

## France votes in crucial test for Macron



French voters are choosing lawmakers in a parliamentary election on Sunday as President Emmanuel Macron seeks to secure his majority while under growing threat from a leftist coalition less than two months after his re-election, the President is facing a strong challenge from a united left-wing bloc. Polls suggest it could deprive Macron of an outright majority, even if it does not take control of parliament.

## Ukraine establishes two routes through Poland and Romania to export grain



Ukraine's deputy foreign minister Dmytro Senik said the country has established two routes through Poland and Romania to export grain and avert a global food crisis although bottlenecks have slowed the supply chain. He further added global food security was at risk because Russia's military action in Ukraine had halted Kyiv's Black Sea grain exports, causing widespread shortages and soaring prices. Ukraine is the world's fourth-largest grain exporter. There are some 30 million tonnes of grain stored in Ukrainian-held territory out of capacity of around 55 million tonnes.

### WHO advisory group suggests Huanan seafood market in China's Wuhan played important role in amplification of Covid-19 pandemic



An early investigation into the origins of the SARS-CoV-2 virus by a World Health Organization (WHO) advisory group suggested that the Huanan seafood market in Wuhan, China played an important role in the amplification of the pandemic. However, further investigations are recommended. In their first report, a WHO advisory group, Scientific Advisory Group for the Origins of Novel Pathogens (Sago) said that key recommendations are provided for further studies needed on humans, animals and the environment in China and around the world that would provide additional information and contribute to a better understanding of how SARS-CoV-2 infected the human population and spread.

### Philippines celebrates its Independence Day on June 12



The Philippines is celebrating its Independence Day on June 12. The Filipino flag was unfurled for the first time on this day June 12 in 1898. It consists of more than 7,000 separate islands in the western Pacific, declared independence from Spanish rule.

## 12th WTO Ministerial Conference to get underway in Geneva; Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal heads Indian delegation



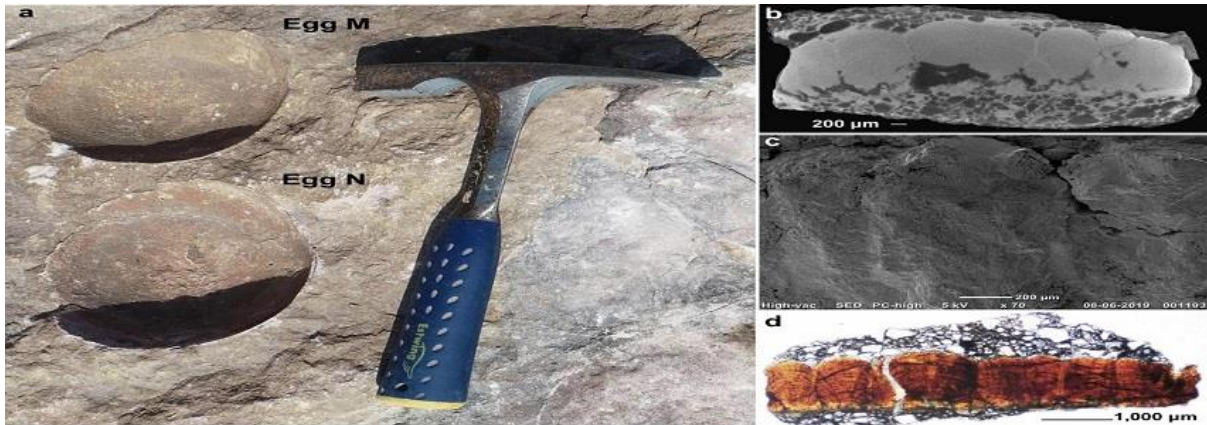
The 12th World Trade Organisation, WTO Ministerial Conference will begin in Geneva, Switzerland after a gap of almost five years. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal will lead the Indian delegation in the Conference. The key areas of discussions and negotiations in this year's conference include WTO's response to the pandemic, Fisheries subsidies negotiations and Agriculture issues including Public Stockholding for Food security.

## Union Minister Jitendra Singh to release 2nd edition of National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment 2021



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh will release the second edition of the National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment 2021 (NeSDA 2021). The NeSDA 2021 report has been prepared covering the assessment of States, Union Territories with a focus on Central Ministries on their effectiveness in delivering online services to citizens. The report also provides suggestions for governments to further enhance their e-Governance service delivery systems. The ministry added, NeSDA 2021 covers services across seven sectors. These services include Finance, Labour and Employment, Education, Local Governance and Utility Services, Social Welfare, Environment and Tourism sectors.

## 'Abnormal' dinosaur egg in India



A team of researchers from the University of Delhi have discovered a unique set of fossilised dinosaur eggs, with one egg nesting within the other. While eggs-within-eggs are a rare phenomenon, they are so far known to occur only in birds and never known in reptiles. This discovery brings out newer connections between reptilian and avian evolution. The discovery was made in Dinosaur Fossil National Park in Madhya Pradesh's Dhar district and the eggs belong to titanosaurs, a diverse group of sauropod dinosaurs.

## Bitcoin tumbles to 18-month low as US inflation impact spreads



Bitcoin plunged to the lowest in about 18 months in Asia trading Monday as the impact of Friday's shock US inflation data continued to reverberate through global risk assets. The world's largest digital token tumbled as much as 8.9 per cent to \$24,903.49—its lowest since December 2020. Other cryptocurrencies also declined as a broader sell-off continued.

Other coins were also having a difficult time, with Ether off as much as 12 per cent to its lowest level since February 2021. Avalanche dropped as much as 15 per cent, Solana up to 14 per cent and Dogecoin as much as 11 per cent.

## UPI IPO facility sees huge spike in mandate-creation in May



Unified Payment Interface's (UPI) initial public offering facility witnessed huge adoption and usage in May, coinciding with the IPO of Life Insurance Corporation of India. More than 45 lakh mandates were created for UPI IPO in May, and 23.97 lakh mandates were executed in the month, according to data with the National Payments Corporation of India

This is much higher than 10.57 lakh mandates created in April when just 2.38 lakh mandates executed.

## Max Verstappen eases to Azerbaijan Grand Prix victory to extend championship lead



Max Verstappen cruised to victory at the Azerbaijan Grand Prix on Sunday to extend his lead at the top of the Formula One drivers' championship to 21 points. Verstappen's victory means the Dutchman surpasses Sebastian Vettel's record of most podium finishes in a Red Bull car, with 66 top three finishes in his 126 races with the constructor.

## Saanapathi Gurunaidu clinches Gold medal in men's 55 kilogram event at IWF Youth World C'ships



Indian weightlifter Saanapathi Gurunaidu clinched Gold medal in men's 55 kilogram event at the IWF Youth World Championships in Leon, Mexico. Two other Indian weightlifters Vijay Prajapati and Akansha Kishor Vyavhare clinched silver medals on the opening day of the event. Saanapathi won gold medal in men's 55 kilogram event with total lift of 230 kilogram.

## India creates history by qualifying for FIFAE Nations Cup 2022



In Football, India created history by securing a spot at the highly coveted FIFAE Nations Cup (FeNC) 2022. Representatives from the country will join esports athletes from 23 other nations to compete at the highest level of FIFA 22 Esports from July 26 to 30 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Organized and conducted by EA Sports, the FeNC is one of three major esports events that are held on a worldwide scale to crown the global champions of the game. This tournament will feature teams representing their nations and competing in a 2v2 format against opponents from all over the world.

## Indonesia Masters: Viktor Axelsen, Chen Yufei Clinch Singles Titles



Olympic champions Viktor Axelsen and Chen Yufei clinched the respective men's and women's singles titles at the BWF Indonesia Masters 2022. Denmark's Axelsen needed just 41 minutes to secure a comfortable straight-game victory over his rival, third-seeded Chou Tien-chen of Chinese Taipei.

Meanwhile, the Chinese shuttler Chen was tested by Thailand's Ratchanok Intanon, who was seeking a rare victory over the Chinese. She was taken to a third-game decider before she finally saw off Intanon's challenge 21-16, 18-21, 21-15.

## India's great run at ongoing Chateauroux Para Shooting World Cup continues as medal tally goes up to 12



India's great run at the ongoing Chateauroux Para Shooting World Cup continued as trio of Manish Narwal, Singhraj Adhana and Nihal Singh clinched a silver medal each in the P1 Men's 10 meter Air Pistol event. Also, the trio of Rubina Francis, Sumedha Pathak, Nisha Kanwar won a silver medal each at the P2 Women's 10 meter Air Pistol event. With this, India's medal tally at the event has gone up to 12, with six golds, five silvers and one bronze.