia Cup for fourth time, defeating Pakistan in Oman

Indian hockey team defeated arch-rivals Pakistan in the final of the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 2-1 at the Sultan Qaboos Youth Complex Stadium in Salalah, Oman. This was India's fourth title at Men's Junior Asia Cup, having won it previously in 2004, 2008 and 2015.

Abdulla takes bronze with season-best effort in World Athletics Continental Tour event.

Abdulla Aboobacker has produced a season-best 16.80 m as he won the bronze at the Montreuil International Meeting, a World Athletics Continental Tour-Silver event, in Montreuil, France.

3rd Khelo India University games conclude in Varanasi

Third khelo India University games concluded in Varanasi. Punjab University, Chandigarh regained their overall champions crown after a gap of one edition of the Khelo India University Games.

Verstappen won Spain Grand Prix

Max Verstappen won the Spanish Grand Prix from pole position to stretch his Formula One championship lead to 53 points and continue Red Bull's sweep of the season with the team's seventh success in as many races.

Footballer Zlatan Ibrahimovic announced retirement

Swedish great & AC Milan's Zlatan Ibrahimovic has retired from football at the age of 41, bringing to an end one of the modern era's most glittering careers.

Amlan Borgohain bags two gold medals in Flanders Cup 2023 Athletics

Top Indian sprinter Amlan Borgohain bagged two gold medals, one each in the men's 100 and 200-meter races at the Flanders Cup 2023 athletics meet, known as the International Antwerp Athletics Gala, in Merksem, Belgium.

Dhanush won gold medal in Men's 10m air rifle event

Dhanush Srikanth has won the gold medal in the Men's 10 m air rifle event in the ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany.

Indian contingent of 198 athletes sent to Special Olympics World Summer Games 2023

An Indian contingent of 198 athletes was sent to the Special Olympics World Summer Games 2023 to be held in Berlin this month, June.

2 Taekwondo Players selected for FISU World University Games-2023

Two Taekwondo Players of Ladakh Tashi Tundup GNDU Amritsar and Shanaz Parveen MDU Rohtak were selected for FISU World University Games-2023 to be held at Chengdu in China.

India finished on top at International Shooting Sport Federation Junior World Cup at Suhl, Germany

India finished on top of the International Shooting Sport Federation Junior World Cup with 15 medals, including six gold, six silver, and three bronze medals, at Suhl, Germany.

Murali Sreeshankar finished third at prestigious Diamond League Meet in Paris

Ace Indian long jumper Murali Sreeshankar secured a creditable third place in the Paris Diamond League with a jump of 8.09 m, in his maiden podium finish in the prestigious one-day meeting series in Paris.

French Open: Iga Swiatek of Poland won Women's Singles title

In French Open tennis, World No 1 and top seed Iga Swiatek of Poland has won the Women's Singles crown. She defended her title against unseeded Czech Karolina Muchova 6-2, 5-7, 6-4. This is her third French title in just 5 years.

Rohit became third Indian opener to score 13,000 runs

Rohit Sharma has become the third Indian opener to cross 13,000 runs across formats. He is also the third quickest to the landmark (307 innings), behind Matthew Hayden and Sachin Tendulkar.

Novak Djokovic reached record 23 grand slam titles after winning French Open final

Serbian Novak Djokovic created history by becoming the first man to reach the coveted 23 grand slam title mark with his straight sets win over Casper Ruud in the men's singles final of the French Open 2023 in Paris.

Australia defeated India by 209 runs in World Test Championship Final

Australia defeated India by 209 runs in the World Test Championship final at Oval, in England. Chasing a target of 444 runs, Indian batting folded up at a modest total of 234 runs after resuming their innings on Day-5 of the match at 164 for 3.

UCL 2022/23 Final: Manchester City won first Champions League title

Manchester City have won the Champions League title for the first time by beating Inter Milan 1-0 in Istanbul's Ataturk Olympic Stadium, making them the second English team to complete the treble.

Andy Murray beats Jurij Rodionov to win grass-court title

The 36-year-old Andy Murray became the oldest grass-court champion at an ATP Challenger Tour event, beating Austrian Jurij Rodionov in the final of the Lexus Surbiton Trophy.

Denver Nuggets beats Miami Heat in Game 5, won first NBA title

Led by 28 points from Nikola Jokic, the Denver Nuggets beat the Miami Heat 94-89 to bring its first NBA title to Mile High City.

India won one Gold, 3 Silver & 3 Bronze medals in U-17 Asian Wrestling Championships

India wrapped up their campaign in the U-17 Asian Wrestling Championships with one gold, three silver and three bronze medals on the final day in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Abhishek Verma clinched gold medal in men's compound individual final

Indian archer Abhishek Verma clinched gold medal in the men's compound individual final at the Archery World Cup Stage 3 in Medellin, Colombia.

Egypt retained World Squash Championship

Egypt has retained the World Squash Championship. Egypt beat Malaysia 2-1 in the final in Chennai. Malaysia won the silver. The third place was shared jointly by hosts India and Japan.

Indian beat Lebanon 2-0 to clinch Intercontinental Cup in Bhubaneshwar

Indian men's senior football team clinched the Intercontinental Cup with a 2-0 victory over Lebanon in the final at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneshwar.

Satwiksairaj, Chirag created history by winning Men's doubles title of Indonesia Open

India's shuttler duo of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeated reigning world champions Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik of Malaysia to clinch the Indonesia Open Men's Double Title, in Jakarta.

Verstappen won Canadian Grand Prix

World champion Max Verstappen dominated the Canadian Grand Prix to deliver his Red Bull team's 100th win in Formula One.

Spain Won UEFA Nations League Title

Goalkeeper Unai Simon has saved two shots in a penalty shootout to help Spain break an 11-year trophy drought by beating Croatia after a tense Nations League final had finished 0-0.

US Open 2023: Wyndham Clark holds off Rory McIlroy to claim first major title in Los Angeles

Wyndham Clark held his nerve to card an even-par 70 to win the 123rd U.S. Open, capturing his first major title and denying four-time major winner Rory McIlroy his first in nine years.

Bhavani Devi, first Indian fencer to win medal in Asian Championships

Bhavani Devi created history by securing India's first-ever medal — a bronze at the Asian fencing championships in Wuxi, China.

Tajinderpal Singh Toor sets new Asian shot put record.

India's top shot putter, Tajinderpal Singh Toor has set a new Asian shot-put record at the Inter-State Championships in Bhubaneswar. Representing Punjab, he shattered his own previous Asian record with a massive throw of 21.77 metres.

The Ashes 2023: Cummins leads Australia to thrilling victory over England.

Pat Cummins has produced a captain's knock to lead Australia to a thrilling two-wicket win over England in an epic Ashes series opener at Edgbaston.

Ronaldo scored late winner in record 200th game for Portugal in Euro 2024 qualifier.

Cristiano Ronaldo became the first men's player to make 200 international appearances and celebrated the milestone by scoring the winning goal in the 89th minute as Portugal beat Iceland 1-0 in European Championship qualifying.

Anurag Thakur flagged off "Bharat in Paris" campaign at JL Nehru Stadium in New Delhi

Union Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur has flagged off "Bharat in Paris" campaign with a short marathon at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi. The campaign was launched to create awareness and promote sports across India ahead of the 2024 Paris Olympics games.

Golfer Diksha Dagar won record second Ladies European Tour Event title

Diksha Dagar finally cruised to her second Ladies European Tour (LET) as she grabbed a commanding four-shot win at the Tipsport Czech Ladies Open.

Sutirtha and Ayhika clinched WTT Contender tournament title in Tunis

The Indian women's doubles pair of Sutirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee have won the World Table Tennis, (WTT) Contender tournament in Tunis, after beating the Japanese pair of Miyuu Kihara and Miwa Harimoto.

Ostapenko claimed Birmingham Open tennis title

Jelena Ostapenko has won a battle of two former French Open champions, beating Barbora Krejckova 7-6 (10/8), 6-4 to win the Birmingham Open.

Hasaranga became first ODI spinner to take three consecutive 5-wicket hauls

Wanindu Hasaranga of Sri Lanka achieved a remarkable feat in cricket by becoming the first spinner and second overall player in history to take three consecutive 5-wicket hauls in One Day Internationals (ODIs).

Francesco Bagnaia won Dutch MotoGP

Francesco Bagnaia won the Dutch MotoGP at Assen to extend his lead in the championship. Pole-sitter Marco Bezzecchi took second.

Kolkata Team Emerged as Victorious in Historic Dubai Women's Kabaddi Final

In a significant milestone for women's Kabaddi, Dubai hosted the world's first international Women's Kabaddi final, featuring the Punjab Panthers vs Uma Kolkata. The intense match concluded with the Uma Kolkata team emerging as champions, securing a grand prize of ₹10,000,000.

MISCELLANEOUS

3 Chinese astronauts returned home safely after six-month stint in space station

Three Chinese astronauts returned safely to Earth on board the Shenzhou-15 manned spaceship after completing their six-month mission to build China's space station.

UAE to Host World's Largest Conservation Conference in 2025

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has won the bid to host the 2025 World Conservation Congress (WCC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The 2025 WCC will be held in Abu Dhabi from October 10-21, 2025.

China sets record by sending 41 satellites to space by Long March 2D rocket

China broke its previous record for sending the most satellites into orbit in a single mission on Thursday when it launched the Long March 2D rocket with 41 satellites. According to the report, the rocket launched from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in Shanxi province at 1:30 pm (local time).

Global unemployment is likely to return to pre-pandemic level in 2023, ILO report

Global unemployment is likely to return to the pre-pandemic level in 2023, according to the ILO's latest report. The global unemployment rate will fall by 0.1 percentage points in 2023.

China could potentially have as many ICBMs as U.S. or Russia by turn of decade: SIPRI

The size of China's nuclear arsenal increased from 350 warheads in January 2022 to 410 in January 2023, and it is expected to keep growing, according to estimations by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). According to SIPRI estimates, the nuclear arsenals of India grew from 160 in 2022 to 164 in 2023.

Number of people forcibly displaced around world climbed to record 110 million: UNHCR

The number of people forcibly displaced around the world has climbed to a record 110 million. In a report released, the head of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said that with conflicts in Ukraine and Sudan spurring millions of people to flee their homes, the increase of around 19 million people to 108.4 million by the end of last year is the biggest annual jump on record.

IIT Bombay ranked 1st in India, 149th in world in QS World University Rankings 2024

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay has been ranked first in the country and has also moved up to the 149th spot from 177th position last year in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings.

India tops globally in LEED Zero certifications of green building projects

India ranks first globally in LEED Zero certified green building projects surpassing the US and China, according to USGBC and GBCI. In India, realty firm DLF and FMCG player ITC are leading in the LEED Zero green certification initiative.

Austria's Vienna ranked world's most liveable city for 2nd year running.

The Austrian capital Vienna has been named as the world's "most livable city" for 2023. Algeria's Algiers, Libya's Tripoli and Syria's Damascus were ranked the three least liveable cities in the world.

India climbed eight places to 127 in global gender index, says WEF report

India was ranked at 127 out of 146 countries in terms of gender parity — an improvement of eight places from last year, according to the annual Gender Gap Report, 2023 of the World Economic Forum (WEF).

Diwali to become school holiday in New York City

Diwali is set to become a school holiday in New York City, which was announced by Mayor Eric Adams. He said that festival of Diwali will be added to the list of public-school holidays in recognition of the growth of the city's South Asian and Indo-Caribbean communities.

World losing tropical forests at fast pace, derailing the pledge to end deforestation by 2030

A forest monitoring project report issued by World Resources Institute has highlighted that more than a year after countries pledged to end deforestation by 2030, the world is continuing to lose its tropical forests at a fast pace. The world lost 10.2 million acres of primary rainforest last year, a 10 percent increase from the year before.

World Bicycle Day: 3rd June

World Bicycle Day is an annual event celebrated on June 3rd. The theme for this year's World Bicycle Day is "Riding Together for a Sustainable Future."

World Environment Day was celebrated on June 5

World Environment Day (WED) was Celebrated across the globe on June 5. This year, the theme of the WED 2023 is 'Beat Plastic Pollution.'

World Day Against Child Labour was observed on June 12

June 12 is observed as World Day Against Child Labour. Emphasizing the link between social justice and child labour, the slogan for the World Day this year is 'Social Justice for All, End Child Labour!'

International Father's Day 2023 was celebrated on 18th June, 2023.

Father's Day is a celebration of fathers and fatherhood. It is celebrated on the third Sunday of June in many countries around the world, including the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. This year Father's Day was held on 18th June, 2023.

International Day for Countering Hate Speech was observed on 18th June, 2023.

The annual observance of the International Day for Countering Hate Speech on June 18 serves as a crucial reminder to address the pressing global problem of hate speech.

International Day of Yoga was celebrated across the globe on June 21

The International Day of Yoga is being celebrated across the globe June 21. The theme for the International Day of Yoga 2023 is 'Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'Yoga for the Welfare of All as One World-One Family.'

Day of the Seafarer was observed on June 25th, 2023

The Day of the Seafarer is a special day observed on June 25th, 2023, dedicated to all those who work closely with salt water, including Coast Guards, Navies, fishermen, marine biologists, and cruise ship captains. This year's Day of the Seafarer reflects the 2023 World Maritime theme: "MARPOL at 50 – Our commitment goes on".

Ministry of MSME to celebrated Udyami Bharat - MSME Day in New Delhi

The Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) celebrated Udyami Bharat - MSME Day in New Delhi on 27th June, 2023. During the program, MSME Minister Narayan Rane launched various initiatives for the growth and development of MSMEs.