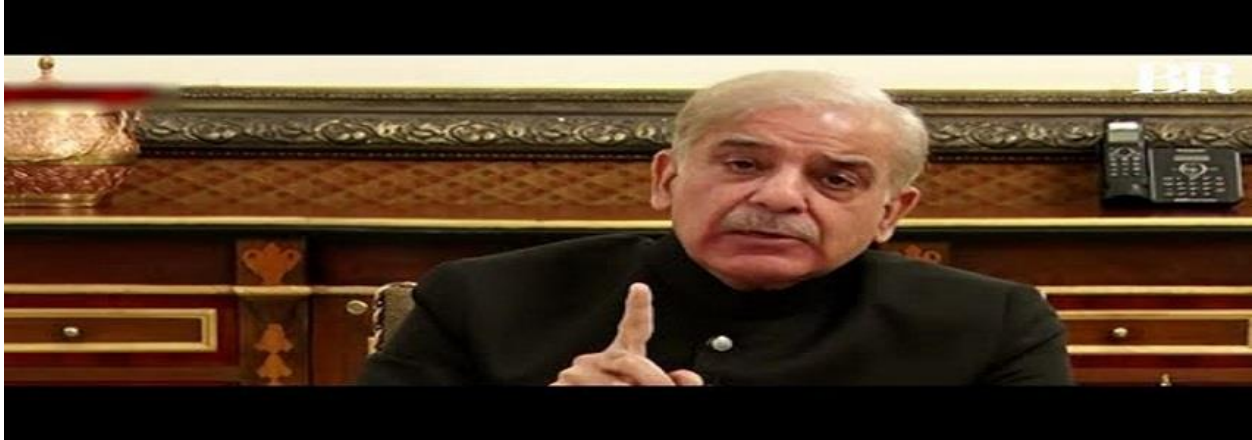


Pakistan govt slaps 10% super tax on big industries to trim deficit



Pakistan will impose an extra one-time 10% tax on large scale industry for one year to raise over 400 billion Pakistani rupees (\$1.93 billion) to clinch a crucial deal from the International Monetary Fund, Finance Minister Miftah Ismail.

The announcement comes ahead of what Pakistan hopes will be an agreement to unlock a new tranche of IMF funds which are needed to avert a balance of payment crisis.

The South Asian nation desperately needs the IMF funding as it has been in the grip of a financial crisis, with foreign exchange reserves held by the central bank falling as low as \$8.2 billion, and the Pakistani rupee at record lows against the US dollar.

US President Joe Biden signs the breakthrough gun safety legislation



President Joe Biden signed into law the first major federal gun safety legislation passed in decades, marking a significant bipartisan breakthrough on one of the most contentious policy issues in Washington. After signing the bill at the White House, Biden said that God willing, it's going to save a lot of lives.

The new law enhances background checks on young gun buyers between 18 and 21 years of age.

It encourages states to develop more and better red flag laws that would deny guns to people who are deemed to be dangerous. Gun rights groups still protested the final product. The National Rifle Association said these measures were hastily jammed through with ambiguous language and overbroad definitions to appease gun control supporters in Congress.

United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture: June 26th



On December 12, 1997, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution, declaring June 26 as the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. The first International Day in Support of Victims of Torture observed on June 26, 1998.

The day is observed to call upon nations, civil societies and individuals all across the world to extend their support to victims of torture and those who are being tortured.

International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking: June 26th



International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, also known as World Drug Day, is conducted by the United Nations. It is observed on June 26 annually. The global event highlights the physical and psychological impact of substance abuse, drug overdose deaths and drug-related humanitarian crises with an aim to eliminate the menace from society.

“Addressing drug challenges in health and humanitarian crises” is the theme for 2022’s International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

International Day of the Seafarer: June 25th



The “Day of the Seafarer” is celebrated annually on June 25 to honour the vital contribution that seafarers make to global trade and the economy, frequently at considerable personal sacrifice to themselves and their families.

With the theme “Your voyage – then and now, share your adventure,” the Day of the Seafarers campaign for 2022 will examine seafarer voyages, including what they entail, how they have changed over time, and what has remained central to seafarers’ reality.

Puducherry and Punjab have the highest GST revenue shortfall, shows data



The implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) has been a boon for most north-eastern states, such as Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, and Sikkim, with GST revenue collections higher than the guaranteed annual 14 per cent increase in states' GST revenue by the Centre.

However, states like Puducherry, Punjab, Nagaland, and Uttarakhand have the highest revenue shortfall, which is met by GST compensation cess that is coming to an end on June 30.

At the national level, the GST revenue shortfall has narrowed to 27.2 per cent in FY22 from 37.9 per cent in FY21.

Expert panel approves use of Serum Institute's Covovax for 7-11-year-olds



An expert panel advising the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has recommended granting emergency use authorisation (EUA) to Serum Institute of India's (SII's) Covovax for use in children aged 7-11.

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) will review this recommendation before granting a final approval.

Covovax — the protein vaccine from US major Novovax — already has DCGI nod for use in adults as well as children in the age group of 12-17 years. The government has procured Biological E's vaccine Corbevax for adolescent vaccination and has not placed orders for Covovax. Bharat Biotech's Covaxin, too, has approval for use for 12-17-year-olds.

National Monuments Authority observes Martyrdom Day of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur at Red Fort



National Monuments Authority observed the Martyrdom Day of the great warrior Baba Banda Singh Bahadur at Red Fort in New Delhi.

Baba Banda Singh Bahadur was a great Sikh warrior and a commander of Khalsa army who defeated the Mughals and liberated a large part of North India from oppressive Mughal rule and established the Khalsa rule in Punjab.

Banda Singh Bahadur abolished the Zamindari system and granted property rights to the tillers of the land.

He was a Noble ruler who introduced the Nanak Shahi coins. He was captured by Mughal ruler Farrukhsiyar and his martyrdom took place in Mehrauli, Delhi where a monument stands in his memory.

Axis Bank reappoints Rajiv Anand as Dy Managing Director for three years



Private sector lender Axis Bank has reappointed Rajiv Anand as Deputy Managing Director for a period of three years from August 4, 2022 to August 3, 2025.

Anand joined Axis AMC in 2009 and was the founding MD and Chief Executive Officer of the company. He subsequently went on to become the President (Retail Banking) of Axis Bank in 2013 and then joined the bank's board in 2016.

Anand, who assumed his current position as Deputy MD in December 2021, leads Wholesale Banking and Digital Banking.

Sebi gives UPI payment option to invest in public issues of REITs, InvITs



Capital markets regulator Sebi provided an additional payment option of UPI or unified payments interface mechanism to retail investors to apply in the public issue of REITs and InvITs for application value up to Rs 5 lakh.

The new framework, aimed at further streamlining the process, will be applicable to public issue of units of Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) and real estate investment trust (REIT), which opens from August 1, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said in two separate circulars.

The capital markets regulator in January 2019 laid down the process for payment for applications in the public issue of units of these new investment instruments through the facility of Applications Supported by Blocked Amount (ASBA).

ICICI Bank launches 'Campus Power' platform for student ecosystem



ICICI Bank unveiled a digital platform named "Campus Power" to assist students who want to pursue higher education in India and abroad. The platform meets the diverse demands of the whole student ecosystem, which includes parents, institutes, and students.

The new Campus Power platform helps users find financial products that are right for them by guiding them through the process of researching bank accounts, including international accounts, education loans and their tax benefits, foreign exchange solutions, payment solutions, cards, other loans, and investments.

India beats Sri Lanka by five wickets in second T-20 International



In women's cricket, India defeated Sri Lanka by five wickets in the second T-20 International at Dambulla. Chasing a victory target of 126 runs, the visitors scored 127 runs for five wickets in 19.1 overs. With the second consecutive win, the visitors have secured an unassailable lead the three-match series.

Earlier, the hosts won the toss, elected to bat and scored 125 for seven in stipulated 20 overs.

Harmanpreet Kaur led-Indian women team made a positive start of their Sri Lankan tour with a convincing 34-run victory in the series.

The tour is the first series for India in the post-Mithali Raj era, with the 39-year-old announcing her retirement from all forms of cricket a fortnight ago.

Navjeet Dhillon wins gold medal at Qosanov Memorial 2022 athletics meet



Indian women's discus thrower Navjeet Dhillon won the gold medal at the Qosanov Memorial 2022 athletics meet in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Navjeet Dhillon, who is looking to seal her place in the Indian team for Commonwealth Games, won the women's discus throw with a 56.24m effort. Local athlete Karina Vasilyeva with 44.61m and Uzbekistan's Yulianna Shchukina with 40.48m followed Navjeet Dhillon on the podium.

Meanwhile, Dutee Chand produced a season-best 11.38s to top the 100m but failed to repeat the performance in the finals. Dutee Chand, who has been selected in the 4x100m relay team for CWG, clocked 11.49s in the 100m final to finish second behind Olga Safronova of Kazakhstan, who claimed gold in 11.40s. India's MV Jilna came third in 11.61s. India won 14 medals on the day, including seven golds. Tokyo Olympian Dhanalakshmi Sekar will also be among the top Indian athletes competing today at the Qosanov Memorial 2022 athletics, which is a World Athletics bronze-level event.

Vijay Amritraj honoured with Golden Achievement Award by ITF and International Tennis Hall of Fame



India's Vijay Amritraj has been named the 2021 recipient of the Golden Achievement Award. The Golden Achievement Award is presented annually by the International Tennis Hall of Fame and International Tennis Federation. The award is given to a person who has made important contributions internationally to tennis in the fields of administration, promotion, or education and has devoted long and outstanding service to the sport.

The award was presented at a special celebration hosted in Amritraj's honour in London. A globally recognized and respected tennis icon as well as a national hero in his native India, Amritraj was the first Indian player to turn professional on the ATP Tour.

Archers Jyothi Surekha Vennam and Abhishek Verma win gold medal in compound mixed team event at World Cup Stage-3



Archers Jyothi Surekha Vennam and Abhishek Verma won the gold medal in compound mixed team event at the World Cup Stage- 3 in Paris. Jyothi also clinched a silver in the individual event after a heartbreaking loss in the final to Great Britain's Ella Gibson in the shoot-off. In the compound mixed team final, the Indian duo beat France 152-149. Both Indian archers hit 9s to win country's first medal at the ongoing event.

Following the win in the mixed compound team event, India are placed second on the Archery World Cup 2022 medals table with four gold, two silver and three bronze medals. South Korea, with six gold medals, are on top while Great Britain are third with four gold medals, two silver and one bronze.