

## Advanced Educational Activities Pvt. Ltd.

### CURRENT AFFAIRS CAPSULE (SEPTEMBER 2024)

#### INTERNATIONAL

##### **UAE launches two-month visa amnesty program for those residing in the country illegally**

The United Arab Emirates has launched a sweeping two-month visa amnesty program, offering a crucial opportunity for individuals residing illegally in the country to regularize their status or depart without penalties, the program will run until October 30, 2024.

##### **UN agencies in Gaza launch campaign to vaccinate 640,000 children against polio**

The UN agencies in the Gaza Strip have launched an ambitious campaign to vaccinate 640,000 children against polio. The WHO said at least 90% of children under 10 must be immunised in a short time frame.

##### **Chinese and African leaders hold a summit on deepening cooperation**

Chinese President Xi Jinping has hosted more than two dozen African leaders at a banquet in Beijing, kicking off the city's biggest summit in years with promises of cooperation in infrastructure, energy and education.

##### **South Korea & US held simulation drills for nuclear deterrence**

South Korea and the United States held simulation drills in Washington to enhance nuclear deterrence cooperation, amid up stepped-up security coordination by the allies to counter evolving North Korean threats.

##### **Super Typhoon Yagi Strikes Northern Vietnam**

Super Typhoon Yagi, this year's most powerful storm made a landfall in northern Vietnam after wreaking havoc in the Southern Chinese island province of Hainan. Yagi is the second-most powerful tropical cyclone of 2024 globally, following Hurricane Beryl.

##### **India sent humanitarian aid to Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi**

India has sent humanitarian aid to three African countries -Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi to help address the food security needs of people in drought-affected regions.

##### **To protect children, Australia to legislate minimum age for social media**

The Prime Minister of Australia, Anthony Albanese has stated that, Australia will legislate a minimum age for social media to keep children safe. For this a new legislation will be introduced to enforce a minimum age for social media and other digital platforms.

##### **Typhoon Yagi Hits Vietnam: 59 Dead, 247 Missing**

Typhoon Yagi and the consequent landslides and floods have left 59 people dead and 247 missing in Vietnam's northern region. Typhoon Yagi was the strongest storm to hit Vietnam's northern region in the past 30 years.

##### **Nepal, 101st Member of International Solar Alliance**

Nepal has become the 101st country to join the International Solar Alliance-ISA as a full member. The

Ministry of External Affairs said that Nepal handed over its Instrument of Ratification to the ISA in New Delhi.

##### **Russia launches largest naval drill "Ocean 2024" involving all 5 fleets**

Russia has launched its largest naval drill "Ocean 2024" in decades, involving all 5 fleets. The drill was held simultaneously in the Pacific and Arctic Oceans, as well as the Mediterranean, Caspian, and Baltic Seas.

##### **Mexico to overhaul the country's judiciary**

Mexico's Senate voted to overhaul the country's judiciary, paving the way for constitutional revision that will make all judges stand for election, a change that critics fear will politicize the judiciary and harm Mexico's democracy.

##### **BRICS National Security Advisers' meeting**

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval met with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the BRICS National Security Advisers' meeting in St Petersburg, Russia.

##### **International Conference on Green Hydrogen**

India will be an exclusive partner with the European Hydrogen Week 2024 an event scheduled to be held in November this year. India will be addressing EU green regulations to boost exports.

##### **Jailbreak attempt in DRC : 129 prisoners killed**

At least 129 prisoners were killed and 59 others injured in an escape attempt at the Makala Central Prison in the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

##### **Senegal President Dissolves Parliament**

Senegalese President Bassirou Diomaye Faye has dissolved Parliament. According to the country's constitution, the new election needs to take place within the next 90 days.

##### **Typhoon Yagi wrecks Myanmar**

The number of people in Myanmar who have died in the wake of Typhoon Yagi rose to more than 220, with nearly 80 others still missing.

##### **DRC will launch its first phase of Mpox vaccination campaign**

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) will launch its first phase of the Mpox vaccination campaign on October 2. The vaccination effort runs until October 11, following the receipt of over 2.65 lakh doses from international partners.

##### **India to Host COP9 Bureau & Fund Approval Committee Meetings**

India will host the 2nd Formal Meeting of the COP9 Bureau and the 3rd Formal Meeting of the Fund Approval Committee under the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport in New Delhi.

##### **Georgia approves law curbing LGBT rights**

Georgian lawmakers have approved the third and final reading of a law on "family values and the protection of minors" that would impose sweeping curbs on LGBT rights.

**Lebanon pagers explosion: 9 killed, 2,750 injured**

At least nine people were killed and almost 2,750 people, including Iran's ambassador, were injured in Beirut's suburbs and other parts of Lebanon, and in some parts of Syria, after their handheld pagers exploded.

**EU President Ursula Announces 10 billion euro fund for flood-hit countries**

The European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has announced a 10-billion-euro funding package from the European Union (EU) to support central European countries struggling with the worst flooding in decades.

**PM Modi in America for Quad summit**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi took part in the fourth Quad Leaders Summit in Wilmington, Delaware. The leaders at the Summit will review the progress achieved by the Quad over the last one year and set the agenda for the year ahead.

**India signed agreements on clean and fair economy under Indo-Pacific Economic Framework**

India has signed the first-of-its-kind agreements focused on a Clean Economy, Fair Economy, and the overarching Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) in Delaware, USA. These agreements were exchanged under the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF).

**Special Session of G7 Ministers Meeting on Culture held in Naples, Italy**

The Indian delegation led by Shri Arunish Chawla, Secretary Ministry of Culture, participated in the Special Session of G7 Ministers meeting on Culture, held on 21st September 2024 in Naples, Italy.

**Ukraine bans govt and military officials from using Telegram on state-issued devices**

Ukraine has banned government and military officials from using the Telegram messaging app on state-issued devices. This decision comes amid growing concerns about Russian surveillance.

**Israeli strikes kill almost 500 in Lebanon, injures 1000**

Israeli strikes on Lebanon has killed more than 490 people, including more than 90 women and children, Lebanese authorities said, in the deadliest barrage since the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war.

**Thailand king signs same-sex marriage bill into law**

Thailand's king Maha Vajiralongkorn has signed a marriage equality bill into law, making the country the first in Southeast Asia to recognise same-sex unions.

**Death toll in Israel's airstrikes on Lebanon rises to 558**

The death toll in Israel's strikes on strongholds of Hezbollah across Lebanon has risen to 558. According to the Lebanese Health Ministry, 1,835 people have been wounded in the strike.

**Sri Lanka to hold its Parliamentary Elections on November 14th this year**

Sri Lanka's new President Anura Kumara Dissanayake has dissolved parliament to clear the way for a snap general election. The parliamentary election will be held on November 14 & the next parliament would convene on Nov. 21.

**India Signs BBNJ Agreement to Protect Marine Biodiversity on High Seas**

India signed an international agreement to protect marine biodiversity on the high seas at the United Nations

General Assembly. The pact, formally known as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement.

**S. Jaishankar to address high-level session of 79th UNGA in New York**

India's External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar will address a high-level session of the 79th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York. The theme for the general debate is 'Leaving no one behind: acting together for the advancement of peace, sustainable development, and human dignity for present and future generations'.

**British PM backs India's bid for permanent seat in UN Security Council**

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer has joined the leaders of the United States and France in voicing support for India's bid for a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

**ICJ Hague Orders Israel to Ensure Immediate Food Supply to Gaza Amid Growing Famine Concerns**

In the Hague, the International Court of Justice has unanimously ordered Israel to take all the necessary and effective action to ensure basic food supplies arrive without delay to the Palestinian population in Gaza.

**Death toll in Nepal floods, landslides rises to 192**

In Nepal, 192 people have lost their lives and 30 others have gone missing in floods, landslides and inundation caused by incessant rains.

**Hurricane Helene: At least 105 people died**

In US, at least 105 people have died after Hurricane Helene tore across the state and caused catastrophic flooding.

**NATIONAL****Centre releases BioE3 Policy 2024**

Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh released the Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment (BioE3) Policy 2024 in New Delhi. This policy will foster high-performance bio-manufacturing in the country.

**Centre to establish foot-and-mouth disease-free zones in eight States**

The Union government has decided to establish foot-and-mouth disease-free zones in eight States Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Maharashtra, and Gujarat in a bid to expand export opportunities for Indian animal products, and enhance the country's global market presence.

**PM Narendra Modi releases commemorative postage stamp on 75 Years of SC**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has released a commemorative postage stamp celebrating 75 years of the Supreme Court of India. The Supreme Court, established on January 28, 1950.

**Centre to launch new scheme to help set up sustainable electronics component ecosystem**

Electronic and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has said that the Central government will launch a new scheme to help set up a sustainable electronics component ecosystem in the country.

### **Union Minister Annapurna Devi launches the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of “Rashtriya Poshan Mah”**

Union Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi has launched the seventh edition of nationwide “Rashtriya Poshan Mah” at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar. This edition will focus on anaemia awareness, poshan bhi padhaai bhi, technology-based initiatives, and an additional diet to eradicate malnutrition from the country.

### **Procurement of 240 aero-engines for the Su-30 MKI aircraft of the Indian Air Force.**

The Cabinet Committee on Security has agreed for the procurement of 240 aero-engines for the Su-30 MKI aircraft of the Indian Air Force. The approval was granted under the Buy (Indian) category from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) at a cost of over 26,000 crore rupees, inclusive of all taxes and duties.

### **The Constitution of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Law Commission notified.**

The Centre has notified the constitution of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Law Commission. The term of the Commission will be for period of three years till 31<sup>st</sup> August 2027. The Commission will have a full-time chairperson and four full-time members including a member-secretary.

### **Cabinet approves seven farmer welfare schemes**

Cabinet approved seven schemes to improve farmers' lives and increase their incomes at a total outlay of over 14,235 crore rupees. The Union Cabinet has approved the Digital Agriculture Mission with total cost of 2817 crore rupees and Crop Science for Food and Nutritional Security with a total outlay of 3979 crore rupees.

### **Centre approves proposals worth ₹1,45,000 crore to enhance country's defence preparedness**

The Centre has given approval to proposals worth 1,45,000 crore rupees to enhance the country's defence preparedness. The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) under the chairmanship of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved 10 capital acquisition proposals.

### **Centre expands PMAY benefits to marginalised workers**

The Labour and Employment Ministry has initiated a move to extend the benefits of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) to disadvantaged workers such as migrant workers, building workers, beedi workers, cine workers, non-coal mine workers, contract labourers, and other unorganised workers.

### **Digital Bharat Nidhi to fund provisioning of telecom services in urban areas now**

The ₹80,000 crore Digital Bharat Nidhi will now support provisioning of telecommunication services in urban areas with additional benchmarks, such as making such services affordable and enhancing their security.

### **India, South Africa ink pact on submarine rescue operations**

The navies of India and South Africa has signed an implementation agreement to enhance submarine rescue support cooperation that ensures the safety of the South African Navy's submarine crew in times of distress or accident.

### **CAG of India signs MoU with U.A.E. Accountability Authority**

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has signed a MoU with the Accountability Authority of the

United Arab Emirates (UAE) during a bilateral meeting with its President in Abu Dhabi.

### **Urban Affairs Ministry says 90% of projects under Smart Cities Mission completed**

The Urban Affairs Ministry has stated that the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), which was launched to enhance the quality of life in urban spaces, completed more than 90% of the total projects.

### **India Singapore sign 4 MoUs to deepen economic ties**

India and Singapore have exchanged four MoUs for cooperation in the fields of health and medicine, education and skill development, digital technologies, and the India-Singapore Semiconductor Ecosystem Partnership.

### **Swachh Bharat Mission averted 60 to 70 thousand infant deaths annually between 2011 and 2020**

A study published in the prestigious international science journal 'Nature' says 'Swachh Bharat Mission' project has helped avert around 60 thousand to 70 thousand infant deaths annually between 2011 and 2020 in India.

### **PM Narendra Modi virtually addresses first International Solar Festival being held in Delhi**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually addressed the first International Solar Festival 2024, organized by the International Solar Alliance was held in Delhi.

### **Successful launch of Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile, Agni-4 conducted in Odisha**

A successful launch of an Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile, Agni-4 was carried out from Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha.

The launch successfully validated all operational and technical parameters.

### **INS Tabar participates in 22<sup>nd</sup> Indo French VARUNA naval exercise in Mediterranean**

The Indian Navy's frontline warship INS Tabar participated in the 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of India-France Bilateral Exercise VARUNA in the Mediterranean Sea.

### **Uttar Pradesh hosts Semicon India 2024**

The Uttar Pradesh government hosted Semicon India 2024 at the India Expo Mart in Greater Noida from September 11 to 13. The three-day conference showcased India's semiconductor strategy and policy.

### **India & UAE sign five agreements for cooperation in various fields**

India and the UAE signed five agreements in various areas, including nuclear energy and petroleum. These include an MoU on the Barakah Nuclear Power Plant Operations and Maintenance between Emirates Nuclear Energy Company and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited.

### **India to Organize First Global Cooperative Conference**

India will organize the first Global Cooperative Conference from 25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> November in New Delhi. This will be the first time in the 130-year history of the International Cooperative Alliance that the conference will be held in India.

### **Indian Army and Indian Air Force signs MoU with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya**

The Indian Army and Indian Air Force signed a MoU with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya to enhance the skills and capability building of personnel in logistics operations.

### **India Hosts 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation**

India hosted the 2nd Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation from September 11 to 12 in New Delhi. The conference saw the participation of around 250 representatives from 41 countries.

### **US to partner with India's Semiconductor Mission for sustainable global value chain**

USA will partner with India's Semiconductor Mission to explore opportunities to grow and diversify the global semiconductor ecosystem under International Technology Security and Innovation (ITSI) Fund, created by the CHIPS Act of 2022.

### **Defence Ministry Signs ₹26,000 Crore Contract with HAL for 240 AL-31FP Aero Engines**

The Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for 240 AL-31FP aero engines for Sukhoi-30MKI aircraft at a cost of over 26 thousand crore rupees.

### **Centre to launch rankings for working women's hostels**

The Central government is planning to launch a ranking system for working women's hostels across the country based on certain parameters, mostly relating to their security. The rankings, to be made available on a website, would be a one-stop portal of all working women hostels in the country.

### **Five thousand trained cyber commandos to deal with cybercrime**

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has described cybersecurity as an integral part of national security saying that the Centre has planned to train five thousand cyber commandos in the next five years to deal with the cybercrime.

### **Indian Navy launches Anti-Submarine Warfare vessels Malpe and Mulki**

The Indian Navy has launched two anti-submarine warfare (ASW) shallow water crafts, named Malpe and Mulki, at Cochin Shipyard Ltd. (CSL) in Kochi.

### **PMGSY-IV receives the Union Cabinet approval**

The proposal of the Department of Rural Development for the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana -IV (PMGSY-IV) during the Financial Year 2024-25 to 2028-29, received the approval of the Union Cabinet. The total outlay of the scheme will be 70 thousand 125 crore rupees.

### **Health Coverage to all senior citizens above 70 years receives a cabinet nod**

The Cabinet has given its approval to giving health coverage to all senior citizens who are above 70 years irrespective of income under Ayushman Bharat PM Jan Arogya Yojana. Senior citizens will get the facility of free treatment up to 5 lakh rupees.

### **Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Surface Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) test-fired**

India successfully test-fired the indigenously built, Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Surface Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) from the test facility off the Odisha coast. The short-range surface-to-air missile was test-fired from the launchpad of the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Balasore district off the coast of Odisha.

### **India to buy High Altitude Anti-Submarine Warfare (HAASW) from US.**

The US has decided to sell High Altitude Anti-Submarine Warfare (HAASW) sonobuoys worth USD 52.8 million to India which will improve India's capacity to conduct anti-submarine warfare operations from its MH-60R helicopters.

### **DRDO conducts successful field trials of Indian Light Tank 'Zorawar'**

The DRDO has successfully conducted the preliminary automotive trials of the Indian Light Tank, Zorawar. It is a highly versatile platform capable of deployment in high-altitude areas.

### **Port Blair to be renamed as 'Sri Vijaya Puram'**

The Central government has decided to rename Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Islands as Sri Vijaya Puram. Sri Vijaya Puram symbolises the victory achieved in the country's freedom struggle.

### **The Department of Food and Public Distribution and the FCI have signed a MoU**

The Department of Food and Public Distribution and the Food Corporation of India (FCI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance the efficiency and accountability of food grain procurement and distribution.

### **IB Ministry institutes new section for young filmmakers in IFFI 2024**

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has instituted a new section as part of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2024 for young filmmakers called the "Best Debut Indian Film Section 2024". The 55th IFFI is slated to be held in Goa from November 20th to 28th.

### **ICMR signed MoA with Industry and Academic Partners**

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has signed Memorandum of Agreements with Industry and Academic Partners to Advance First-in-Human Phase-one Clinical Trials. The agreement marks a pivotal step towards establishing India's self-sufficiency in clinical development and advancing indigenous pharmaceutical agents.

### **Fourth edition of Global Bio-India 2024 concluded in New Delhi**

The fourth edition of Global Bio-India 2024 successfully concluded after showcasing India's biotech prowess. The three-day event was themed on the potential and opportunities in 'Biotech Innovation' and 'Bio-manufacturing' and their impact on the bio economy.

### **India launches Operation Sadbhav to provide humanitarian assistance**

India has launched Operation Sadbhav to provide humanitarian assistance to typhoon Yagi-affected countries – Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam. India sent urgent relief materials to Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam to assist them in dealing with the impact of the major typhoon.

### **Under Operation CHAKRA III: CBI dismantles virtual asset and bullion supported cybercrime network**

CBI in coordination with the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), busted a virtual assets and bullion supported transnational cybercrime network that targeted foreign victims, after simultaneous raids at seven locations in Mumbai and Kolkata.

**Doordarshan completes 65 glorious years on Sept 15**  
Doordarshan completed 65 glorious years. Established on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1959, Doordarshan marked the beginning of India's broadcasting era.

**PM Narendra Modi flags off India's first Namu Bharat Rapid Rail**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated India's first Vande Metro, now known as the Namu Bharat Rapid Rail service, which connects Bhuj and Ahmedabad. The train covers 360 kilometres in 5 hours and 45 minutes and has a top speed of 110 km/h.

**Two Indian Navy women officers to go on gruelling blue-water global voyage**

Two Indian Navy women officers -- Lt Commander Roopa A and Lt Commander Diina K -- would be embarking on an arduous blue-water voyage around the world soon after three years of preparations. The two women officers have been preparing for the 'Sagar Parikrama' expedition for the last three years.

**Swacchata Hi Sewa Abhiyan 2024 begins from Sept 17**

Swacchata Hi Sewa Abhiyan 2024 was celebrated from 17<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October across the country. The theme for this year is Swabhav Swachhata-Sanskaar Swacchata.

**FM Nirmala Sitharaman to Launch NPS-Vatsalya Scheme**

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched the NPS-Vatsalya scheme in New Delhi. She also launched an online platform for subscribing to NPS Vatsalya, release of scheme brochure, and distribute Permanent Retirement Account Number (PRAN) cards to new minor subscribers.

**Indian Navy commissions Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility Vinetra in Visakhapatnam**

The Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility (Vinetra) was commissioned by Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar, the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, at INS Satavahana, Visakhapatnam.

**Union Cabinet approves 'one nation, one election' proposal**

The union government has accepted the recommendations of the High Level Committee constituted for exploring the idea of One Nation, One Election, paving the way for simultaneous elections across the country. It will be implemented in two phases.

**Centre sanctions ₹31,000 crore to fence Myanmar border**

The Union government has approved ₹31,000 crore to fence the Myanmar border.

The 1,643-km Myanmar border runs along the States of Arunachal Pradesh (520 km), Nagaland (215 km), Manipur (398 km) and Mizoram (510 km).

**Govt approves setting up of National Centre of Excellence for Animation**

The Union Cabinet has approved a proposal to set up the National Centre of Excellence (NCoE) for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics and Extended Reality (AVGC-XR). The centre will be set up in Mumbai

**Cabinet approves Venus's mission, Indian space station among 4 key ISRO projects**

The Union Cabinet has approved four space projects, including the next mission to the moon, a mission to the

planet Venus, follow-ups to the ongoing Ganganyaan mission and the setting up of an Indian Space Station. ISRO will aim for a March 2028 launch for the Venus mission, when Earth and Venus are at their closest.

**World Food India 2024 Commences at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi**

'World Food India 2024', a four-day mega event has begun in New Delhi. Over 90 countries, 26 States and Union Territories, and 18 Central Ministries participated in the event. Japan was a partner country, and Vietnam and Iran participated as focus countries.

**India to have 56 new Doppler weather radars soon, says Ministry of Earth Sciences**

Union Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) Secretary M. Ravichandran revealed that the country is expected to have 56 additional Doppler weather radars in the next few years.

**Bio-RIDE scheme gets cabinet nod**

The Union Cabinet approved the Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (Bio-RIDE) scheme to support cutting-edge research and development in biotechnology.

**Cabinet adds schemes to PM-AASHA, ₹24,475 crore towards fertiliser subsidy for rabi**

The Union Cabinet had approved the continuation of schemes of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan [PM-AASHA]. The Centre said the schemes under PM-AASHA will ensure remunerative prices to farmers and control price volatility of essential commodities to benefit consumers.

**JP Nadda inaugurates inaugural session of FSSAI Global Food Regulators Summit 2024**

Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda has inaugurated the Global Food Regulators Summit in New Delhi. FSSAI under the aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is organizing the 2nd Global Food Regulators Summit as part of World Food India from 19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> September 2024 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

**Indian Coast Guard inks MoU for marine conservation**

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The Habitats Trust and HCL Foundation for marine conservation in New Delhi.

**Bombay HC strikes down Centre's amended IT rules**

The Bombay High Court struck down the amended Information Technology Rules, 2023, which empowered the Centre to set up a fact check unit (FCU) to identify fake, false and misleading information about the government and its establishments on social media.

**India's area under sustainable farming is about 3.6 mn hectares: Giriraj Singh**

With the world moving towards sustainable farming with about 110 million hectares under natural farming, in India the area under sustainable farming is about 3.6 million hectares, said Giriraj Singh, Union Minister for Textiles.

**Prime Minister Narendra Modi attends Quad Leaders Summit in Delaware, US**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the sixth Quad Leaders' Summit in Wilmington, Delaware hosted by the President of the United States of America, Joseph R. Biden, Jr. Prime Minister of Australia, Anthony Albanese and Prime Minister of Japan, Fumio Kishida also participated.

**India pledges 40 million doses of cancer vaccine for Indo-Pacific nations under GAVI and QUAD initiatives**  
Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that India will contribute 40 million vaccine doses for Indo-Pacific countries under GAVI—the Vaccine Alliance—and QUAD initiatives. The initiative aims at the implementation of innovative strategies to prevent, detect, and treat cancer.

**India's first comprehensive cancer genomics repository launched**

The Indian Cancer Genome Atlas (ICGA) has launched India's first comprehensive cancer multi-omics data portal. This platform provides open access to clinically correlated data from Indian cancer patients, aimed at transforming cancer research and treatment for Indian populations.

**Exercise Eastern Bridge-7 concludes**

Exercise Eastern Bridge-7 of the Indian Air Force with the Royal Air Force of Oman concluded successfully in Masirah, Oman. The exercise included a comprehensive series of training missions, which featured the participation of MiG-29 and Jaguar aircraft from the Indian Air Force and F-16 and Hawk from the Royal Air Force of Oman.

**Two new Indian consulates in the US**

Prime Minister Modi has announced that two new Indian consulates will be opened in the US in Boston and Los Angeles. This is in addition to six consulates in New York, Atlanta, Chicago, Houston, San Francisco, and Seattle.

**Laapataa Ladies is India's official entry for Oscars 2025**

Director Kiran Rao's comedy-drama "Laapataa Ladies" has been chosen and submitted as India's official entry for the Oscars 2025 in the Best Foreign Film Category. The film is produced by Aamir Khan and Kiran Rao.

**Centre to Install 1 Lakh EV Charging Stations Nationwide by 2030**

Union Power Minister Manohar Lal has said that one lakh charging stations for electric vehicles will be installed across the country by 2030. Currently, a total of 34 thousand charging stations are operational in the country.

**Centre to Install 1 Lakh 4G Mobile Towers by 2025**

Union Minister for Communications, Jyotiraditya Scindia has said that the central government has set a target of installing one lakh 4G mobile towers by mid-term of next year.

**India to get first national security semiconductor fabrication plant**

Under a transformative collaboration with the U.S., India will get its first-ever national security semiconductor fabrication plant that will produce chips for use in military hardware in both the countries as well as in critical telecommunication networks and electronics.

**AIIMS Delhi sign MoU with tech company to establish centre for robotic-assisted surgery**

All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, and a technology company, Intuitive, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish an innovative new training centre for robotic-assisted surgery.

**SC directs States, UTs to implement Centre's guidelines for child safety in schools**

The Supreme Court of India has directed states and union territories to implement the 'Centre's guidelines on safety

and security of children in schools'. The Apex Court also asked the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) to coordinate with states and union territories (UTs) and monitor the implementation of the guidelines.

**Kerala tops the FSSAI's State Food Safety Index 2024**

Kerala has once again emerged as a leader in the State Food Safety Index (SFSI) 2024 for the second consecutive year. While Kerala leads the pack, other states including Tamil Nadu, Jammu & Kashmir, Gujarat, and Nagaland have earned their places in the top five rankings.

**DRDO signs MoU with IIT Delhi to develop Light Weight Bullet Proof jackets**

DRDO has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Institute of Technology, IIT Delhi to develop Light Weight Bullet Proof Jackets named Advanced Ballistics for High Energy Defeat.

**India-Oman Joint Military Exercise Advances**

The India-Oman joint military exercise, AL-NAJAH 5 – 2024, currently underway at the Rabkoot Training Area in Oman, is in full swing. The exercise, which began on 13th September, continued till 26th September.

**PM Modi dedicates to the nation 3 PARAM Rudra Supercomputers**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has dedicated to the nation three PARAM Rudra Supercomputers in Pune. These supercomputers have been deployed in Pune, Delhi, and Kolkata to facilitate pioneering scientific research. He also inaugurated a High-Performance Computing (HPC) system tailored for weather and climate research. The new HPC systems are named 'Arka' and 'Arunika' at two key sites— (IITM) at Pune and the NCMRWF at Noida.

**Centre revises minimum wage rates based on skills and geographical areas**

The central government has announced an increase in minimum wage rates by revising the Variable Dearness Allowance. The new wage rates will take effect from the 1st of next month. The minimum wage rates are categorized based on skill levels—unskilled, semi-skilled, skilled, and highly skilled, as well as by geographical areas A, B, and C.

**India Committed to Achieving UN's 2030 Goal of Ending HIV/AIDS: MoS Anupriya Patel**

Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Anupriya Patel has said that India's commitment to achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal of ending HIV and AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

**7<sup>th</sup> Rashtriya Poshan Maah being observed across the country**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Rashtriya Poshan Maah has witnessed over nine crore sixty eight lakh events held nationwide so far. The annual nutrition and welfare campaign has registered nearly one crore eighty-eight lakh events under Anemia Prevention.

**Over 80 Crore Seedlings Planted Nationwide Under 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'**

More than 80 crore seedlings have been planted so far across the country under the mega plantation drive Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam. The Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign has achieved nationwide success in afforestation, with Uttar Pradesh leading the way by planting around 26 crore saplings.

### **Tourism Ministry Launches 'Paryatan Mitra' and 'Paryatan Didi' on World Tourism Day**

On the occasion of World Tourism Day September 27, the Ministry of Tourism has launched a national responsible tourism initiative titled 'Paryatan Mitra' and 'Paryatan Didi'.

## **BANKING & ECONOMY**

### **India has trade surplus with 151 nations**

According to GTRI report, India has recorded trade surplus with as many as 151 countries such as the U.S. and Netherlands, while the country has a trade deficit with 75 nations including China and Russia during the first half of this year.

### **NCLT approves merger of Viacom 18, Star India**

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has approved the scheme of merger of Reliance Industries-owned Viacom 18 Media, the holding company of the group's media and entertainment assets with Star India.

### **August GST collection reaches nearly ₹1.75 lakh crore**

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue in August reached nearly ₹1.75 lakh crore, the fifth highest monthly collection since the new indirect tax regime started in July 2017, showing 10% year-on-year growth.

### **India Ranks as Second-Largest Steel Producer**

Minister of State for Steel and Heavy Industries, Bhupathiraju Srinivasa, said that India is currently the second-largest producer of steel, with a production of 144 million metric tonnes.

### **India is now World's third largest Producer and Consumer of Ethanol**

Food and Public Distribution Minister Pralhad Joshi has said that India has become the World's third-largest Producer and Consumer of Ethanol.

### **Centre decides to reduce export duty on onions**

The Centre has decided to reduce the export duty on onions from 40 to 20. This will increase onion exports, resulting in a rise in income for onion-producing farmers.

### **The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority launches a new toll-free number.**

The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) has launched a new five-digit toll-free number, 1-4-4-5-3, as part of its ongoing efforts to improve claimant support services.

### **WB hikes India's economic growth projection to 7% for FY 2024-25**

The World Bank in its report, "India Development Update: India's Trade Opportunities in a Changing Global Context", has forecast a growth of 7% for the Indian economy for the current fiscal year, increasing its earlier estimate of 6.6%.

### **TotalEnergies forms JV with India's Adani Green with \$444 mln investment**

French based oil company TotalEnergies will form a joint venture (JV) with India's Adani Green Energy Ltd. in a deal in which the oil giant will contribute an equity investment of \$444 million.

### **Cabinet approves ₹3,300 crore for Kaynes Semicon plant in Gujarat**

The Union Cabinet has approved a semiconductor unit in Sanand, Gujarat to be set up by Kaynes Semicon Pvt Ltd.

The approval flows from the India Semiconductor Mission's modified scheme for setting up semiconductor fabs, which provides for 50% capital investment fiscal support.

### **Centre selects RIL as successful bidder for ACC battery storage**

The Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) has selected Reliance Industries Ltd. as the successful bidder under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage.

### **Interest equalisation scheme for exporters extended till September 30**

The union government has extended the interest equalization scheme on pre- and post-shipment rupee export credit for one more month till September 30 to promote the country's outbound shipments.

### **Star Health launches India's first health insurance policy in Braille for visually impaired**

Star Health and Allied Insurance has introduced India's first health insurance policy "Special Care Gold" in Braille. This initiative aims to empower visually impaired individuals in India, enabling them to access health insurance information independently.

### **Axis Bank Introduces Cardless Cash Withdrawal via UPI-ATM**

Private sector bank Axis Bank has introduced two innovative, industry-first digital solutions. It launched 'UPI-ATM', an integrated Android Cash Recycler with Unified Payments Interface (UPI) technology for cardless cash withdrawal and deposits. It also launched 'Bharat Connect (erstwhile BBPS) for Business', in partnership with NPCI's Bharat BillPay Limited (NBBL).

### **IIM-K, RBIH sign pact to foster innovation, research in FinTech**

The Laboratory for Innovation Venturing and Entrepreneurship (IIMK LIVE) of the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K) and the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) have joined forces to revolutionise the FinTech sector in India.

### **India overtakes China in MSCI**

India has overtaken China in terms of its weightage in the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) Emerging Markets Investable Market Index.

### **Shah Rukh Khan is now the highest tax-paying celebrity in India**

According to a Fortune India report, Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan has emerged as the highest tax-paying celebrity with ₹92 crore in India in the financial year 2023-2024.

### **WABAG won \$317 million desalination plant contract in Saudi Arabia**

VA TECH WABAG Limited, an Indian multinational water technology company, has won a \$317 million (approximately ₹2,700 crores) contract from the Saudi Water Authority.

### **IEPFA Celebrates 8th Foundation Day, Emphasizing Investor Education and Protection**

The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) celebrated its 8th Foundation Day on September 7 in collaboration with the National Council of Applied Economic Research.

### **Veritas Finance enters into Unicorn league with ₹240 cr capital boost**

Veritas Finance Pvt Ltd, a Chennai-based financial services firm focused on lending to micro and small enterprises, has achieved unicorn status following an internal funding round of ₹240 crore. Veritas' valuation has risen to about ₹8,500 crore, marking it as one of the latest startups to enter the unicorn club.

### **Suzlon bags country's biggest order for wind turbines from NTPC**

Suzlon Energy has bagged an order for wind turbines worth 1,166 MW – the country's biggest – from NTPC Green Energy Ltd (NGEL), a subsidiary of the public sector energy behemoth, NTPC.

### **India Remains Top Source Market for Sri Lanka Tourism in 2024**

India maintained the top spot as the leading source market for Sri Lanka tourism in the first 8 months of 2024. Almost 2.6 lacs Indians travelled to the island nation while 1.36 million tourists in all arrived in the first eight months of the year.

### **GST reduced from 12% to 5% on cancer drugs**

The GST council has decided to slash Goods and Service Tax (GST) on cancer drugs by reducing the rate from 12% to 5%. She said, the GST on selected snacks has also been reduced from 18% to 12%.

### **Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan registers highest GSDP Growth in FY 24**

According to recent data from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan have recorded the highest growth in real gross state domestic product (GSDP) in FY24 among the 10 largest States ranked according to their GSDP. Telangana, ranked ninth by GSDP size, led the pack with a 9.2 per cent growth, pushing its real GSDP to ₹7.9 lakh crore.

### **DICGC introduces Daava Soochak for depositors to track claim status**

The Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) has launched an online tool "Daava Soochak" for depositors to track their claim status. Daava Soochak, a user-friendly online tool, is part of DICGC's ongoing commitment to improving the services provided for depositors.

### **Secretary, MeitY launches 2nd Cohort of (SAMRIDH) launched**

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has launched 2nd Cohort of Startup Accelerators of MeitY for Product Innovation, Development and Growth (SAMRIDH). It is a part of the 100-day agenda of the Government of India to select and support 125 startups through potential accelerators so as to achieve the target of nurturing 300 startups.

### **Auto industry crosses ₹20 lakh crore mark in FY-24**

The Indian automotive industry has crossed ₹20 lakh crore mark in FY24 and now contributes 14-15% of the total GST collected in the country, SIAM President Vinod Aggarwal said.

### **Union Bank of India becomes first major Indian Bank to sign PCAF**

Union Bank of India has become the first major Indian bank in India to become a signatory to the Partnership for

Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF). PCAF's aim is to encourage financial institutions globally to measure and report greenhouse gas emissions from their business operations like investments and loans.

### **International crude oil prices crash to near three-year low**

International crude oil prices have crashed to a near three-year low, with the benchmark Brent crude futures sinking below 70 dollars a barrel for the first time since December 2021.

### **SMFG India Credit opens 1000th branch, aims ₹600 bn in AUM by FY25**

SMFG India Credit (Formerly Fullerton India Home Finance Co. Ltd.), a non-banking financial company (NBFC), has announced the opening of its 1000th branch in Vashi, Navi Mumbai, thus achieving a significant milestone.

### **IIP grows at 4.8 percent in July.**

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew at 4.8 percent in July on an annual basis, compared to 4.7 percent in June.

### **India's retail inflation at 3.65 percent in August**

India's retail inflation rose to 3.65 percent in August - slightly higher than the 3.6 percent reported in July this year.

### **Union Minister Piyush Goyal unveils Jan Sunwai portal in Mumbai**

Union Minister Piyush Goyal unveiled the Jan Sunwai portal of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Mumbai. The portal is designed to facilitate direct and transparent interactions between traders and help exporters resolve their issues online.

### **India's forex reserves hit record high of USD 689.24 Bn**

India's foreign exchange reserves rose by 5.2 billion dollars to a record high of 689.24 billion dollars for the week ending August 30.

### **HDFC Bank aims to boost income of 5 lakh marginal farmers by 2025 under 'Parivartan'**

As part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative, Parivartan, private sector lender HDFC Bank looks to increase the income of 5 lakh marginal farmers earning less than ₹60,000 annually by 2025.

### **GST evasion worth ₹2.02 lakh crore detected in 2023-24**

As per data from the Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI), the online gaming industry is reckoned to have evaded the highest GST levies last year, even as overall detection of indirect tax evasion surged to almost ₹2.02 lakh crore, double the evasion tracked in FY23.

### **Indian Bank raises ₹5,000 cr.**

Indian Bank has raised ₹5,000 crore through the issuance of Long-Term Infrastructure Bonds on a private placement basis to meet its credit growth target and for refinancing of infrastructure projects.

### **Bank of Baroda unveils 'Phygital' branch**

Bank of Baroda has announced the inauguration of a 'Phygital' branch at Vile Parle, Mumbai, which will seamlessly integrate self-service and assisted service models to meet the diverse requirements of customers. This is the bank's third Phygital branch in India.



### **Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal Launches BHASKAR**

The Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has launched the Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry-BHASKAR in New Delhi. BHASKAR is an interactive online platform that will centralise, streamline, and enhance collaboration among key stakeholders within the entrepreneurial ecosystem, including startups, investors, mentors, service providers, and regulatory bodies.

### **Torrent Power to invest ₹64000 crore in green projects**

Torrent Power Limited, the integrated power utility of diversified Torrent Group, has announced that it will invest ₹64,000 crore in green energy projects and generate 26,000 new jobs.

### **Bank of Baroda unveils Gen AI-powered solutions**

Bank of Baroda has announced the introduction of three different generative AI-powered solutions for its customers and employees. These include 'Aditi', a GenAI powered Virtual Relationship Manager aims to enhance the digital customer service experience, a GenAI-enabled knowledge management platform.

### **Adani Group to invest over \$48 billion in green energy push**

The Adani Group has pledged to invest more than \$48 billion, or around ₹4.05 lakh crore, by 2030 to expand its green energy business spread across renewable energy generation.

### **Wholesale price rise at 4-month low of 1.3% in August**

Inflation in India's wholesale prices slid to a four-month low of 1.31% in August from 2.04% in July, aided by a slight moderation in the pace of price rise in food items and manufactured goods.

### **Windfall tax on crude petroleum slashed to zero**

The Central government has slashed windfall tax on domestically produced crude oil to 'nil' per tonne with effect from September 18. The tax is levied in the form of special additional excise duty (SAED) and is notified fortnightly based on average oil prices in two weeks.

### **Govt notifies NaBFID as a public financial institution under Companies Act**

The Central government has notified the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) as a public financial institution under the Companies Act. This will help the government fortify the nation's infrastructure finance structures.

### **U.S. Fed cuts lending rate by 50 bps in first cut since 2020**

The US Federal Reserve cut its key lending rate by half a percentage-point in its first reduction since the pandemic. The US central bank's benchmark lending rate is now between 4.75 percent and 5.00 percent.

### **Tata, ADI join forces to boost semiconductor ecosystem in India**

Tata Group and Analog Devices, Inc. (ADI), a global semiconductor leader announced a strategic alliance to explore potential cooperative manufacturing opportunities.

### **Yes Bank, Paisabazaar unveil co-branded credit card**

Paisabazaar, an online marketplace for consumer credit and free credit score platform, in a tie up with Yes Bank, has introduced a co-branded credit card called 'Yes Bank Paisabazaar PaisaSave Credit Card.'

### **IREDA gets govt. nod to raise ₹4,500 crore through fresh equity issue**

The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) had received approval from the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) to raise approximately ₹4,500 crore through fresh equity issue.

### **SBI raises ₹7,500 crore at coupon rate of 7.33%**

State Bank of India (SBI) raised ₹7,500 crore at a coupon rate of 7.33% through its second Basel III compliant Tier 2 bond issuance for the current financial year.

### **Moneyview Becomes Sixth Unicorn in 2024**

Bengaluru based fintech start-up Moneyview has become the sixth unicorn in the country after its latest funding round. The start-up raised \$4.6mn from Accel India and Nexus Ventures. The valuation of the start-up when the fund was being raised was reportedly \$1.2bn.

### **HCL tops TIME's World's Best Companies 2024 list for Indian firms**

Several Indian companies have been featured on TIME's World's Best Companies of 2024 list. Notable names include HCLTech, Infosys, Wipro, Adani Group, and Reliance Industries. HCLTech ranked highest among Indian firms at 112. US-based tech giant Apple has topped the list globally, followed by Ireland-based tech major Accenture.

### **India achieves high level of technical compliance across all recommendations: FATF**

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF), following the release of its mutual evaluation report of India said the country had achieved a high level of technical compliance across the FATF recommendations and had taken significant steps to implement measures to tackle illicit finance.

### **Manu Bhaker appointed brand ambassador for MoPSW**

India's Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) has appointed Manu Bhaker, the double Olympic medal winner, as a brand ambassador.

### **Post-1991, southern States emerged as leaders: EAC-PM**

A report by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister highlights that Southern states have significantly outpaced others in terms of GDP and per capita income since economic liberalisation in 1991. In 2023-24, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu together accounted for approximately 30 per cent of India's GDP.

### **U.K. debt hits 100% of GDP**

British government debt hit 100% of economic output for the first time in recent history. Public sector net debt, excluding public sector-owned banks, rose to 100% of GDP for the first time since monthly records began in 1993, up from 99.3% in July.

### **Tata Steel commissions 'India's largest blast furnace' at Kalinganagar**

Tata Steel had commissioned 'India's largest blast furnace' at Kalinganagar, Odisha as part of the Phase II expansion its plant. The company has made a total investment of ₹27,000 crore for the Phase II expansion at Kalinganagar.

**MoU with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAPA) of Brazil in the area of food safety.**

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAPA) of Brazil in the area of food safety. The MoU aimed at improving food safety through joint projects and technical collaboration.

**Insurance cover for MSME exporters enhanced.**

The Central government introduced enhanced insurance cover for MSME exporters, expected to provide credit worth 20 thousand crore rupees at lower costs.

**NBFC sector remains resilient under scale-based regulations framework: RBI**

According to the September 2024 edition of the RBI Bulletin, the non-banking financial companies (NBFC) sector in India continues to demonstrate resilience within the scale-based regulations (SBR) framework, improving in asset quality and diversifying its funding base.

**KVS Manian takes charge as MD & CEO, Federal Bank**  
KVS Manian has taken over as the new Managing Director & CEO of Federal bank effective September 23, 2024. He joins Federal Bank after working for over two-and-a-half decades at Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.

**OYO to acquire iconic Motel 6 brand in \$525 million all-cash deal**

Travel tech platform OYO has agreed to acquire iconic American budget hotel chain Motel 6 and Studio 6 brands from Blackstone Real Estate for \$525 million in an all-cash transaction, as the Indian unicorn eyes expansion in the U.S.

**Vodafone Idea awards ₹30,000-cr contracts to Nokia, Ericsson, Samsung for 4G, 5G gear supply**

Debt-ridden Vodafone Idea has awarded contracts worth about ₹30,000 crore to Nokia, Ericsson and Samsung for supply of 4G and 5G network equipment for three years.

**S&P retains India FY25 GDP growth view at 6.8%**

The global credit ratings agency S&P Global Ratings has retained its economic growth projection for India at 6.8% for 2024-25 and 6.9% next year.

**India's unemployment rate stagnated at 3.2 % in July-June 2023-24: NSO**

According to the latest annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) report, released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), India's unemployment rate stagnated at 3.2 per cent in July-June 2023-24.

**Nirmala Sitharaman attends AIIB annual meet**

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman attended the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) held in Samarkand.

**Bank of Baroda, EaseMyTrip.com launch co-branded travel debit card**

Bank of Baroda, in collaboration with EaseMyTrip.com, has introduced a 'Bank of Baroda EaseMyTrip Co-branded Travel Debit Card', targeting frequent travellers. This is the first co-branded travel debit card to be launched by a public sector bank.

**City Union Bank launches eight payment products at Global Fintech Fest 2024**

City Union Bank (CUB) has unveiled a suite of new innovative payment products and solutions for MSMEs and retail customers, at the fifth edition of Global Fintech Fest (GFF) 2024 in Mumbai.

**India continues to be biggest trading partner of Nepal**

India continues to be the largest trading partner of Nepal. Nepal's trade deficit stood at NPR 237.45 billion till mid-September of fiscal year 2024-25. Nepal continues to have the highest trade deficit with its two neighbours India and China to the amount of 144.67 billion and 51.80 billion respectively.

**India exporting military hardware to over 90 countries**

India's defence production has clocked an all-time high of ₹1.27 lakh crore in terms of value in 2023-24 and it is now exporting weapons and military hardware to more than 90 friendly countries

**Hyundai Motor India IPO gets green signal from SEBI**

Hyundai Motor India has obtained approval for its initial public offering from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The South Korean automaker plans to raise \$3 billion at a roughly \$20 billion valuation.

**Gold loans set to reach ₹15 lakh cr. mark by March 2027**

The organised gold loan (GL) business of banks and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) is projected to exceed ₹10 lakh crore in the current financial year and ₹15 lakh crore by March 2027.

**SEBI launches outreach cell to help foreign investors**

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has launched a dedicated Foreign Portfolio Investor Outreach Cell as part of the Alternative Investment Fund and Foreign Portfolio Investors Department (AFD).

**ADB retains India's growth forecast at 7%**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has retained India's growth forecast for the current fiscal FY25 at 7% and said that the economy is expected to accelerate in the coming quarters on improved farm output, and higher Government spending.

**Karnataka launches 5,800-acre KWIN City**

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has launched Karnataka's ambitious 5,800-acre Knowledge, Wellbeing and Innovation City (KWIN) City in Bengaluru. Earlier called Knowledge, Health, Innovation, and Research (KHIR) City, it has now been renamed KWIN City.

**Bank of India raises ₹2,500 crore at 7.49%**

Bank of India has raised Basel III compliant Tier II bonds of ₹2,500 crore at 7.49% per annum through NSE Electronic Bidding Provider Platform. The Base Issue size was ₹1,000 crore with Green Shoe option of ₹1,500 crore.

**Indonesia, Malaysia renew local currency bilateral swap agreement**

The central banks of Indonesia and Malaysia have renewed their Local Currency Bilateral Swap Agreement (LCBSA) of up to 5.42 billion dollars. The agreement renewal is effective for five years. The banks' first agreement was signed in 2019 and was extended in 2022.

**Indian Bank board approves raising additional ₹5,000 cr. via bonds**

Government-owned Indian Bank board has approved raising of ₹5,000 crore through long-term infrastructure bonds to finance projects.

**India, Uzbekistan sign Bilateral Investment Treaty**

India and Uzbekistan have signed a Bilateral Investment Treaty, BIT in Tashkent. The BIT between India and Uzbekistan assures appropriate protection to Uzbekistan investors in India and Indian investors in Uzbekistan.

### **RBI organizes conference on Governance in Small Finance Banks in Bengaluru**

The Reserve Bank of India had organized a daylong conference for the Directors of Small Finance Banks, SFBs in Bengaluru. The theme of the conference was 'Governance in SFBs – Driving Sustainable Growth and Stability.

### **'Shankh Air', Uttar Pradesh's First Airline Set To Take Off**

India's aviation sector is preparing for the entry of a new player as Shankh Air, the first scheduled airline from Uttar Pradesh. It has received approval from the Civil Aviation Ministry. Shankh Air plans to operate interstate and intrastate routes.

### **IndusInd Bank reappoints Sumant Kathpalia as MD and CEO**

IndusInd Bank has reappointed Sumant Kathpalia as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) for another three-year term.

### **NPCI to help Trinidad and Tobago develop UPI-like payments system**

The overseas wing of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is set to build a digital payments system for Trinidad and Tobago, which will be modelled after United Payments Interface (UPI).

### **FPIs inflow hit 9-month high of ₹57,359 cr in equities in September**

Foreign investors have invested ₹57,359 crore into Indian equities in September, making it the highest inflow in nine months, mainly driven by a rate cut by the U.S. Federal Reserve.

### **GST Council sets up GoM on compensation cess**

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council has set up a 10-member GoM, chaired by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary, to decide on the taxation of luxury, sin and demerit goods once the compensation cess ends in March 2026.

## **AWARDS**

### **National Awards for e-Governance Scheme 2023-2024: Wokha SAATHI wins Gold Award**

The Wokha SAATHI (Smart AI-based Assistant for Timely Help & Interface) WhatsApp Chatbot, an innovative initiative of the Wokha District Administration of Nagaland has been awarded the prestigious Gold Award at National Awards for e-Governance Scheme 2023-2024.

### **2024 Ramon Magsaysay Awards**

Hayao Miyazaki, the co-founder of Studio Ghibli, has been honoured with this year's prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award, often referred to as Asia's Nobel Prize.

The 2024 recipients, including three more individuals and one group. Among them is a Vietnamese doctor, Dr Nguyen Thi Ngoc Phuong, Former Buddhist monk Karma Phuntsho, Indonesian Farwiza Farhan & the Rural Doctors' Movement of Thailand.

### **President Droupadi Murmu confers National Awards to 82 teachers on occasion of Teachers' Day**

President Droupadi Murmu has conferred the National Teachers Awards 2024 on occasion of Teachers' Day at

Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. She presented the National Teachers' Award 2024 to 82 educators. The National Teachers' Award recognizes teachers who have improved education quality and enriched students' lives.

### **Ayushmann Khuranna and Neeraj Chopra honoured with FICCI's 'Youth Icon Of The Year' award**

Bollywood star Ayushmann Khuranna has received the 'Youth Icon Award 2024 (Entertainment)', while Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra was honoured with the 'Youth Icon Award 2024 (Sports)'. Roshni Nadar, CEO of HCL Corporation, was named the 'Most Promising Next-gen Leader', and Ghazal Alagh, Co-founder of Mamaearth, took home the 'Inspiring Woman Leader Award 2024'.

### **National Florence Nightingale Awards 2024.**

President Droupadi Murmu conferred the National Florence Nightingale Awards 2024 to nurses at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. A total of 15 nurses were honored with this prestigious award.

### **Indian women's contributions across UAE honoured at Indian Women Dubai Awards 2024**

The Indian Women Dubai Awards 2024 took place in Dubai honoring the achievements of Indian women who have contributed in various fields of excellence across the UAE, the event celebrated empowerment, resilience, and unity, showcasing the impact of women who are shaping the community. More than 30 awards were presented, recognizing women for their achievements in areas such as technology, entrepreneurship, healthcare, and the arts.

### **ICF, maker of Vande Bharat trains, wins The Hindu businessline's Changemaker of the Year award**

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had presented The Hindu businessline's Changemaker of the Year award to the Integral Coach Factory (ICF), the manufacturer of the Vande Bharat train

Ashok Jhunjhunwala was crowned Iconic Changemaker of the year.

Dommaraju Gukesh was awarded the businessline's Young Changemaker award.

### **NTPC Talcher Kaniha bags '2024 Energy Management Insight Award'**

NTPC Talcher Kaniha has been honored with the prestigious 2024 Energy Management Insight Award from the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM).

### **India Wins 16 Medals & Medallions of Excellence at World Skills 2024**

India has won 16 medals and Medallions of Excellence at the World Skills 2024 in Lyon, France. The prizes include four Bronze in Patisserie and Confectionery, Industry 4.0, Hotel Reception and Renewable Energy.

### **Emmy Awards 2024 Winners List**

The 2024 Emmy Awards event took place in Los Angeles hosted by Eugene and Dan Levy.

#### **Winners**

Outstanding Drama Series: Shogun

Outstanding Comedy Series: Hacks

Best Actor in a Leading Role (Drama): HiroYuki Sanada for Shogun

Best Actress in a Leading Role (Drama): Anna Sawai for Shogun

Best Actor in a Leading Role (Comedy): Jeremy Allen White for The Bear

Best Actress in a Leading Role (Comedy): Jean Smart for Hacks

## PERSONS IN NEWS (National and International)

### Michel Barnier

French President Emmanuel Macron has named Michel Barnier as Prime Minister almost two months after France's snap elections ended in political deadlock. Mr Barnier is a former chief Brexit negotiator of the European Union and a veteran of the right-wing Republicans party.

### Philemon Yang

Cameroon's former Prime Minister Philemon Yang has assumed the presidency of the 79th United Nations General Assembly session. Earlier, on June 6, 2024, Mr Philemon Yang was elected President of the 79th General Assembly at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

### Anil Kapoor

India's bollywood actor Anil Kapoor has made it to TIME Magazine's prestigious second annual TIME 100 AI list, which celebrates the 100 most influential figures in the realm of artificial intelligence.

### Abdelmadjid Tebboune

Algerian election authorities have declared that President Abdelmadjid Tebboune is the winner of recently concluded elections. Tebboune, backed by the military, was facing only nominal opposition from Hassani Cherif, a moderate Islamist.

### Anura Kumara Dissanayake

Anura Kumara Dissanayake, National People's Power leader in Sri Lanka, has been declared victorious in the Presidential Election. He was sworn in on September 23, at the Presidential Secretariat as the ninth executive president of Sri Lanka.

### Rhea Singha

Gujarat's Rhea Singha has been crowned Miss Universe India 2024, and will now represent India at the global Miss Universe 2024 pageant. The grand finale of Miss Universe India 2024 was recently held in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

### Harini Amarasuriya

Harini Amarasuriya has taken oath as the 16th Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. Harini Amarasuriya, a leader of the National People's Power (NPP), was administered the oath of office by the island nation's new president Anura Kumar Dissanayake in the capital Colombo.

### Shigeru Ishiba

Liberal Democratic Party leader, Shigeru Ishiba is set to become Japan's next prime minister after winning his party's leadership contest. Mr. Ishiba emerged victorious in the run-off against hardline nationalist Sanae Takaichi, earning 215 votes compared to Mr. Takaichi's 194. He will assume office as the next Prime Minister once parliament convenes in October.

### Air Marshal Tejinder Singh

Air Marshal Tejinder Singh has taken over as Deputy Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force. An alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Air Marshal Singh was commissioned in the fighter stream of the Indian Air Force (IAF) on June 13, 1987.

### Ashwini Vaishnaw

Information and Broadcasting Minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw has been named by TIME Magazine, as one of the most influential people in the field of Technology and Artificial Intelligence. Mr Vaishnaw's name figures under the "Shapers" category of the list.

### Arvind Kejriwal

Delhi Chief Minister & AAP party founder Arvind Kejriwal has resigned after getting bail in a corruption case. He called for an early Assembly election in the national capital, allowing the people of Delhi to decide if he is honest.

### Atishi

Senior AAP leader Atishi has sworn in as new Chief Minister of Delhi. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) had unanimously agreed after Arvind Kejriwal proposed her name as his successor. Ms. Atishi, who was elected leader of the AAP legislature party has submitted her request to the L-G to stake claim to form the government.

### Mohana Singh

Squadron Leader Mohana Singh has become the first woman fighter pilot to join the elite 18 'Flying Bullets' squadron, operating India's indigenously 'Made in India' LCA Tejas fighter jet's squadron.

### Jafar Hassan

Jordan's King Abdullah II has appointed his chief-of-staff Jafar Hassan as the country's new prime minister. Hassan had served as planning minister before becoming King Abdullah II's chief of staff. He replaces outgoing Prime Minister Bisher Khasawneh, who had headed the government since October 2020 rival drug-trafficking groups.

### Amit Shah

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has been unanimously re-elected as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language. Mr. Shah also served as the Chairperson of the committee from 2019 to 2024.

### Dhruvi Patel

Dhruvi Patel, a Computer Information System student from the USA, has been declared the winner of Miss India Worldwide 2024, the longest running Indian pageant outside of India.

### Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh

The Union government has appointed Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh, PVSM, AVSM, presently serving as Vice Chief of the Air Staff, as the next Chief of the Air Staff, in the rank of Air Chief Marshal, with effect from September 30.

### Tuhin Kanta Pandey

Centre has designated senior IAS officer Tuhin Kanta Pandey as Finance Secretary. An IAS officer of 1987 batch Odisha Cadre, Mr Pandey is currently serving in Finance Ministry as Secretary in charge of two key domains.

### Dr. Andrew Holness

Prime Minister of Jamaica Dr. Andrew Holness was on an official visit to India. This will be his first visit to India, and also the first-ever bilateral visit of a Prime Minister of Jamaica to India.

### **Justice Manmohan**

Justice Manmohan has taken oath as the chief justice of the Delhi High Court. Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena has administered the oath to the 61-year-old judge at a ceremony at the Raj Niwas. Justice Manmohan will succeed Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma.

### **Dame Maggie Smith**

Dame Maggie Smith, the celebrated British actress renowned for her roles in Harry Potter and Downton Abbey, has passed away at the age of 89. Maggie Smith's acting prowess earned her two Academy Awards.

### **Sitaram Yechury**

CPI(M) General Secretary Sitaram Yechury passed away on September 12, after a prolonged illness., Sitaram Yechury the topmost CPI (M) leader, was thrice elected as President of the JNU Students Union. Mr. Yechury joined the CPI(M) in 1975 and was arrested during the emergency for his political activities.

## **SPORTS**

### **Himanshi Tokas wins silver medal**

At the Asian Cadet and Junior Judo Championships in Mungyeong, South Korea, India's Himanshi Tokas won the Silver medal in the Women's 63-kilogram event.

### **India secures 4 medals including one gold at Deaf Shooting Championship in Germany**

At the Deaf Shooting Championship in Hanover, Germany, India has secured a total of four medals including one gold, two silver, and one bronze

### **Paralympic Games: Rubina Francis won bronze**

In the Paralympic Games, Indian shooter Rubina Francis won bronze in the women's 10-meter air pistol SH1 final qualification round.

### **Charles Leclerc wins the 2024 F1 Italian Grand Prix**

Charles Leclerc secured Ferrari a rare win at the Formula 1 Italian Grand Prix 2024. Leclerc has claimed victory at Monza for the second time after winning in 2019.

### **Tuanku Muhriz Trophy 2024: India's Abhay Singh Wins Title in Squash**

In the Tuanku Muhriz Trophy 2024 Squash, India's Abhay Singh has defeated the top seed Tsz Kwan Lau of Hong Kong to clinch his tenth PSA Tour title in Seremban, Malaysia.

### **Paris Paralympics 2024: Preethi Pal wins Bronze**

At the Paris Paralympics 2024, Indian Para Athlete Preethi Pal has won another medal for India, clinching a Bronze medal in the Women's 200 meters – T35 Final. With this win, she became the first track and field Indian Woman Para Athlete to win two medals at the Paralympics.

### **Grand Chess tour 2024: Firouzja wins GCT and Sinquefield leg**

French Grandmaster Alireza Firouzja drew his final game with Indian prodigy R Praggnanandhaa to emerge champion at the Sinquefield Cup and also win the Grand Chess tour 2024.

### **India's Sumit Antil defended his Javelin gold medal**

At the Paris Paralympics 2024, India's Sumit Antil defended his Javelin gold medal, creating a new record with a highest throw of 70.59 meter in his second attempt.

### **Deepthi Jeevanji, first intellectually impaired Indian athlete to win Paralympic medal**

Deepthi Jeevanji has made history at the Paris 2024, becoming the first intellectually impaired Indian athlete to win a Paralympic medal with a bronze in the women's 400m T20 class event. She finished the race in 55.82 seconds.

### **Paris Paralympics: Harvinder Singh creates history**

Harvinder Singh has created history by winning a Gold in the men's archery individual recurve open final at the Paris Paralympics 2024. He became the first and only Indian archer to clinch a gold medal at the Paralympics.

### **NorthEast United wins 2024 Durand Cup**

NorthEast United has won their first-ever major football title with the Durand Cup 2024 against the defending champions MohunBagan Super Giants in the final.

### **Paris Paralympics: Sachin Khilari wins silver medal in shotput**

India's Shot Put thrower Sachin Sarjerao Khilari has won the Silver medal in the Men's Shot Put -F46 Final at the Paris Paralympics, with a walloping throw of 16.32m.

### **Kapil Parmar wins India's first ever Paralympic medal in Judo**

At the Paris Paralympics 2024, Kapil Parmar has won a bronze in the Para Judo Men's J1-660 Kilogrammes event by beating Elielton de Oliveira of Brazil 10-0. This is India's first-ever Paralympic medal in Judo.

### **Wrestler Jyoti Berwal wins gold medal in U20 World Championships**

In wrestling, Jyoti Berwal has won a gold medal in the women's 76 kg freestyle category at the U20 World Championships in Pontevedra, Spain.

### **Nitika wins silver medal in women's 62 kg freestyle**

In wrestling, Nitika has won the silver medal in the women's 62 kg freestyle category at the U20 World Championships in Pontevedra, Spain.

### **Praveen Kumar wins gold in Men's High Jump**

India's Praveen Kumar clinched the gold medal in the Men's High Jump T64 final at the Paris Paralympic Games.

### **Aryna Sabalenka claims Maiden US Open Title**

At the 2024 US Open, second seed Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus outclassed Jessica Pegula in straight sets to claim her maiden US Open title.

### **Max Purcell and Jordan Thompson won the 2024 US Open men's doubles title**

Australia's Max Purcell and Jordan Thompson have won the 2024 US Open men's doubles title, defeating Germany's Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz in straight sets.

### **U20 World Wrestling Championships: Indian Women Secures Overall 2nd Place**

Indian women have finished overall second at the U20 World Wrestling Championships, with one gold, one silver, and three bronze at Pontevedra in Spain. All medals came in the freestyle category.

### **Italy's Jannik Sinner wins 2024 US Open**

Italy's Jannik Sinner has won his second Grand Slam victory of the year by defeating Taylor Fritz 6-3, 6-4, 7-5 in the 2024 US Open Tennis.

### **Deepali Thapa becomes 1st ever Asian Schoolgirl Champion**

Indian boxer Deepali Thapa has made history by becoming the first-ever Asian Schoolgirl Champion in Al Ain, UAE. Her victory led India to secure seven female titles at the Asian Championships.

### **India to Bid for 2030 Youth Olympics & 2036 Summer Olympics**

Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has said that India will bid to host the Youth Olympics in 2030 and Summer Olympics in 2036.

### **Paris Paralympics 2024 concludes**

Paris Paralympics 2024 was concluded in the French capital. Los Angeles will be hosting the next Paralympic Summer Games in 2028. Indian contingent produced their best performance at the Paralympics this year, securing a total of 29 medals, including 7 golds, 9 silvers, and 13 bronzes. China topped the medals tally.

### **Randhir Singh becomes first Indian to be elected OCA president**

Veteran sports administrator Raja Randhir Singh became the first Indian president of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA). He was unanimously elected by the OCA representatives for the top post when he emerged as the sole candidate contesting for the position earlier this year.

### **45th FIDE Chess Olympiad begins in Budapest**

The 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad has begun in Budapest, the capital of Hungary. The 12-day biennial event featured over 1,800 players, with 193 national teams registered in the open section and 181 teams competing in the women's section.

### **Mohammad Tayyab Ikram to continue as the FIH president**

Mohammad Tayyab Ikram will continue as the International Hockey Federation (FIH) president for another term, by virtue of being the lone candidate in the fray after completion of the scrutiny and approval of nominations.

### **Sports Ministry called retired sportspersons to apply for RESET programme**

Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has called upon retired sportspersons to apply for the newly launched Retired Sportsperson Empowerment Training (RESET) Programme which aims to bridge the gap between generations and allow the skills and experience of retired athletes to benefit young aspiring sports talents.

### **Belgian International 2024: Anmol Kharb wins Badminton Title**

India's rising badminton player Anmol Kharb has secured her first senior international title by winning the women's singles event at the Belgian International 2024 in Leuven.

### **F1 Azerbaijan GP: PIASTRI wins in Baku**

Oscar Piastri has won the Azerbaijan Grand Prix and sent McLaren top of the constructors' standings. Ferrari's pole-sitter Charles Leclerc, came second with George Russell inheriting third for Mercedes after the Sainz-Perez collision.

### **Indian hockey team Lifts Men's Asian Champions Trophy for Record 5th Time**

Indian hockey team has won the 2024 Men's Asian Champions Trophy for a record fifth time after defeating

the hosts China 1-0 at Hulunbuir. Team India, who were the defending champions, are the most successful team in the competition with five titles.

### **LIV Chicago 2024: Jon Rahm seals tournament**

Top golfer Jon Rahm has ended his first year in the LIV Golf League by closing with a 4-under 66 to win the final individual event and the season points title with its \$18 million bonus.

### **Solheim Cup: US beat Europe to claim the title**

The United States has ended their seven-year Solheim Golf Cup drought with a tight 15½-12½ victory over Europe in Virginia.

### **World Boxing to host inaugural championships in Liverpool**

World Boxing will host its inaugural world championships in Liverpool next year. World Boxing, launched in 2023, has 44 members and is looking to fill the void left behind by the International Boxing Association (IBA).

### **IWF Junior World Championships 2024: Dhanush Loganathan Wins Bronze in Men's 55kg**

In Weightlifting, India's Dhanush Loganathan has won the bronze medal in the men's 55kg event at the IWF Junior World Weightlifting Championships 2024 in Leon, Spain.

### **Punjab lifts Hockey Junior Men's National Championship trophy**

Punjab defeated Uttar Pradesh to claim the 14th Hockey India Junior Men's National Championship 2024 at the Olympian Surjit Singh Hockey Stadium in Jalandhar.

### **Double gold for India in Chess Olympiad**

India won historic double gold medals in the 2024 Chess Olympiad in Budapest, Hungary in both men's and women's teams. In the open section, India's maiden title win. In the women's section final, the Indian women's team defeated Azerbaijan 3.5-0.5 to clinch the gold.

### **Sangram Singh wins MMA fight**

Sangram Singh became the first Indian male wrestler to win an MMA (mixed martial arts) fight at the Gama International Fighting Championship Tbilisi in Georgia.

### **India wins the Chennai Test**

India defeated Bangladesh by a huge margin of 280 runs on the fourth day of the opening Test to take a 1-0 lead in the two-match series.

### **Badminton: Anmol Kharb wins Polish International 2024**

Indian shuttler Anmol Kharb has defeated Switzerland's Milena Schneider in the final to clinch the Polish International 2024 title in Lublin, Poland.

### **F1: McLaren's Lando Norris wins 2024 Singapore GP**

McLaren's Lando Norris has won the 2024 Singapore Grand Prix with ease and cut into Max Verstappen's Formula 1 standings lead.

### **Laver Cup 2024: Team Europe claims victory over Team World**

Four-time Grand Slam champion Carlos Alcaraz overcame Taylor Fritz 6-2, 7-5 as Team Europe rallied to beat Team World 13-11 and win the Laver Cup.

### **MotoGP: Bastianini wins Emilia-Romagna**

Enea Bastianini has won the Emilia-Romagna MotoGP as Jorge Martin extended his lead in the championship standings thanks to key title rival Francesco Bagnaia crashing out.

### **Indonesia Para-Badminton International 2024: Sukant, Sivarajan win silver**

India's Sukant Kadam lost to local favourite Fredy Setiawan in the men's singles SL4 final to clinch silver at the Indonesia Para-Badminton International 2024. Fellow Paralympian Sivarajan Solaimalai also won silver in the men's singles SH6 category.

### **Tennis: Jeevan & Vijay Sundar Prashant win Hangzhou Open Doubles title**

The Indian tennis duo of Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth have won the doubles title in the ATP 250 Hangzhou Open 2024..

### **IBSF World 6 Red Snooker Championship: India's Kamal Chawla wins Gold**

Indian veteran Kamal Chawla has won his maiden IBSF World 6-Red title with a commanding 6-2 victory over Pakistan's Asjad Iqbal in the final at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

### **Kamindu Mendis creates record of most successive fifty-plus scores since Test debut**

Sri Lanka batter Kamindu Mendis had created a world record of most successive fifty-plus scores during the second match against New Zealand in Galle. Mendis reached his eighth fifty since making debut against Australia at the same venue two years ago.

### **70<sup>th</sup> Nehru Trophy Boat Race to be held in Alappuzha, Kerala**

In Kerala, the 70th Nehru Trophy Boat Race will be held at the Punnamada lake in Alappuzha. 19 Chundan Valloms or Snake Boats will vie for the coveted silver trophy.

### **Gulveer wins gold medal in men's 5,000 meters race**

Gulveer Singh, a 26-year-old Indian athlete, won the gold medal in the men's 5,000 meters race at the World Athletics Continental Tour in Japan.

### **Karichal Chundan Wins 5th Consecutive Nehru Trophy at Punnamada Lake**

In Kerala, the Karichal Chundan (Snake Boat) rowed by the Pallathuruthy Boat Club won the coveted Nehru Trophy at Punnamada Lake in Alappuzha.

### **Junior World Wushu Championship 2024: India won two gold, one silver and four bronze medals**

In Junior World Wushu Championship at Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, Indian team has won a rich haul of seven medals including two golds. India won two gold medals, one silver and four bronze medals.

### **Indonesia GP 2024: Jorge Martin wins to extend lead over Bagnaia**

Pramac Racing's Jorge Martin has led a crash-hit Indonesia Grand Prix in Mandalika from start to finish to win his third race of the season and extend his lead over reigning champion Francesco Bagnaia to 21 points.

### **BCCI inaugurates National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru**

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has inaugurated the new National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru,. The world-class facility will now be called the BCCI Centre of Excellence (CoE).

### **ISSF Junior World Championship: Indian pair wins Bronze in Shooting**

In Shooting, the Indian pair of Gautami Bhanot and Ajay Malik has won Bronze after defeating Croatia 17-9 in the Air Rifle mixed event in the ISSF Junior World Championship in Lima, Peru.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **The 2023 edition of the Global Innovation Index (GII) published.**

India was ranked 40<sup>th</sup> among 132 economies globally in the 2023 edition of the Global Innovation Index (GII) published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

### **Switzerland is world's best country in 2024**

Switzerland has been ranked as the number one country in the world by US News & World Report in its 'Best Countries Ranking 2024'. Switzerland is followed by Japan, the United States of America, Canada and Australia. India ranked at number 33 on the list this year.

### **India Ranks as Third Most Powerful Nation in Asia Power Index**

India has become the third most powerful nation in Asia, surpassing Japan in the Asia Power Index. The Sydney-based Lowy Institute has put the US at the top of its Asia Power Index with a score of 81.7, followed by China (72.7), India (39.1).

### **India Achieves Tier 1 Status in Global Cybersecurity Index 2024**

India has marked a significant milestone in its cybersecurity efforts by achieving top Tier i.e. Tier 1 status in the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2024, published by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

### **IITDelhi - Abu Dhabi campus inaugurated.**

In a historic moment for international engineering education, Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi officially inaugurated the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi Abu Dhabi campus.

### **2024 Edition of Chief Science Advisers' Roundtable to organised at Paris**

The 2024 Edition of the Chief Science Advisers' Roundtable -CSAR was organised at the headquarters of the UNESCO in Paris, France. This roundtable is co-organised by the Office of Principal Scientific Adviser to the Indian Government and the Natural Sciences Sector of UNESCO.

### **South Africa announces TTOS scheme to boost tourism from India**

South Africa announced a new Trusted Tour Operator Scheme (TTOS) with an initial focus on the tourist markets of India and China. This scheme is set to be implemented from January next year. Indian tourists account for only 3.9 percent of all international visitors to South Africa.

### **International Government Communication Forum 2024 Kicks off in Sharjah**

The 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Government Communication Forum (IGCF) was kicked off in Sharjah, under the theme "Agile Governments – Innovative Communication."

### **Indian Navy's P8I on its first-ever deployment in Europe to take part in 'Exercise Varuna'**

A P8I aircraft of the Indian Navy has reached France to participate in 'Exercise Varuna' with the French Navy". The 2024 edition of Indo-French bilateral naval 'Exercise Varuna', was held from September 2 to 4 in the Mediterranean Sea.

### **EU launches call for setting up AI Factories**

The European Union (EU) has launched a call for setting up Artificial Intelligence (AI) Factories to boost the development of the AI technology. AI Factories will be created around the network of European High-Performance Computing (EuroHPC) supercomputers and will be available to a range of European users, such as startups, industry and researchers

### **China's Geespace launches 10 low-orbit satellites**

Geespace, a company backed by Chinese automaker Geely has launched a third batch of satellites as part of its plan to form a megaconstellation it described as China's equivalent of U.S. firm SpaceX's Starlink.

### **India-Oman Joint Military Exercise "AL NAJAH"**

The Indian Army's contingent participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of India-Oman Joint Military Exercise "AL NAJAH" in Salalah, Oman. The Indian Army contingent comprised of 60 personnel is represented by a battalion of the Mechanised Infantry Regiment.

### **SpaceX's Polaris Dawn crew returns to Earth**

SpaceX's Polaris Dawn crew has returned to Earth after five days in orbit, following a historic mission featuring the world's first commercial spacewalk.

### **Japan's elderly population hits record high**

The number of people in Japan aged 65 or older hit a record high of 36.25 million this year. The elderly now accounted for 29.3% of Japan's total population.

### **10th World FZO Congress Begins in Dubai**

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual World Free Zones Organisation (World FZO) Congress commenced at the Madinat Jumeirah in Dubai.

### **Two-Day Global Aerospace Summit Kicks Off**

The seventh edition of the Global Aerospace Summit, a premier forum for the world's aerospace supply chain, commenced in Abu Dhabi. The two-day event, running from September 25-26 at the St. Regis Saadiyat Island Resort.

### **India assumes chairmanship of Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions for 2024-2027**

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India has assumed chairmanship of the Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI) for 2024-2027.

### **Jhumpa Lahiri declines Isamu Noguchi award**

Jhumpa Lahiri has declined to accept an award 2024 Isamu Noguchi Award from New York City's Noguchi

Museum after it fired three employees for wearing keffiyeh head scarves, an emblem of Palestinian solidarity, following an updated dress code.

### **NASA & SpaceX Launch Crew-9 Mission to ISS**

In a mission that aims to bring Indian-origin astronaut Sunita Williams back to Earth, NASA and SpaceX spacecraft carrying Crew-9 members, has left for the International Space Station (ISS).

### **Jordan becomes first Leprosy free- nation: WHO**

The World Health Organization WHO has declared Jordan as the first country in the world to eliminate leprosy, marking a significant milestone in global public health efforts.

### **Iran launches new research satellite Chamran-1 into orbit**

Iran has launched a new research satellite named Chamran-1 research satellite into orbit, taking another step in advancing its aerospace programme.

### **Antiquities returned to India**

The United States has returned 297 antiquities to India that were stolen and smuggled out of the country On the occasion of the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the US.

### **National Nutrition Week: 1st to 7th September**

National Nutrition Week, celebrated annually in the first week of September (1-7), is an event that raises awareness about the importance of nutrition in our daily lives.

### **Teacher's Day observed on Sept 5**

Teachers' Day in India is celebrated annually on September 5, to mark the birth anniversary of Dr. Radhakrishnan who was the second President of India and a renowned scholar and philosopher.

### **International Day of Charity 5 September**

The International Day of Charity was observed on 5 September to commemorate the anniversary of the passing away of Mother Teresa.

### **International Vulture Awareness Day 2024: 7<sup>th</sup> September**

International Vulture Awareness Day (IVAD) is observed on the first Saturday of September to raise awareness about the world's most imperiled group of birds. This year it is observed on 7<sup>th</sup> September.

### **International Day of Police Cooperation: 7<sup>th</sup> September**

The world observes the International Day of Police Cooperation on 7<sup>th</sup> September to recognize the crucial role of law enforcement in global security.

### **International Literacy Day: 8<sup>th</sup> September**

International Literacy Day is observed on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September every year. This year the theme for International Literacy Day is 'Promoting multilingual education: Literacy for mutual understanding and peace'.

### **United Nations International Day of South-South Cooperation**

The United Nations International Day of South-South Cooperation, celebrated annually on September 12, provides an opportunity for member states to reaffirm the value and benefits of South-South cooperation. "A better tomorrow through South-South Cooperation" is the theme of this year.



**Hindi Diwas: 14<sup>th</sup> September**

Hindi Diwas is observed annually on September 14<sup>th</sup> to promote linguistic unity in a country known for its diverse languages.

**National Engineers Day: 15<sup>th</sup> September**

National Engineers Day observed every year on September 15<sup>th</sup>, to honour the remarkable contributions of engineers to society. This day is a tribute to the legendary engineer Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, whose birth anniversary is commemorated through this occasion.

**International Day of Democracy: 15<sup>th</sup> September**

International Day of Democracy is observed annually on 15<sup>th</sup> September to review the state of democracy in the world. This year's theme for the International Day of Democracy is focused on the importance of Artificial Intelligence as a tool for good governance.

**World Rhino Day: 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

World Rhino Day is celebrated on September 22 every year. The day commemorates the global effort to protect rhinos and raise awareness about the five species of rhinoceros: Black, White, Greater One-Horned, Sumatran, and Javan rhinos.

**World Rivers Day 2024: 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

World Rivers Day is observed on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of September. In 2024, it falls on 22 September. The day highlights the importance of rivers and generates awareness and encourages people to improve and save water, rivers around the world.

**International Sign Language Day.**

The Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre is observed on September 23, to celebrate International Sign Language Day. This year, the theme for International Sign Language Day 2024 is "Sign up for Sign Language Rights."

**World Environmental Health Day 2024 observed on Sep26**

World Environmental Health Day 2024 is observed annually on September 26. The theme for 2024 is "Environmental Health: Creating Resilient Communities through Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation".

**World Tourism Day Being Celebrated on Sep.27**

The World Tourism Day is celebrated across the globe on 27<sup>th</sup> of September every year. The theme for this year is 'Tourism and Peace.'

**World Rabies Day: 28<sup>th</sup> September**

28 September is observed as World Rabies Day. The theme for 2024 world rabies day is, 'Breaking Rabies Boundaries.'

**International Day for Universal Access to Information: 28<sup>th</sup> September**

The 74<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly proclaimed 28 September as the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) at the UN level in October 2019.

**World Heart Day: 29<sup>th</sup> September**

World Heart Day is a global event that takes place on September 29 to raise awareness of cardiovascular disease (CVD). This year, 2024, the World Heart Day theme is "Use Heart for Action".