

## Advanced Educational Activities Pvt. Ltd.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS CAPSULE (MAY 2023)

#### INTERNATIONAL

##### **Uzbekistan President wins nationwide referendum to rewrite Constitution.**

A vast majority of Uzbekistan's voters voted "Yes" to President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's bid to rewrite the country's Constitution in referendum that promised more freedoms to the people of the former Soviet republic and could also see the President extending his rule beyond his current two-term limit.

##### **Uganda parliament passes revised version of anti-LGBTQ bill**

Uganda's parliament passed a revised version of one of the world's strictest anti-LGBTQ bills after President Yoweri Museveni asked that certain provisions from the original legislation be toned down.

##### **Russia accuses Ukraine of attempting to kill President Putin**

Russia has accused Ukraine of attempting to kill President Vladimir Putin. It claimed to have shot down two drones which were used in the alleged attack. The Kremlin said the drones used in the alleged attack on Putin's residence were disabled by electronic devices.

##### **Joe Biden & Yoon Suk Yeol agree to strengthen South Korea's defences**

U.S. President Joe Biden and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol have agreed to strengthen South Korea's defences and regularly deploy U.S. strategic assets. As part of the efforts, a U.S. Navy nuclear-armed ballistic missile submarine will visit South Korea for the first time since the 1980s.

##### **Floods from heavy rainfall kill at least 129 people in Rwanda**

Torrential rains caused flooding in western and northern Rwanda, killing at least 129 people. Strong rainstorms have caused flooding and mudslides that swept away several houses across the country and left some roads inaccessible.

##### **South Korea to provide USD 3 billion financing support to Bangladesh**

South Korea will provide up to USD 3 billion to Bangladesh for the construction of its metro line MRT Line 4 and procurement of CNG buses and modernisation of the railway signalling system. A new Framework Arrangement was signed at Incheon.

##### **U.S. sending about \$300 million in military aid to Ukraine.**

The U.S. is sending Ukraine about \$300 million in additional military aid, including an enormous amount of artillery rounds, howitzers, air-to-ground rockets and ammunition as the launch of a spring offensive against Russian forces approaches.

##### **UAE govt launches 'Machines Can See 2023' Summit**

The UAE government launched the 'Machines Can See 2023' Summit, one of the international conferences in Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the whole region, taking place at the Museum of the Future in Dubai.

##### **WHO: Covid-19 no longer represents a global health emergency**

The WHO has declared that Covid-19 no longer represents a global health emergency. WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has concurred that the declaration of public health emergency of international concern should end.

##### **Serbian to launch a large-scale disarmament plan to remove hundreds of thousands of guns from country.**

Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic has vowed to launch a large-scale disarmament plan to remove hundreds of thousands of guns from the country, following back-to-back mass shootings in the Balkan country.

##### **Uzbekistan President calls snap Presidential election**

Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev has called a snap presidential election, without giving a date. Recently, Uzbek voters approved a package of constitutional amendments in a referendum on April 30 that allows Mirziyoyev to run for two more seven-year terms.

##### **Japan, South Korea mend ties in landmark regional shift**

Japan and South Korea have agreed to take forward ties and move past lingering historical disputes, pledging to transform a relationship that could have broad implications for the region. Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida became the first Japanese leader to visit Seoul in 12 years.

##### **Syria is back in Arab League**

Syria is back in the Arab League, more than a decade after being thrown out for its brutal repression of pro-democracy protests, which led to the ongoing civil war.

##### **More than 1 million polio vaccines destroyed in Sudan: UNICEF**

The U.N. children's agency UNICEF stated that more than 1 million polio vaccines intended for children have been destroyed as a result of looting in Sudan during the upsurge in violence since April.

##### **Former Pakistan PM Imran Khan arrested in Al-Qadir Trust case**

Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has been arrested in connection with the Al-Qadir Trust Case from the premises of the Islamabad High Court.

##### **India extends one-billion-dollar credit line to Sri Lanka**

In a move to assist Sri Lanka in its recovery from a severe financial crisis, India has extended a credit line of one Billion USD to its neighbouring country by one year.

##### **Violent Protests grow across Pakistan against former PM Imran Khan's arrest**

In Pakistan, violent protests are growing against the arrest of former Prime Minister Imran Khan. At least two persons were killed, and five others were injured in clashes between PTI protesters and the military in Quetta, the capital of Balochistan province.

##### **Pakistan Supreme Court rules arrest of former PM Imran Khan illegal**

In Pakistan, the country's Supreme Court has ruled illegal the arrest of former Prime Minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan in the Al-Qadir Trust case.

##### **6th Indian Ocean Conference held in Dhaka**

Bangladesh hosted the 6th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) scheduled in Dhaka. High-level government delegations and think tanks from about 25 countries have taken part in the IOC.

##### **California State Senate passes caste discrimination bill**

The California Senate has overwhelmingly passed a legislation seeking to explicitly ban caste discrimination, in a historic move that would make America's most populous State also the country's first to outlaw caste-based bias.

### **China launches projects to build 'new-era' marriage, childbearing culture**

China will launch pilot projects in more than 20 cities to create a "new-era "marriage and childbearing culture to foster a friendly child-bearing environment, the latest move by authorities to boost the country's falling birth rate.

### **India-EU trade, technology council first meeting at Brussels**

The first ministerial-level meeting of India-European Union Trade and Technology Council (TTC) was held in Brussels to discuss ways to increase cooperation in strategic technologies, digital connectivity, clean energy, trade and investments.

### **Cyclone Mocha death toll rises to 60 in Myanmar**

The death toll in cyclone-hit Myanmar rose to 60. Packing winds of up to 195 kilometres (120 miles) per hour, Mocha made landfall downing power pylons and smashing wooden fishing boats to splinters.

### **Russia and Iran sign deal for railway corridor intended to rival Suez Canal**

Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Iranian counterpart Ebrahim Raisi oversaw, via video-link, the signing of a deal to finance and build an Iranian railway line as part of an embryonic international North-South Transport Corridor.

### **India and European Union agree to coordinate their policies in strategic semi-conductor sector**

India and the European Union will coordinate their policies with regards to the strategic semiconductor sector, with the aim of concluding a Memorandum of Understanding by September 2023.

### **Next five years are expected to be warmest period on record:UN**

United Nations has warned that the next five years are expected to be the warmest period on record. UN's World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said the combined effect of El Nino and greenhouse gases will cause temperatures to soar.

### **European Union elections set for June 2024**

More than 400 million European voters will choose a new five-year EU parliament between June 6 and 9 next year, the EU presidency announced.

### **Japanese PM Fumio Kishida welcome G7 leaders in Hiroshima**

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida has welcomed the G7 leaders in Hiroshima. The G7 leaders were in Japan to attend the G7 Summit scheduled that was held in Hiroshima from May 19-21. Japan assumed the G7 Presidency in 2023.

### **G7 agrees new sanctions to 'starve Russia's war machine'**

Leaders from the Group of Seven nations have agreed new sanctions that they said would "starve Russia of G7 technology, industrial equipment and services that support its war machine".

### **Arab League Summit in Jeddah Adopts Jeddah Declaration**

The 32nd Arab League Summit recently concluded in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, with the adoption of the Jeddah Declaration which focuses on fostering Arab unity and addressing various regional challenges.

### **Indo-Indonesia bilateral exercise Samudra Shakti-23 concludes**

The fourth edition of the Indo-Indonesia bilateral exercise Samudra Shakti-23 concluded in the South China Sea. The sea phase held from 17-19 May 2023 witnessed the participation of ASW corvette INS Kavaratti with integral Chetak helicopter and a Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

### **Greece's Ruling Conservatives win parliamentary election but fall short of majority**

Greece's ruling New Democracy party has won national elections but fell just short of the threshold needed to form a government. Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis New Democracy party headed for almost 41% of the vote, five seats short of a majority.

### **Prime Minister Modi invites Quad Leaders to India for Quad Summit next year.**

India will host the United States, Australia and Japan next year for a summit of the group of regional powers known as the Quad, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on the side-lines of the Group of Seven nations summit in Japan's Hiroshima.

### **U.S. signs new security pact with Papua New Guinea amid competition with China**

The United States signed a new security pact with Papua New Guinea as it competes with China for influence in the Pacific. The new agreement provides a framework to help improve security cooperation, enhance the capacity of Papua New Guinea's defence force and increase regional stability.

### **Health Minister represents India in 76th World Health Assembly**

India's Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya represented India in the 76th World Health Assembly at Geneva, Switzerland.

### **India provides key railway infrastructure to Bangladesh**

The Ministry of Railways in India handed over 20 Broad Gauge (BG) locomotives to its eastern neighbour Bangladesh. India has also offered Bangladesh to use the IT system deployed by the PM-GATI SHAKTI scheme, which has 1600 layers of information based on satellite imagery.

### **Bahrain Parliament Abolishes Law Exempting Rapists from Punishment upon Marriage**

Bahrain's parliament has voted to eliminate a law that granted rapists exemption from punishment if they married their victims.

### **South Korea uses homegrown rocket to put satellite into orbit.**

South Korea has launched a commercial-grade satellite for the first time using a domestically produced space rocket Nuri.

### **Saudi Arabia, Canada Reconcile After 2018 Conflict**

Saudi Arabia and Canada have reached an agreement to restore full diplomatic ties and appoint new ambassadors, bringing an end to a dispute from 2018.

### **Japan adopts new sanctions on Russia**

Japan has approved additional sanctions against Russia over its war on Ukraine, including freezing the assets of dozens of individuals and groups and banning exports to Russian military-related organisations.

### **US: FDA approves Pfizer's Covid antiviral pill Paxlovid for high-risk adults**

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted full approval to Pfizer's oral antiviral COVID-19 treatment, Paxlovid, for adults. It is a first oral antiviral pill approved by the FDA to treat COVID-19 disease in adults.

### **Iran successfully test-launched ballistic missile Kheibar**

Iran has successfully test-launched a ballistic missile Kheibar with a range of around 2,000-km range. The missiles are capable of carrying 1,500 kg of warheads.

### **Iraq unveils \$17bn project linking Europe, West Asia**

Iraq unveiled its ambitious \$17 billion road and rail infrastructure project linking Europe, West Asia (Middle East), and Asia, and presented itself as the key regional transportation hub connecting the three continents.

### **China's 1st domestically developed large passenger jet C919 made its first commercial flight**

China's first indigenously built passenger aircraft C919 has successfully completed its first commercial flight, marking its official entry into the civil aviation market as part of the country's effort to compete with Western rivals like Boeing and Airbus.

### **Somalia to introduce direct universal suffrage in 2024.**

Somalia's government and federal member states said that direct universal suffrage would be introduced with local elections set for June 2024.

### **Japan put ballistic missile defences on alert**

Japan has put its ballistic missile defences on alert, vowing to shoot down any projectile that threatened its territory.

### **Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam to develop second hydropower project in Nepal**

Nepal has decided to allow India's Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) to develop a second hydropower project in the country. At present SJVN is developing a 900-MW Arun -III hydroelectric project, a run-of-river located on the Arun River in Eastern Nepal, scheduled to be completed in 2024.

### **N.Korea's attempt to launch its first military spy satellite ends in failure.**

North Korea's attempt to launch its first military spy satellite ended in failure after the rocket's second stage malfunctioned.

### **Russian lawmakers introduce draft bill to ban gender-affirming surgery**

Russian lawmakers have introduced a draft bill that would impose a ban on gender-affirming surgery, the latest move in the Kremlin-orchestrated crackdown on LGBTQ+ rights.

## **NATIONAL**

### **First Batch of Women Officers Commissioned into Regiment of Artillery of Indian Army**

In the Indian army, for the first time, five Women Cadets got commissioned into the Regiment of Artillery at Officers Training Academy (OTA), Chennai.

### **NCST flags alleged discrepancies in Forest Rights Act compliance for Great Nicobar Project**

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) has now flagged alleged discrepancies with respect to the forest clearance granted for the ₹72,000-crore Great Nicobar Island (GNI) Project.

### **Supreme Court waives six months wait for divorce under Hindu Marriage Act**

The Supreme Court of India has held that the minimum cooling period of six months for granting the decree of divorce under the Hindu law can be waived by a trial court if there was no possibility of cohabitation between an estranged couple.

### **UAE-India CEPA celebrates first anniversary**

The UAE Ministry of Economy hosted a special event to mark the first anniversary of the UAE-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) during the Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Center.

### **Japan to train 1,000 Indian engineers before transfer of bullet train tech**

Up to 1,000 Indian engineers will be trained by Japanese experts before starting work on the High-Speed Rail Track system for Mumbai Ahmedabad High Speed Rail corridor (MAHSR).

### **T.N. CM Stalin announces withdrawal of controversial amendment to Factories Act**

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said that the State's recent controversial Bill, amending the Factories Act, 1948, to enable extended working hours in select factories, has been withdrawn.

### **India will get its own index to quantify heat impact next year**

India will launch its own composite index next year to quantify the impact of heat on its population and generate impact-based heat wave alerts for specific locations, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has said.

### **India to build Harbour for Maldivian Coast Guard**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his Maldivian counterpart laid the foundation stone for the Maldives National Defence Forces (MNDF) Coast Guard 'Ekatha Harbour'. The development of the Coast Guard Harbour and repair facility at Sifavaru is one of the biggest grant-in-aid projects of India.

### **Rajnath Singh hands over two naval vessels for Maldivian defence forces**

Continuing India's capacity building assistance in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, handed over a Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) and a Landing Craft Assault ship to the Maldives National Defence Forces (MNDF).

### **Same-sex marriage: Ready to form panel led by Cabinet Secretary to address 'human' concerns of same-sex couples**

The Centre informed the Supreme Court that it is willing to form a committee headed by the Cabinet Secretary to consider administrative measures for addressing "genuine, human concerns" faced by same-sex couples in their daily lives in areas such as banking, insurance, etc, without delving into their plea for legal recognition of same-sex marriage.

### **Nearly 3,800 Indians Evacuated from War-Hit Sudan Under Operation Kaveri**

India has successfully rescued nearly 3800 citizens from war-torn Sudan, as India intensified Operation Kaveri to rescue stranded citizens from Khartoum. India launched its ambitious rescue mission, "Operation Kaveri" to evacuate stranded Indians in conflict-ridden Sudan.

### **Many killed in Manipur riots; State government issues shoot-at-sight order**

The Manipur government issued a shoot-at-sight order in "extreme cases", as escalating ethnic violence following a tribal solidarity march displaced more than 9,000 people in the State.

### **RAW is exempted under RTI Act unless the issue concerns human rights or corruption**

The Delhi High Court has reiterated that unless the nature of information sought relates to human rights or corruption related issues, information on India's external intelligence agency, the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), is not liable to be disclosed.

### **MSDE organises Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela in over 200 districts across India**

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has organised the Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela (PMNAM) in over 200 districts across the country on 8th of this month.

### **CBI raids office of Jet Airways, house of Naresh Goyal in ₹538-crore Canara Bank fraud case**

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) conducted raids at seven locations in Mumbai, including the office of Jet Airways airlines and its founder Naresh Goyal's residence in connection with an alleged bank fraud of ₹538-crore case in Canara Bank.

**Refer to AIR as 'Akashvani' in line with Prasar Bharati Act: AIR DG**

The All India Radio (AIR) Director General has directed all the departments concerned to ensure that the public broadcaster is referred to as "Akashvani" in accordance with the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990, which came into force on November 15, 1997.

**INS Magar decommissioned after 36 years of service.**

Indian Naval Ship Magar, Landing Ship Tank (Large) amphibious assault ship of the Indian Navy has been decommissioned after 36 years of exceptional service to the nation.

**Rajnath Singh inaugurates IAF Heritage Centre in Chandigarh**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the first-of-its-kind Indian Air Force (IAF) Heritage Centre in Chandigarh.

**Border Haat between India and Bangladesh inaugurated at Bholaganj in Sylhet**

A new Border-Haat between India and Bangladesh was inaugurated in Bholaganj under the Companiganj upazila of Sylhet. This is the fourth Border Haat in Sylhet division out of which three are currently functional.

**Defence Minister approves postings of women officers of Territorial Army along LoC**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved posting of Women Officers of the Territorial Army along the Line of Control. This progressive policy measure is aimed at enhancing the scope of employment of Women Officers as well as meeting their professional aspirations.

**Areas around high-speed rail stations to be developed along the Japanese line**

In a bid to develop areas flanking high-speed rail stations, the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and Ministry of Railways have jointly signed a MoU with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for 'Station Area Development along Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project' (SMART).

**INS Delhi, INS Satpura successfully participate in harbour phase of ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise 2023**

INS Delhi and INS Satpura have successfully participated in various activities during the harbour phase of the ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise 2023. The ASEAN & Indian Navy ships subsequently commenced the Sea Phase in the South China Sea which terminated on 8th May.

**Sanjay Kumar Mishra will not continue as ED Director beyond November 2023**

The Centre has informed the Supreme Court that Enforcement Directorate (ED) chief Sanjay Kumar Mishra's tenure will not continue in office beyond November 2023. Appearing before a three-judge Bench led by Justice B.R. Gavai, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said Mr. Mishra was given his third extension keeping in view the ongoing evaluation by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

**Health Ministry launches a learning management information system named SAKSHAM**

Union Health Ministry has launched a learning management information system SAKSHAM, Stimulating Advanced Knowledge for Sustainable Health Management. SAKSHAM is a platform for providing online training and medical education to all health professionals in the country.

**Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates Sittwe Port in Myanmar**

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH Sarbananda Sonowal and Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Transport & Communications of

Myanmar, Admiral Tin Aung San, jointly inaugurated the Sittwe Port in Rakhine State, Myanmar.

**Govt. to start country-wide screening for thalassemia**

The Centre will soon launch a national mission to tackle thalassemia — beginning with a country-wide screening exercise, wherever required. This will be modelled on the screening programme for sickle-cell disease, currently under way.

**India, Canada agree to increase discussions on movement of skilled professionals, students**

India and Canada have agreed to increase discussions on the movement of skilled professionals and students as they are contributing immensely to strengthening the economic ties between the two countries.

**Sarbananda Sonowal launches Harit Sagar Green Port Guidelines to achieve Zero Carbon Emission**

Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal has launched 'Harit Sagar' the Green Port Guidelines. The guidelines were launched to meet the larger vision of achieving Zero Carbon Emission Goal set by the Ministry.

**PM Modi inaugurates 3-day International Museum Expo-2023**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a first-of-its-kind, comprehensive three-day International Museum Expo-2023 in New Delhi. This initiative has been undertaken to commemorate and celebrate the 47th International Museum Day, as part of the second phase of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

**New Delhi: ICMR successfully conducts trial run of blood bag delivery under i-Drone initiative**

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) under the Union Health Ministry has successfully conducted a trial run of blood bag delivery by drones under its i-Drone initiative in New Delhi.

**L-G does not have sweeping executive powers over national capital, says Supreme Court**

The Supreme Court of India had clarified that the Lieutenant Governor (L-G) does not have sweeping executive powers over the national capital, and the Centre should be mindful of the unique "asymmetric federal model" of governance adopted for Delhi.

**Governors cannot play a role in intra-party skirmishes by calling for floor tests, says SC**

The Supreme Court of India said former Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari mistook a section of Shiv Sena MLAs' expression of "discontent" with the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government for their withdrawal of support and called for a floor test in just two days' time in June 2022.

**Ministry of Power and Ministry of Environment to develop Carbon Credit Trading Scheme for Decarbonisation**

The Ministry of Power and Ministry of Environment will develop Carbon Credit Trading Scheme for Decarbonisation. Government plans to develop the Indian Carbon Market with the objective to decarbonize the Indian economy by pricing the Green House Gas emission through trading of Carbon Credit Certificates.

**ICMR, AYUSH Ministry sign MoU for health research in Integrated Medicine**

Indian Council of Medical Research and AYUSH Ministry have signed an MoU for collaborative and cooperative momentum on health research in the field of Integrated Medicine. The MOU will combine traditional knowledge with modern research and boost Ayurveda to further build its identity on the basis of scientific evidence.

### **Over 100 health programs and digital health applications integrated with ABDM**

Over one hundred health programs and digital health applications have been integrated with Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. The National Health Authority under its flagship scheme Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission is rapidly expanding the digital healthcare delivery ecosystem with successful integrations of health programs.

### **1st Ministerial meeting of India-EU Trade and Technology Council held in Brussels**

The first Ministerial meeting of the India-EU Trade and Technology Council was held in Brussels on 16th May. The meeting was co-chaired on the Indian side by the Ministers for External Affairs, Commerce and Industry, and Communications, Electronics, and Information Technology.

### **Congress surge topples BJP in Karnataka**

Karnataka voters have decimated the incumbent Bharatiya Janata Party and given the Congress an unambiguous mandate, with 135 seats in the 224-member Legislative Assembly.

### **Kalangummukal becomes Kerala's first fully insured ward**

Kalangummukal, Ward 32 of the Punalur municipality, will be Kerala's first fully insured ward as 1,382 residents in the five to 70 age group will be eligible for insurance coverage against accidental death and disability.

### **Karnataka ranked the most 'innovative' State**

A survey on the degree of innovation among manufacturing firms found that Karnataka, overall, is the most "innovative" State, followed by Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu (DNH&DD), Telangana, and Tamil Nadu.

### **Wayanad tops Swachh Bharat Mission's ODF Plus rankings**

Wayanad has become the first district in the country to be declared ODF (open defecation-free) Plus. Wayanad district has come first in the ODF Plus rankings of the Swachh Bharat Mission in three-star category.

### **Govt approves 4th Positive Indigenisation List of strategically important components to promote domestic defence industry**

The Defence Ministry has approved the fourth Positive Indigenisation List of 928 strategically important Line Replacement Units, Sub-systems, Spares and Components worth 715 crore rupees, to promote 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence and minimise imports by Defence Public Sector Undertaking.

### **Indian Navy test-fires BrahMos supersonic cruise missile**

A BrahMos supersonic cruise missile was successfully test-fired from the Indian Navy's frontline guided missile destroyer INS Mormugao. The missile firing demonstrated the Indian Navy's firepower at sea.

### **Hardeep S Puri launches mega campaign 'Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Shehar'**

Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep S Puri launched his Ministry's mega campaign 'Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Shehar'. This campaign aims to champion, Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle (RRR) concept of waste management.

### **Over 100 delegates, International Organisations participate in 3rd Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting**

The 3rd Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting (ETWG) under India's G20 Presidency was held in Mumbai. Over 100 delegates representing G20 member countries, special invitee countries and International Organisations like International Energy Agency (IEA), World Bank and World Energy Council India participated in the three-day meeting.

### **Indian Army conducts Flood Relief Exercise Jal Rahat in Assam**

Gajraj Corps of the Indian Army conducted a Joint Flood Relief 'Exercise Jal Rahat' at Hagrama Bridge on Manas River, Assam to validate joint drills and coordinate preparedness by multi-agency flood relief columns.

### **Govt launches Citizen Centric Portal, Sanchar Saathi to block and trace lost mobile phones**

Union Minister for Communications Ashwini Vaishnaw launched a Citizen Centric Portal named Sanchar Saathi Portal through which mobile users can now track and block their lost mobile phones. The Sanchar Saathi Portal is an initiative of Department of Telecommunications.

### **Luxury travels firm UnWild Planet bags IAATO membership**

UnWild Planet, a luxury travel company has become the first and only Indian travel company to be an associate member of the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO).

### **Farmers to get over ₹1 Lakh Crore subsidy for fertilizers for Kharif Season this year**

The Centre has decided to spend ₹1,08,000 crores towards fertiliser subsidy for the kharif season this year. Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya said, the prices of fertilizers will not be hiked, and the farmers will continue to get the nutrient based fertilizers at the same cost they are getting as of now.

### **SC gets two new judges as CJI administers oath of office to Justices Mishra and K.V. Viswanathan**

Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud has administered the oath of office to Justices Prashant Kumar Mishra and K.V. Viswanathan, bringing back the court to its full sanctioned strength of 34 judges.

### **Jallikattu upheld by Supreme Court**

The Supreme Court of India has upheld the validity of amendment acts of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka which allowed bull-taming sport 'Jallikattu', bullock-cart races and buffalo racing sport 'Kambala'. Animal rights groups, led by People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), had challenged these practices in the top court.

### **Govt to set up 1,100 new Farmer Producer Organizations in cooperative sector**

In order to realize the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "Sahkar se Samridhi", a decision has been taken to form one thousand 100 New Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in the Cooperative Sector. These additional 1100 FPOs have been allocated to National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under FPOs' Scheme.

### **Cyclone Mocha: Indian Navy ships carrying relief material reach Yangon under Operation Karuna**

India has extended a hand of friendship to the people of Myanmar affected by Cyclone Mocha. External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar said three Indian Navy ships carrying relief material reached Yangon under Operation Karuna.

### **Prime Minister dedicates to the Nation, newly constructed Parliament building in National Capital**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the Nation, the newly constructed Parliament building in the National Capital on 28th of this month. The construction of the present building of the Parliament was completed in 1927, which is now going to be almost 100 years old.

### **PM praises launch of India's first domestic commercial flight on indigenous feedstock & SAF**

The Prime Minister has praised the historic step of making aviation fuel from ethanol and launch of India's first domestic commercial flight on indigenous feedstock & Sustainable Aviation Fuel, SAF. Earlier, Union minister Hardeep Singh

Puri has announced the successful operation of the first domestic flight by AIX Connect (formerly known as AirAsia India) using India-produced sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).

#### **Supreme Court-appointed expert panel 'clears' SEBI**

A Supreme Court-appointed panel of experts examining India's regulatory mechanism in an investigation linked to the Hindenburg allegations has given a clean chit to the Adani Group and has said it appears there was no regulatory failure on the part of market regulator SEBI.

#### **Centre promulgates ordinance to constitute National Capital Civil Services Authority**

Centre has promulgated Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023 to constitute National Capital Civil Services Authority. The Authority will recommend the transfers and postings of all Group 'A' officers and officers of DANICS serving in the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

#### **Telangana records 100% institutional deliveries, but C-Section rates highest in India**

Telangana has clocked a record 100% institutional delivery rate in 2021-22, revealed the Health Management Information System (HMIS) report. The State, however, had the highest percentage of Caesarean section deliveries in the country — 55.33 in 2020-21 and 54.09 in 2021-22.

#### **Union Minister Piyush Goyal hosts 44th edition of ISO COPOLCO Plenary from 23 to 26 May**

India hosted the 44th edition of the coveted annual consumer policy forum - ISO COPOLCO Plenary in New Delhi. The plenary is based on the themes of Challenges and Good Practices for Consumer Engagement, Empowering Consumers for a Sustainable Future, Consumer Protection, and Legal Frameworks.

#### **Department of Pharmaceuticals organizes International Conference on 'India Pharma & India Medical Devices'**

Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the 8th edition of the International Conference on 'India Pharma and India Medical Device 2023'. The two-day Conference was organised by the Department of Pharmaceuticals in association with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

#### **231 stolen antiques repatriated to India in last 9 years: MoS Jitendra Singh**

Minister of State for Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh announced that 231 stolen antiques have been repatriated to India in the last nine years. He said, this stands in stark contrast to the mere 13 antiques brought back by previous governments in the 70 years since independence.

#### **Cough syrup exporters need to test products at government labs from June 1**

Cough syrup exporters will have to undertake testing of their products at specified government laboratories from June 1 before getting permission for the outbound shipments. The direction has come after quality concerns were raised globally for cough syrups exported by Indian firms.

#### **Aadhaar holders execute 1.96 billion authentication transactions in April 2023**

Aadhaar holders have executed 1.96 billion authentication transactions in the last month. It is a jump of more than 19.3 percent over April 2022, indicating the growth of the digital economy and the usage of Aadhaar in the country.

#### **Indian Navy warship INS Mormugao engages sea-skimming supersonic target.**

The Indian Navy successfully carried out an engagement of a sea-skimming supersonic target using its latest indigenous guided missile destroyer INS Mormugao.

#### **Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train for Sri Rameshwaram-Tirupati: Dakshin Yatra flagged off**

Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train for "Sri Rameshwaram-Tirupati: Dakshin Yatra" was flagged off from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai. The tour package will cover visits to divine places like Mysuru, Bengaluru, Kanyakumari, Thiruvananthapuram, Rameshwaram, Madurai and Tirupati.

#### **Centre to provide 30 per cent financial support for promotion of Green Shipping**

Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal has announced that the Centre will provide 30 percent financial support for promotion of Green Shipping. Mr Sonowal said Green Hydrogen hubs will be developed at the Deendayal Port at Kandla and Chidambaranar Port at Tuticorin.

#### **India to soon acquire its fastest Supercomputer worth ₹900 crores**

Union Minister of Earth Sciences Kiren Rijiju has said that India will soon acquire its fastest Supercomputer worth nine hundred crore rupees and it is expected to start functioning by March next year.

#### **Independence of district judiciary is part of basic structure of Constitution: Supreme Court**

The Supreme Court of India has held that the independence of district judiciary is part of the basic structure of the Constitution and judicial independence from the executive and the legislature requires the judiciary to have a say in matters of finances.

#### **Inspired by the Cholas, handed over to Nehru: historic 'Sengol' installed in new Parliament building**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has installed the 'Sengol', a historical sceptre from Tamil Nadu, in the new Parliament building. The 'Sengol' was received by Independent India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, from Lord Mountbatten to represent the transfer of power from the British and was later kept in a museum in Allahabad.

#### **Ministry of Civil Aviation launches 5.1 version of RCS-UDAN to enhance connectivity to remote areas of India**

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched the 5.1 version of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) to enhance the connectivity to remote areas of the country and achieve last mile connectivity through helicopters.

#### **India receives 6.19 million Foreign Tourist Arrivals in 2022**

India received 6.19 million Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in 2022 as compared to 1.52 million during the same period of 2021. The centre has taken several initiatives to give a boost to the tourism sector in the country by launching Dekho Apna Desh, 'Capacity Building for Service Providers' Scheme, Incredible India Tourist Facilitator Certification Programme.

#### **Union Minister Pralhad Joshi inaugurates first Mining Start-up Summit in Mumbai**

Union Minister of Coal and Mines Pralhad Joshi inaugurated the first Mining Start-up Summit in Mumbai on 29th of May. The summit is being organized by the Ministry of Mines in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.

#### **New committee set up to oversee cheetah project**

Following the death of three cheetah cubs, the Centre appointed a new steering committee, comprising national and international experts, to oversee the implementation of Project Cheetah. The cubs were born to a translocated Namibian cheetah at the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh in March 2023. The 11-member committee will be led by Dr. Rajesh Gopal.

### **PM Modi releases ₹75 coin, special stamp to mark inauguration of new Parliament building**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released a special commemorative postage stamp and a ₹75 coin to mark the inauguration of the new Parliament building. He released the coin and the stamp at the inauguration event held at the Lok Sabha chamber of the new Parliament building.

### **Monsoon likely to be normal despite El Nino, onset in Kerala on June 4: IMD**

India Meteorological Department (IMD) said that monsoon is expected to make onset in Kerala on June 4 and that it will most likely be normal this year despite the El Nino weather phenomenon. IMD also said that as per the predictions that stand as of now, northwest India will get below-normal rain this year.

### **New Chief Justices appointed to Madras, Bombay High Courts**

Justice Sanjay V. Gangapurwala, who is officiating as the Chief Justice of Bombay High Court, has been appointed as the Chief Justice of Madras High Court while Justice Ramesh D. Dhanuka has been appointed as the Chief Justice of Bombay High Court, the Law Ministry notified.

### **Three-day Anti-Corruption Working Group meeting under G20 India Presidency concludes at Tehri**

The three-day Anti-Corruption Working Group meeting under the G20 India Presidency concluded at the Tehri, Uttarakhand. The meeting was chaired by Rahul Singh, Additional Secretary, Department of Personnel & Training and Chairman G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting.

### **Ashwini Vaishnav inaugurates National Conclave on 9 Saal - Seva, Sushasan, Gareeb Kalyan in New Delhi**

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav inaugurated the National Conclave on 9 Saal - Seva, Sushasan, Gareeb Kalyan in New Delhi. Speaking on this occasion, Mr. Vaishnav said, the country has made great strides in every sector in the last nine years under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

### **ISRO Successfully Launches GSLV F12/NVS-1 Mission**

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully placed the NVS-01 navigation satellite, weighing about 2232 kg, into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit. The GSLV-F12 is the 15th flight of India's GSLV and the 9th flight with indigenous cryo stage. Interestingly, for the first time, an indigenous atomic clock was flown in NVS-01.

### **PM Modi to chair SCO Summit virtually on July 4**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair the 22nd Summit of the SCO Council of Heads of State on 4th July. It will be held in virtual format. India assumed the rotating Chairmanship of SCO at the Samarkand Summit on 16 September last year.

### **US court approves extradition of 26/11 Mumbai attack attacker Tahawwur Rana**

US Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti has said that the United States Court has approved extradition of 26/11 Mumbai attacker Tahawwur Rana and it is a sort of collaboration and cooperation where both US and India are working together to bring terrorists to justice.

### **ISRO to launch Chandrayaan-3 in July this year**

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman S. Somanath has said that Chandrayaan-3 will be launched in July this year. He was speaking after the successful launch of the second-generation navigation satellite NSV-01 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

### **Government to waive off ISTS charges for Off-Shore Wind Projects**

The Union Government has decided to grant waiver of Inter-State Transmission Charges ISTS charges to Off-Shore Wind Projects and extend the waiver to Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia.

## **BANKING & ECONOMY**

### **Debadatta Chand appointed as new chief of BoB; Rajneesh Karnatak to head Bol**

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Debadatta Chand and Rajneesh Karnatak as MD & CEO of Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Bank of India (BoI), respectively, for three years

### **India & Bangladesh launch '50 Start-ups Exchange Programme'**

The first group of 10 start-up companies under the 50 start-ups exchange programme between India and Bangladesh returned to Dhaka after completing a successful five-day visit to India from 8-12 May. These Start-ups belong to sectors such as e-commerce, health, transport and logistics, energy, education and skill development.

### **India, Russia explore using RuPay and Mir cards for easy payments**

India and Russia will explore the possibility of accepting RuPay and Mir cards in each other's country for hassle-free payments amid sanctions imposed by the West on Moscow.

### **Centre extends EV battery safety certification deadline by 6 months**

The Centre has extended by six months the deadline to obtain the mandatory electric vehicle (EV) battery safety test certification from the ministry of heavy industries.

### **Year-end compliances lift GST revenues to record ₹1.87 lakh crore in April**

India's gross GST revenues hit a record high in April at ₹1,87,035 crore, 12% higher than the same month last year which had clocked the previous highest tax tally of ₹1.67 lakh crore.

### **JPMorgan to buy First Republic after govt. auction**

JPMorgan Chase & Co emerged as the winner of an auction of troubled First Republic Bank, in a deal aimed at drawing a line under a recent banking crisis even as it makes the largest U.S. bank even bigger.

### **India-UAE trade pact boosts exports to \$31.3 billion in 2022-23**

Exports from India to the UAE have grown at almost 12% in 2022-23 to hit \$31.3 billion, more than double the 5.3% growth in India's overall exports, thanks to the implementation of the bilateral trade pact (CEPA) last May, the Commerce Ministry said.

### **India's defence production crossing one lakh crore rupee mark**

India announced that the value of defence production in the country crossed ₹1 lakh crore for the first time on the back of key reforms to spur growth in the sector that holds vast potential.

### **USAID, IACC extend pact for five years as a measure towards enhanced collaboration across sectors**

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) have renewed their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for five years to enhance collaboration between the American and Indian business communities across sectors including health, climate change, economic growth, education, and women empowerment.

### **Go First files for bankruptcy**

Low-cost carrier Go First has filed for bankruptcy at the National Company Law Tribunal and suspended its flight operations for the next three days over mounting losses, which it has attributed to delays in the delivery of Pratt and Whitney engines, resulting in the grounding of half its fleet of aircraft.

### **Centre exempts customs duty on imports of crude soyabean oil and sunflower oil**

The Centre has exempted customs duty and agriculture infrastructure and development cess on imports of crude soya bean oil and sunflower seed oils till 30th June this year.

### **US: Fed raises key rate**

The Federal Reserve reinforced its fight against high inflation by raising its key interest rate by a quarter-point to the highest level in 16 years. But the Fed also signaled that it may now pause its streak of 10 rate hikes, which have made borrowing for consumers and businesses steadily more expensive.

### **HDFC Bank to open 675 branches in semi-urban, rural areas in FY24.**

HDFC Bank Ltd. has announced plans to open more than 675 branches in semi-urban and rural locations (SURU) of India in FY24 to expand its presence in these areas. With this, the bank's total number of branches in non-urban areas would reach close to 5,000.

### **RBI, BIS launch global technology competition 'G20 TechSprint'**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Bank for International Settlements (BIS) have launched G20 TechSprint, a global technology competition. RBI and the BIS Innovation Hub have jointly announced the fourth edition of the G20 TechSprint. The 2023 TechSprint will focus on developing innovative technology solutions for cross-border payments.

### **Lupin to acquire French pharma company Medisol for around ₹160 crore**

Lupin said it will fully acquire French pharmaceutical company Medisol for ₹160 crore. The company has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire the entire share capital of Medisol, subject to approval from the French Ministry of Economy and Finance.

### **IRDAI proposes to tighten norms for media campaigns by insurers.**

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is proposing to tighten norms for insurance advertisements by assigning higher responsibility on the senior management of insurers in designing and approving media campaigns, for product promotion.

### **Essar Oil and Gas to invest ₹2,000 crore in microbial eCBM technology**

Essar Oil and Gas Exploration and Production (EOGEPL) is planning to invest ₹2,000 crore more to boost its reserve base, ramp up coal-bed methane production, and implementation of microbial eCBM technology.

### **Fitch pares India's GDP growth forecast for this year to 6% from 6.2%**

Fitch Ratings has lowered its 2023-24 GDP growth forecast for India to 6% from 6.2%, citing headwinds from elevated inflation and interest rates along with subdued global demand.

### **GAIL said to plan \$4.9 billion ethane cracker unit in West India**

GAIL (India) plans to build a ₹400-billion (\$4.89 billion) ethane cracker near its liquefied natural gas (LNG) import plant in Western India, as it seeks to meet an expected surge in demand.

### **Walmart set to meet its goal of sourcing goods worth \$10 billion from India by 2027**

Walmart Inc was all set to meet its goal of sourcing goods worth \$10 billion from India each year by 2027. Walmart CEO Doug McMillon said.

### **GST e-invoicing ambit to cover smaller firms from August 1**

In a move that would add to the compliance requirements for small and medium businesses under the GST regime while expanding the tax net, the Centre has made it mandatory for all businesses with an annual turnover of ₹5 crore to use e-invoices from August 1.

### **HDFC to raise at least ₹30 bn via five-year bonds**

Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) plans to raise at least ₹30 billion (\$366.84 million) through bonds maturing in five years. It has invited bids from investors and bankers.

### **57% of all fraud incidents in India are 'platform' frauds: PwC India**

More than half of all fraud incidents in India were 'platform' fraud, a novel form of economic crime that involves fraudulent activities associated with social media, e-commerce, enterprise and finTech platforms, said a PricewaterhouseCoopers Private Limited (PwC) India report.

### **Retail inflation down to 18-month low of 4.7% in April on cooling food prices**

India's retail inflation slid to an 18-month low of 4.7% in April, staying below the Reserve Bank of India's 6% tolerance threshold for price rise for the second successive month, aided by the base effects from last April when it had hit an eight-year high of 7.8%.

### **Manufacturing, electricity output drags IIP growth to a 5-month low**

India's industrial production growth fell to a five-month low of 1.1% in March 2023. The poor performance of the power and manufacturing sectors was primarily responsible for this decline, with the manufacturing sector growing only 0.5% compared to 1.4% a year ago.

### **RBI asks banks to complete transition away from LIBOR from July 1**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued an advisory to banks and other RBI-regulated entities asking them to take steps to ensure a complete transition away from the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) from July 1.

### **RBI collaborates with GFIN to prevent 'greenwashing'**

The RBI has joined forces with the Global Financial Innovation Network (GFIN) to participate in the Greenwashing TechSprint. The event aims to address concerns surrounding exaggerated, misleading, or unsubstantiated claims related to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) credentials.

### **IRDAI forms expert panel for advice on mental health cover**

Insurance regulator IRDAI has constituted a five-member expert committee comprising medical experts and insurers for advice on matters related to mental health and insurance.

### **Ola aims to open 500 more experience centers by August 2023**

EV manufacturer, Ola Electric plans to open 500 more experience centres by August 2023, this will take the total number of Ola ECs to 1,000.

### **Government bans import of 928 items to promote domestic defence industry**

The Defence Ministry has imposed a phased ban on the import of 928 military items to promote self-reliance in the defence manufacturing sector. The Ministry announced



fourth positive indigenization list in continuation of the first three such lists, which contained a total of 1,238 items.

#### **SEBI proposes tighter norms for delisting debt securities**

In a bid to protect investors, market regulator SEBI has proposed tighter norms for the delisting of non-convertible debt securities. SEBI has proposed to bar listed entity that has more than 200 non-QIB holders of non-convertible debt securities from voluntarily delisting. The listed entity shall obtain approval from all holders of non-convertible debt securities within 15 working days from the date of the notice of delisting.

#### **Cognizant unveils AI platform for firms**

Cognizant has announced the availability of a new, enterprise-wide platform, Cognizant Neuro AI, designed to provide enterprises with a comprehensive approach to accelerate the adoption of generative AI technology.

#### **RuPay goes live on CVV-less payments for tokenised cards**

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) said that RuPay has now introduced the CVV (Card Verification Value) free payment experience for its debit, credit and prepaid cardholders who have tokenised their cards on the merchant application or webpage.

#### **China's April data show economic recovery losing steam**

China's industrial output and consumer spending have fallen short of expectations, fuelling doubts over the strength of the country's rebound after it dismantled its zero-Covid policy. Youth unemployment hit a record while a key measure of investment also lagged estimates, casting a shadow over the outlook for the world's second-largest economy.

#### **With 6.9% year-on-year growth, goods exports rise to \$451 billion in 2022-23**

India's goods exports for 2022-23 scaled up significantly from earlier estimates to almost \$451 billion, indicating a 6.9% year-on-year growth, with exports for March upgraded sharply to a nine-month high of \$41.9 billion.

#### **Indian Economy expected to grow by 5.8% in 2023 & 6.7% in 2024**

The World Economic Situation and Prospects report released by the United Nations has reposed its faith in the Indian economy. The report said that India is expected to grow by 5.8 percent in 2023 and 6.7 percent in 2024.

#### **Govt approves Production Linked Incentive Scheme 2.0 for IT related hardware**

The Union government has approved Production Linked Incentive Scheme 2.0 for Information and Technology related hardware with a budgetary outlay of 17,000 crore rupees. Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, the tenure of the scheme is six years, and the expected investment will be over 2,400 crore rupees.

#### **Zomato UPI service launched**

Zomato has launched its own unified payments interface (UPI) services in partnership with ICICI bank as it aims to make payment more seamless for customers. Users won't be required to do KYC and one will be able to personalize their UPI ID too.

#### **Supreme Court grants SEBI time till August 14 to complete enquiry against Adani group**

The Supreme Court gave the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) time till August 14, 2023 to complete its investigation into the Hindenburg-Adani Group allegations.

#### **Foreign Portfolio Investment in Indian equities drop 11% to \$542 bn in January-March quarter.**

The value of Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI) in Indian equities was at \$542 billion in the March quarter of 2023, a decline of 11% from the preceding year, largely due to the exodus of foreign money from the domestic market.

#### **IMF board approves \$3 billion bailout for Ghana amid economic crisis**

The International Monetary Fund's executive board has approved a long-awaited \$3 billion bailout for Ghana in hopes of combating the country's economic crisis.

#### **India, E.U. Discuss E.U. Carbon Border Tax in Brussels**

India and the E.U. are working to resolve a looming issue in their trade relationship — the E.U.'s Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), with the two sides discussing it during a Minister-level meeting in Brussels.

#### **Amazon's cloud arm to invest \$12.7 billion in India by 2030**

Amazon Web Services (AWS) plans to invest \$12.7 billion in India by 2030 to meet the fast-growing customer demand for cloud services in the country.

#### **RBI withdraws ₹2000 notes from circulation under Clean Note Policy**

The Reserve Bank of India has decided to withdraw two thousand Rupees denomination banknotes from circulation under the "Clean Note Policy". The 2,000-rupee notes, however, will continue to be legal tender.

#### **India achieves 47% growth in Coal Production in the last Nine Years**

India has achieved 47 percent growth in Coal Production in the last Nine Years. The Coal supply has also touched 877.74 million tonnes, recording 45.37 percent growth in the same period. Overall coal production has gone up to 893.08 million tonnes in Financial Year 2023, which is the highest in the history of the country.

#### **Tax waived on annual forex spends up to ₹7 lakh**

The Union finance ministry said that forex payments through debit and credit cards up to ₹7 lakh would be exempted from the liberalized remittance scheme (LRS) and will not attract tax collected at source (TCS) from 1 July.

#### **RBI approves ₹87,416 crore dividend payout to central government for 2022-23**

The Reserve Bank of India has approved ₹87,416 crore dividend pay out to the central government for 2022-23, nearly triple of what it paid in the previous year. The dividend pay out was ₹30,307 crore for accounting year 2021-22.

#### **SEBI proposes new framework for AIFs to strengthen corporate governance rules**

To strengthen corporate governance mechanism, capital markets regulator, the SEBI has proposed to amend the current rules governing Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs). Under the proposal, Category I and Category II AIFs should not borrow funds directly or indirectly or engage in leverage for the purpose of making investments, SEBI said.

#### **SEBI proposes institutional mechanism for AMCs for deterrence of possible market abuse**

Capital markets regulator SEBI has proposed that asset management companies (AMCs) set up surveillance and internal control systems for the deterrence of possible market abuse and fraudulent transactions.

#### **India's engineering exports to Russia jumped elevenfold in April: EEPC**

Exports of engineering goods to Russia jumped 11 times in April this year to \$133.6 million as compared to year-ago month while the U.S. and China markets continued to soften, the engineering export promotion council said.

#### **ONDC set to launch an Academy to train network partners**

To raise awareness about its various processes, the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) is all set to launch an academy by next month. The ONDC Academy aims to develop a more robust ecosystem of certified sellers, buyers, and logistics network partners in the country.

### **SEBI proposes curbs to contain extreme price movements in shares.**

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), proposed measures to contain extreme price movements in shares on which futures and options trade, including longer trading suspensions and restricting price movements.

### **NCLAT upholds Go First's insolvency order**

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal has upheld the court order admitting Go First's voluntary insolvency and asked the lessors, who had challenged the moratorium on repossession of aircraft, to approach the adjudicating court.

### **Facebook parent Meta hit with record fine for transferring European user data to U.S.**

The European Union slapped Meta with a record \$1.3 billion privacy fine and ordered it to stop transferring user data across the Atlantic by October, the latest salvo in a decade long case sparked by U.S. cybersnooping fears.

### **RBI defends before Delhi HC ₹2,000 banknote exchange exercise**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) told the Delhi High Court that withdrawal of ₹2,000 notes is not demonetisation but a statutory exercise, and the decision to enable their exchange was taken for operational convenience.

### **Income Tax Dept enables online filing of Income Tax Returns 1, 4**

The Income Tax Department has enabled online filing of Income Tax Returns (ITRs) 1 and 4, filed by individuals, professionals and small businesses, for 2022-23 fiscal.

### **Sri Lanka consumer price inflation eases to 33.6% in April**

Sri Lanka's National Consumer Price Index based inflation has shown signs of easing. According to Sri Lanka's statistics department, headline inflation stood at 33.6 percent year-on-year for April, a decrease from the 49.2 percent in previous month.

**GDP growth may cross 7% in 2022-23: RBI Governor**  
India's GDP growth in 2022-23 may well surpass the 7% estimate, while retail inflation is likely to go below the 4.7% mark this month, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das said.

**India's Adani Group weighs \$3-bn investment in Vietnam**  
India's Adani Group is exploring the possibility to invest up to \$3 billion in seaport and renewable energy projects in Vietnam, the Vietnamese government said in a statement.

### **Germany's GDP shrinks by 0.3% in first quarter to put Europe's biggest economy into recession.**

New figures show the German economy suffered an unexpected dip in the first quarter of this year, putting the country formally into recession. Data released by the Federal Statistical Office shows Germany's gross domestic product, or GDP, down by 0.3% in the period from January to March.

### **BSE, NSE put Adani Enterprises under short-term ASM framework.**

Leading bourses BSE and NSE will put the securities of Adani Enterprises under the short-term ASM framework. The parameters for shortlisting securities under ASM include high-low variation, client concentration, number of price band hits, close-to-close price variation and price-earning ratio.

**For retirees, leave encashment now tax-free till ₹25 lakh**  
The Centre has notified a hike in the tax exemption limit for leave encashment benefits received by salaried employees at the time of retirement from ₹3 lakh to ₹25 lakh, as promised in the Union Budget.

### **India challenges WTO panel ruling on ICT import duties at appellate body**

India has appealed against a ruling of the World Trade Organization's (WTO) trade dispute settlement panel which stated that the country's import duties on certain information and technology products are inconsistent with the global trade norms.

### **RBI Approves Merger of Maratha Co-op Bank with Cosmos Co-op Bank**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted approval for the voluntary Scheme of Amalgamation of Maratha Sahakari Bank with The Cosmos Co-operative Bank.

### **GDP expected to grow 6-6.5 per cent in FY24: BoB Eco Research**

India's GDP is expected to grow in the 6-6.5 per cent range in FY24, with agriculture growth continuing at a healthy pace, a recovery in industrial growth and the services sector remaining resilient, according to Bank of Baroda's economic research department (ERD).

### **Nepal starts exporting electricity to India**

Nepal has started exporting electricity to India as the generation of hydroelectricity from run-of-the-river projects increased with the onset of the monsoon in the Himalayan country. Last year also, Nepal exported hydroelectricity to India from June to November.

### **India's growth momentum likely to be sustained in 2023-24, says RBI's annual report**

On the back of sound macroeconomic policies and softer commodity prices, India's growth momentum is likely to be sustained in 2023-24 in an atmosphere of easing inflationary pressures, said the Reserve Bank's annual report.

### **India will have a huge geriatric-care market: Kris Gopalakrishnan**

India will have over 300 million elderly people by the time the country celebrates its 100th year of independence in 2047, said Kris Gopalakrishnan, former CEO of Infosys and a venture capitalist who just floated Bridge Health, a proactive healthcare start-up.

### **India extends credit facility of USD 1 billion available to Sri Lanka for use till March 2024**

India extended its \$1 billion credit line to Sri Lanka by another year to help the island nation hit hard by an unprecedented economic crisis procure much-needed food, medicine and other essential items.

### **India's defence exports rise 23 times since 2014**

India's defence exports have reached an all-time high, surging from 686 crore rupees in 2013-14 to nearly 16 thousand crore rupees in 2022-23. This remarkable 23-fold increase reflects India's progress in the global defence manufacturing sector.

### **UBI Global ranks Kerala Startup Mission as world's No.1 public business incubator**

Kerala Startup Mission has been ranked as the world's top public business incubator by the UBI Global World Benchmark Study 2021-2022 of Business Incubators and Accelerators, marking a major endorsement of its role in turning Kerala into a vibrant start-up hub.

### **RBI's balance sheet grows 2.5% to ₹63.45 lakh crore in FY23**

The size of the Reserve Bank's balance sheet increased by 2.5% for the year ended on March 31 to about ₹63.45 lakh crore on higher income, as per the Central bank's annual.

### **Sri Lanka to import 1 million eggs daily from India to meet market demand**

Sri Lanka will import one million eggs daily from five chicken farms in India to meet its growing market demand. Sri Lanka State Trading Corporation (STC) chairman Asiri Valisundara said that 20 million eggs had been imported from India, of which 10 million had been released to the market.

## **AWARDS**

### **2023 Laureus World Sports Awards winners:**

World Sportsman of the Year Award: Lionel Messi  
World Sportswoman of the Year Award: Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce

World Team of the Year Award: Argentina Men's Football Team

World Breakthrough of the Year Award: Carlos Alcaraz

World Comeback of the Year Award: Christian Eriksen

World Sportsman of the Year with a Disability Award: Catherine Debrunner

### **President Droupadi Murmu confers 37 Gallantry awards**

President Droupadi Murmu has conferred eight Kirti Chakras, including five posthumous, and 29 Shaurya Chakras, including five posthumous, upon the personnel of the Armed Forces, Central Armed Police Forces and State or Union Territory Police during Defence Investiture Ceremony (Phase-1) in New Delhi.

### **Pulitzer Prizes: 2023 Winners List Journalism**

Public Service: Associated Press

Breaking News Reporting: Staff of the Los Angeles Times

Investigative Reporting: Staff of The Wall Street Journal Letters and Drama

Fiction: "Demon Copperhead", Barbara Kingsolver (Harper) and

Drama: "English" by Sanaz Toossi

Poetry: "Then the War: And Selected Poems, 2007-2020" by Carl Phillips (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

### **Tata Sons Chairman Chandrasekaran gets France's highest civilian award**

Tata Group Chairman N. Chandrasekaran has been given France's highest civilian award Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur for his contributions to strengthen the trade relationship between India and France.

### **Musharraf Ali Farooqi wins the inaugural Armory Square Prize for translation.**

Author and translator Musharraf Ali Farooqi has won the inaugural edition of the Armory Square Prize for South Asian Literature in Translation.

### **PM Narendra Modi conferred highest civilian Honours of Fiji and Papua New Guinea for his global leadership**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with Fiji's Highest Civilian Honour "The Companion of the Order of Fiji" for his global leadership. Governor-General Bob Dadae of Papua New Guinea also bestowed upon Mr. Modi the nation's highest civilian award, the Grand Companion of the Order of Logohu.

### **Bulgarian writer wins International Booker Prize for darkly comic memory novel**

Bulgarian writer Georgi Gospodinov and translator Angela Rodel won the International Booker Prize 2023 for Time Shelter, a darkly comic novel about the dangerous appeal of nostalgia.

### **Three Indian peacekeepers honored with U.N.'s Dag Hammarskjold medal**

Three Indian U.N. peacekeepers were honoured posthumously with the Dag Hammarskjold Medal for their supreme sacrifice in the line of duty at a solemn ceremony at the U.N. Headquarters. The three Indians include Shishupal Singh and Samwali Ram Vishnoi and Shaber Taher Ali.

### **Anatomy of a Fall' Wins the Palme d'Or**

The 76th Cannes Film Festival ended with the Palme d'Or awarded to "Anatomy of a Fall." Directed by Justine Triet, Turkish actress Merve Dizzdar won Best Actress for her role in Kuri Otlar Ustune (About Dry Grasses). Best director went to Vietnamese-born French filmmaker Tran Anh Hung for The Pot-au-Feu.

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

### **Recep Tayyip Erdogan**

In Turkiye, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has won the Presidential election, extending his rule to a third decade. Erdogan defeated opposition leader Kemal Kilicdaroglu in runoff vote.

### **Amy Pope**

Former White House advisor Amy Pope is set to become the first woman to head the United Nations' migration agency, International Organization for Migration (IOM) after she won the vote in Geneva against the Portuguese incumbent Antonio Vitorino. She will become the organisation's first woman chief on October 1.

### **King Charles**

King Charles has been crowned at his Coronation in London. Charles III has taken his oath and been crowned King in a ceremony witnessed by over two thousand guests and dignitaries in Westminster Abbey.

### **Nicolas Sarkozy**

A French appeals court has upheld a one-year prison sentence for former President Nicolas Sarkozy on a conviction for corruption and influence peddling.

### **Kami Rita**

Kami Rita, one of the greatest mountain guides reached the summit of Mount Everest for a record 28th time on May 23, completing his second ascent in just a week.

### **Siddaramaiah**

Congress Legislative Party (CLP) leader Siddaramaiah has taken the oath of office as the 24th Chief Minister of Karnataka, along with Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president D.K. Shivakumar, who was sworn in as the Deputy Chief Minister.

### **Girish Chandra Murmu**

Girish Chandra Murmu, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), has been re-elected as the External Auditor of the WHO for a four-year term from 2024 to 2027. The CAG is already holding this position in the WHO since 2019 for a four-year term from 2019 to 2023.

### **R. Dinesh**

TVS Supply Chain Solutions Executive Vice Chairman R. Dinesh has assumed office as the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) President for 2023-24.

### **Norodom Sihamoni**

Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni arrived in India on a maiden state visit, a trip that would mark culmination of the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations with India, which were established in 1952.

### **Rahul Jain**

Boston Consulting Group (BCG), a global management consulting firm, has picked Rahul Jain as its next system leader for its India office.

### **Praveen Kumar Srivastava**

Vigilance Commissioner Praveen Kumar Srivastava was sworn in by President Droupadi Murmu, as the Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC).

### **Linda Yaccarino**

Elon Musk officially announced Linda Yaccarino, formerly NBCUniversal's top advertising sales exec, will take the helm as Twitter's new CEO.

### **Geeta Rao Gupta**

Indian American Geeta Rao Gupta has been confirmed by the US Senate as the Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues in the State Department.

### **Praveen Sood**

Praveen Sood, the Director General of Police in Karnataka, has been appointed as the next director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

### **Kiren Rijju**

President Droupadi Murmu has replaced Kiren Rijju, who was the Minister of Law, with Arjun Ram Meghwal. Mr. Rijju has been made the Minister of Earth Sciences.

### **Hari Budha Magar**

Hari Budha Magar has become the first double above-the-knee amputee to reach the summit of Mount Everest. Persevering difficulties and harsh weather, the former Gurkha soldier successfully scaled the world's tallest mountain at 29,032 feet.

### **Donald Trump**

Former U.S. President Donald Trump has been for the first time found liable for sexual abuse against magazine columnist E. Jean Carroll. The jury ordered him to pay Ms. Carroll 5 million dollars in compensatory damages.

### **Manoj Soni**

Educationist Manoj Soni has taken oath as the chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). Prior to his appointment in the UPSC, Soni has served three terms as Vice-Chancellor.

### **Ravneet Kaur**

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Ravneet Kaur, a 1988 batch Punjab cadre IAS officer, as the Chairperson of Competition Commission of India (CCI).

### **Srichand Parmanand Hinduja**

Srichand Parmanand Hinduja, the eldest of the four Hinduja brothers and chairman of the Hinduja Group, passed away in London. He was chairman of the business group which owns public companies in India with interests in banking, chemicals, software and commercial vehicles.

### **Ioannis Sarmas**

Greece Senior judge Ioannis Sarmas was sworn in as Greece's caretaker Prime Minister who will head the country until new national elections are held in about a month.

### **Rattan Lal Kataria**

Former Union Minister and Ambala MP Ratan Lal Kataria passed away. He served as the Union Minister of State in the Ministries of Jal Shakti and Social Justice and Empowerment from May 2019 to July 2021.

### **Ray Stevenson**

Irish actor Ra Stevenson, who played British Governor Scott Buxton in SS Rajamouli's RRR died at age 58. Ray also appeared in major TV shows such as Rome, Vikings and Dexter.

### **N Gopalakrishnan**

N. Gopalakrishnan, the creator of the Indian Institute of Scientific Heritage (IISH) and a former scientist at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), has passed away at the age of 68.

### **Manobala**

Popular South comedian, director and producer Manobala died in Chennai. He was 69. He was known for his comedy timing and self-deprecating humour. In his career spanning over 35 years, he acted in over 900 films.

## **SPORTS**

### **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty script history by winning men's doubles title**

In the Badminton Asia Championship 2023, the Indian pair of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy have won the men's doubles title, defeating eighth-seeded Malaysian pair Teo Ee Yi and Ong Yew Sin in the final.

### **Gold for Aman, Vanshika and Pooja at Asian u18 athletics**

India's Aman Kumar and Vanshika won the boys' and girls' 3000m gold while teammates Yogeswar Rajasekaran and Anju Bala took the silver at the fifth Asian under18 athletics championship in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

### **Abdulla strikes gold in World Athletics Continental Tour meet in Japan**

Abdulla Aboobacker has won the men's triple jump gold at the 57th Oda Mikio memorial athletics meet in Hiroshima.

### **Sreeshankar opens international season with gold in US meet**

Long jumper M. Sreeshankar opened his international season with an easy gold in the MVA High Performance athletics meet in Chula Vista, California.

### **Mairaj Ahmad Khan & Ganemat Sekhon win Gold in ISSF Shotgun World Cup**

Mairaj Ahmad Khan and youngster Ganemat Sekhon, combined effectively to give India their first medal, a Gold in the ongoing ISSF World Cup Shotgun in Cairo, Egypt.

### **India regains top spot in Tests, remains No.1 in ODIs**

India have overtaken Australia to regain the number one position in the ICC men's Test team rankings following the annual update that drops results from the 2019-20 season and reflects all series completed since May 2020.

### **Belgium's Brecel wins snooker World Championship title**

Belgium's Luca Brecel has become the first player from continental Europe to win snooker's World Championship as he beat four-time champion Mark Selby 1815 in the final in Sheffield.

### **China's Ding Liren crowned world chess champion**

China's Ding Liren has been crowned as the 17th world chess champion after a tense match against Russian-born Ian Nepomniachtchi in Astana, Kazakhstan. He won the rapid chess playoff by 2.5 points to 1.5, capitalising on Nepomniachtchi's mistakes in time trouble in the last of the shorter-format games.

### **Women's world motorcycling championship set for 2024**

A women's world motorcycling championship will be staged for the first time from 2024 aimed at laying "the

foundations for more equal representation" in the sport, organisers said. Dorna, who promote both the MotoGP and Superbike world championships.

### **Sports Minister launches logo, mascot of Khelo India University Games 2022**

Sports Minister Anurag Thakur launched the Logo, jersey, mascot, torch and anthem of the Khelo India University Games 2022 (KIUG 2022) in Lucknow. The 3rd edition of the Khelo India University Games will take place from May 23 to June 3.

**Erling Haaland sets Premier League goal scoring record.** Erling Haaland set a Premier League goals record by scoring his 35th of the season in Manchester City's 3-0 win against West Ham. He struck in the 70th minute at Etihad Stadium to give the defending champions a 2-0 lead.

### **A silver and personal best time in 800m for Krishan in Japan**

Krishan Kumar clocked a personal best 1:46.95s as he finished second in the men's 800m final 3 at the 38th Shizuoka International athletics meet, a World Athletics Continental Tour (Bronze) event, at Fukuroi in Japan.

### **Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra clinches Doha Diamond League title**

India's javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra began his Diamond League title defence with a comfortable win in the season-opening leg in Doha. He beat a star-studded field with a best throw of 88.67m to begin his season in style.

### **Global Chess League to be held in Dubai as Inaugural Edition's Venue**

The Global Chess League (GCL), the world's largest and first franchise-based chess league, has announced Dubai as the venue for its inaugural edition.

### **Bindyarani Devi clinches silver medal in 55kg category at Asian Weightlifting C'ships**

In Weightlifting, India's Bindyarani Devi has clinched a silver medal in the women's 55kg category at the Asian Weightlifting Championships 2023 in Jinju, South Korea.

### **Rohan Bopanna-Matthew Ebden loses to Karen Khachanov-Andrey Rublev in Madrid Open final**

Indian-Australian pair of Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden lost to the Russian pair of Karen Khachanov and Andrey Rublev, 3-6, 6-3, 3-10 in the Madrid Open final.

### **India bags 14 medals at Asia Cup stage-2 Archery World Ranking tournament**

India has bagged 14 medals at the Asia Cup Stage 2 World Ranking Tournament to top the event in Tashkent. 14 medals include seven gold, five silver and two bronze. India's compound archers bagged all the medals on offer to stamp their authority.

### **AIFF's Shaji Prabhakaran elected as AFC's executive committee member**

All India Football Federation (AIFF) secretary general Dr Shaji Prabhakaran has been elected as an Executive Committee Member of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) by the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Congress, which met in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

### **Asian Weightlifting Championships: Jeremy Lalrinnunga wins silver medal**

In the Asian Weightlifting Championships, India's weightlifter Jeremy Lalrinnunga won a silver medal at Jinju, Korea. She won medal in the snatch event with a lift of 141 kg in the 67 kg weight class.

### **Max Verstappen wins the Miami Grand Prix**

Max Verstappen powered from ninth on the grid to beat Red Bull team-mate Sergio Perez and win the Miami Grand Prix.

### **Tennis: Sabalenka reclaims Madrid Open title**

Sabalenka beat top-ranked Swiatek to reclaim the Madrid Open title. The Australian Open champion claimed her four-leading third title of the season and 13th of her career, including her second in Madrid after triumphing here in 2021.

### **Fakhar, Chaiwai crowned ICC players of the month for April**

Pakistan batter Fakhar Zaman was named the ICC Men's Player of the month for April while Thailand skipper Naruemol Chaiwai was adjudged best in the women's section after both produced match-winning performances for their countries in the ODIs.

### **Asian Weightlifting Championships 2023: Indian weightlifters finish with three silver medals in South Korea**

In Weightlifting, Indian weightlifters finished the Asian Weightlifting Championships 2023 in Jinju, South Korea, with three silver medals.

### **India's Rhythm Sangwan wins bronze medal in Women's 10 metre air pistol event in Baku**

India's Rhythm Sangwan has won the bronze medal in the women's 10-metre air pistol event at the ISSF World Cup 2023 for rifle and pistol shooters in Baku, Azerbaijan.

### **Indian pair Divya TS and Sarabjot Singh win gold in 10m air pistol mixed team event**

In the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup being held at Baku in Azerbaijan, Indian pair Divya TS and Sarabjot Singh won gold in the 10m air pistol mixed team event.

### **IBA Men's World Boxing Championship: Indian boxers settles for bronze medal in Tashkent**

Indian boxers Mohammad Hussamudin, Deepak Kumar, and Nishant Dev had to settle for bronze medal at the IBA Men's World Boxing Championship in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

### **Rhythm Sangwan registers highest-ever score in women's 25m pistol event**

Indian shooter Rhythm Sangwan registered the highest-ever score in women's 25m pistol event when she recorded 595 in the qualification round at the ISSF World Cup in Baku. Sangwan bettered the previous best of 594, set by Bulgaria's Diana Iorgova in 1994.

### **Chelsea beats Manchester United to win three consecutive Women's FA Cup titles**

Chelsea beat Manchester United 1-0 in the Women's FA Cup final at Wembley. Sam Kerr's 68th-minute strike proved decisive as Chelsea won the trophy for the third straight year to remain in contention for a league and cup double.

### **MotoGP: Bezzecchi wins French GP**

VR46 Racing's Marco Bezzecchi produced a battling display at the French GP to record his second win of the season and slash fellow Italian Francesco Bagnaia's championship lead.

### **Motorcycling-Martin claims first sprint win at French Grand Prix**

Jorge Martin of Pramac Racing produced a flawless performance to hold off Brad Binder and win his first sprint race at the French Grand Prix in Le Mans.

### **Indian shooters bag silver medals in 10-meter air rifle event at ISSF World Cup 2023**

Indian shooters Hriday Hazarika and Nancy Mandhotra have bagged silver medals in the men's and women's 10 meter air rifle events, at the ISSF World Cup 2023 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

### **Barcelona wins La Liga for 1st time since 2019, 27th overall**

Barcelona won its first Spanish league title with a 4-2 victory against Espanyo. Robert Lewandowski scored twice to lead the Catalan club to its first league title since 2019.

### **South Asian Youth Table Tennis Championship 2023 concludes in Itanagar**

South Asian Youth Table Tennis Championship 2023 concluded in Itanagar. It was a three-day international event in which more than 100 athletes and officials from six countries Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Nepal have participated.

### **Tennis legend Rafael Nadal withdraws from French Open due to hip injury**

Tennis legend Rafael Nadal pulled out of the French Open due to a hip injury that has side-lined him from the game since January. Nadal also said that he expects 2024 to be the final season of his career.

### **Under-20 World Cup kicks off in Argentina**

Argentina will play on the opening day of the Under-20 World Cup just over a month since it replaced Indonesia as tournament host and participant.

### **Italian Open: Elena Rybakina clinches women's singles title**

In Italian Open Tennis, Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan won the women's singles title defeating Ukraine's Anhelina Kalinina 6-4, 1-0.

### **Parul Chaudhary wins women's 3000m steeplechase.**

India's Parul Chaudhary won the women's 3000m steeplechase event in 9:14.88 at the Track Night NYC in New York for her first title of the season.

### **Indian athlete Shaili Singh bags bronze medal at Golden Grand Prix 2023 athletics meet in Japan**

Indian athlete Shaili Singh clinched a bronze medal at the Golden Grand Prix 2023 athletics meet in the women's long jump event in Yokohama, Japan.

### **Italian Open: Daniil Medvedev claims first clay-court title of his career**

In Italian Open final, Daniil Medvedev clinched his maiden claycourt title after beating Holger Rune. It is Medvedev's fifth title of 2023.

### **Archery World Cup Stage Two: India finishes second in medals tally with 3 medals in compound section**

India finished second in the medal tally with 3 medals in the compound section in the Archery World Cup Stage 2 at Shanghai.

### **Manchester City crowned Premier League Champions**

Manchester City have been crowned Premier League champions for the 2022-23 season. This is their fifth Premier League title in the last six seasons.

### **Brooks Koepka delivers another major performance to win PGA**

Brooks Koepka won the PGA Championship for the third time, clinching his fifth major title at Oak Hill Country Club in Rochester, New York.

### **Indian shooters win two individual medals in Women's skeet event of ISSF World Cup Shotgun tournament**

Indian shooters Ganemat Sekhon and Darshna Rathore struck a silver and a bronze medal in the women's individual skeet event at the ISSF World Cup Shotgun Almaty 2023.

### **Neeraj Chopra becomes World Number one in men's javelin throw rankings**

Neeraj Chopra elevated to the top of the latest men's javelin throw and he is the new World No.1 in the rankings issued by the World Athletics. Chopra was leading the ranking with 1455 points, 22 ahead of Grenada's Anderson Peters. Chopra had been at the No.2 position since August 30, 2022, but overtook Peters, the reigning world champion, this week.

### **3rd Khelo India University games start in Gautam Budh Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh**

Third Khelo India University games was started with the Kabaddi event in Gautam Budh Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh.

### **Indian Long jumper Murali Sreeshankar wins gold at International Jumping Meeting in Greece**

Indian Long jumper Murali Sreeshankar has won gold while his compatriot Jeswin Aldrin finished bagged silver at the International Jumping Meeting at Kallithea in Greece.

### **Inter Milan defeats Fiorentina to retain the Italian Cup**

Lautaro Martinez scored twice as Champions League finalists Inter Milan came from behind to beat Fiorentina 2-1 and retain their Italian Cup title.

### **Star hurdler Jyothi Yarraji clocks second career-best 100m time to win gold in Germany**

Jyothi Yarraji, the national record holder, delivered an exceptional performance at the Kurpfalz Gala event in Weinheim, Germany, running her second career-best 100m hurdles race and securing the gold medal.

### **Parul Chaudhary bags 3000m steeplechase bronze**

Indian athlete Parul Chaudhary extended her good start to the season by winning the bronze medal in the women's 3000m steeplechase in the USATF Los Angeles Grand Prix athletics meet in Los Angeles.

### **Badminton :HS Prannoy clinches Malaysia Masters title**

India's H.S. Prannoy beat China's Weng Hong Yang in the Malaysia Masters 2023 final in Kuala Lumpur to claim his first BWF World Tour title.

### **Chess: Arjun Erigaisi seals Sharjah Masters title win**

Arjun Erigaisi produced a scintillating finish to his campaign in the \$45,000 Masters section of the premier Sharjah Masters chess tournament and emerged an impressive winner.

### **Monaco Grand Prix 2023: Verstappen wins in Monaco**

Max Verstappen led a soggy and slippery Monaco Grand Prix from start to finish to stretch his Formula One lead to 39 points and earn Red Bull a sixth win in as many races this season.

### **Kerley wins Diamond League 100m in Rabat**

Reigning world champion Fred Kerley has won the 100 metres at the Diamond League meeting in Rabat in 9.94.

### **Chennai Super Kings win IPL 2023**

Chennai Super Kings won its 5th IPL title by defeating defending champions Gujarat Titans by 5 wickets in the rain-interrupted match. Chasing a revised victory target of 171 runs in 15 overs against defending champions Gujarat Titans, Chennai Super Kings reached the target in the last ball of the final over with the loss of 5 wickets.

### **Manchester City striker Erling Haaland wins "Player of the Season" award**

The Norwegian, Erling Haaland was named Premier League Player of the Season. Haaland was named Premier League Player of the Season after an incredible debut season in which he scored 36 goals in 35 games.

### **Uttar Pradesh Hockey wins 13th Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship 2023**

Uttar Pradesh Hockey won the 13th Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship 2023 after defeating the Hockey Association of Odisha in the Final at the iconic Birsamunda Hockey Stadium, Odisha.

### **Finale Bahnen-Tournee 2023 cycling: India's Esow Alben wins bronze medal in keirin**

Indian cyclist Esow Alben has won the bronze medal in the elite men's keirin event at a UCI Class 1 Event-Finale Bahnen-Tournee 2023 cycling competition in Dudenhofen, Germany.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **India slips in World Press Freedom Index, ranks 161 out of 180 countries**

India's ranking in the 2023 World Press Freedom Index has slipped to 161 out of 180 countries, according to Reporters Without Borders (RSF). Norway, Ireland and Denmark occupied the top three positions in press freedom, while Vietnam, China and North Korea constituted the bottom three.

### **Over 50% Indians are active internet users now; base to reach 900 million by 2025: report**

For the first time more than half of Indians, 759 million citizens, are active internet users and access the internet at least once a month, a joint report by industry body IAMAI and market data analytics firm Kantar said. According to the report, the active internet base in India is expected to grow to 900 million by 2025.

### **UAE Unveils Ambitious Space Mission to Explore Main Asteroid Belt**

The UAE has revealed its plans to embark on a pioneering space mission to explore the main asteroid belt situated between Mars and Jupiter. The ambitious endeavor, named MBR Explorer, is expected to launch in March 2028.

### **China launches 3 astronauts to Tiangong space station**

In China, three astronauts, including a civilian, were launched to the Tiangong space station onboard Shenzhou-16.

### **Top AI CEOs, experts raise 'risk of extinction' from AI**

Top artificial intelligence (AI) executives including OpenAI CEO Sam Altman has joined experts and professors in raising the "risk of extinction from AI", which they urged policymakers to equate at par with risks posed by pandemics and nuclear war.

### **G20 countries including India are fueling modern slavery**

50 million people are living in conditions of modern slavery which is a 25% rise over the last five years, says a new report by the Rights group Walk Free Foundation's Global Slavery Index 2023. Among the G20 nations, India tops the list with 11 million people working as forced labourers, followed by China, Russia, Indonesia, Turkey and the U.S.

### **76th Cannes Film Festival kicked off in France**

The 76th Cannes Film Festival kicked off in France with the premiere of the period drama Jeanne Du Barry. Johnny Depp has played French King Louis XV.

### **MoS L. Murugan to lead Indian delegation to Cannes Film Festival**

Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Dr. L. Murugan has lead an Indian delegation to Cannes International Film Festival from 16<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> May. He was accompanied by filmmaker Guneet Monga of The Elephant Whisperers fame, Indian actresses Manushi Chillar, Esha Gupta and acclaimed Manipuri actor Kangabam Tomba.

### **Scientists identify mutations in DNA for early diagnosis of drug resistant bacteria for TB**

A group of scientists led by CSIR-Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB) director has, in a new study, established that mutations in DNA repair genes could be used for the early diagnosis of MDR/XDR-TB.

### **Natural disasters caused 2.5 million internal displacements in India in 2022, report says**

According to a report by the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, natural disasters, especially heavy floods and cyclones, triggered around 2.5 million internal displacements in India in 2022. South Asia witnessed 12.5 million internal displacements due to disasters in 2022, with floods triggering 90% of the movements in the region.

### **India's AI Supercomputer 'Airawat' Ranked 75th In Global Supercomputing List**

India's AI supercomputer AIRAWAT has been ranked 75th in the Top 500 Global Supercomputing List. Installed at the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) in Pune, Maharashtra, the AIRAWAT supercomputer is India's largest and faster supercomputer with a speed of 13,170 teraflops (Rpeak).

### **MiG-29K fighter makes maiden night landing on INS Vikrant**

For the first time, the MiG-29K fighter aircraft undertook night landing on indigenously built aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, a feat described by the Indian Navy as a "historic milestone".

### **World Asthma Day 2023:2nd May**

World Asthma Day is a yearly event that takes place on the first Tuesday of May. Its aim is to increase awareness and encourage better management and care of asthma on a global scale. In 2023, World Asthma Day will be observed on May 2.

### **World Press Freedom Day 2023:3rd May**

Every year on May 3, we observe World Press Freedom Day to increase understanding about the significance of a press that is free and not influenced by external forces. This year's World Press Freedom Day focuses on the theme of "Shaping a Future of Rights: Freedom of Expression as a Driver for All Other Human Rights,".

### **World Athletics Day 2023 observed on May 7**

World Athletics Day 2023 was celebrated on 7th May. The theme for World Athletics Day 2023 is Athletics for All - A New Beginning.

### **World Red Cross Day 2023 observed on May 8**

World Red Cross Day is also known as Red Crescent Day is celebrated on May 8 every year to honor the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, who founded the Red Cross and was awarded the first Nobel Peace Prize.

### **National Technology Day: PM Modi dedicates high-end scientific projects to the nation**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the programme marking National Technology Day 2023 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi on May 11, 2023. The programme also marked the commencement of the celebration of the 25th year of National Technology Day being held from the 11th-14th May.

### **International Nurses Day being observed across the globe on May 12**

International Nurses Day is being observed across the globe on May 12 each year to honour the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. This year the theme for International Nurses Day is "Our Nurses. Our Future."

### **President, Vice President greet people of Sikkim on their Statehood day**

President Droupadi Murmu and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar have greeted the people of Sikkim on their Statehood day on May 16. Sikkim State Day is celebrated to commemorate the formation of Sikkim, as the 22nd state of India Union, in 1975.