

# International Current Affairs

**June  
2024**

## 1. Nawaz Sharif admits violation of 1999 Lahore Agreement

- Former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has finally accepted his mistake after 25 years.
- In fact, Nawaz Sharif has accepted that Pakistan had violated the Lahore Agreement signed with the then Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in Islamabad on February 21, 1999 - with the goal of fostering peace and stability between India and Pakistan.
- The Lahore Declaration called for strict actions against all stakeholders of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.
- The two countries emphasised the need to take immediate steps to ensure the safe and authorised use of nuclear energy and reduce the risk of accidental or unauthorised use of nuclear weapons.
- India and Pakistan agreed to intensify their efforts to resolve all conflicts related to Kashmir, through proper diplomatic channels.
- However, shortly after the signing, Pakistani troops infiltrated the Kargil district in Jammu and Kashmir, leading to the Kargil War.
- Sharif confirmed conducting 5 nuclear tests on May 28, 1998, despite an offer from then US President Bill Clinton to prevent them.
- Sweden Boosts Ukraine's Defenses with Advanced Radar Planes
- In a significant move to fortify Ukraine's defense capabilities against Russia, Sweden has announced the donation of two Saab Airborne Surveillance and Control (ASC) 890 aircraft.
- These radar surveillance planes will play a crucial role in enhancing Ukraine's long-range target identification capabilities and supporting the integration of F-16 fighter jets provided by other Western nations.
- Sweden's contribution forms part of a substantial \$1.3 billion aid package aimed at bolstering Ukraine's defenses in the ongoing conflict



## 2. Philippines court bans commercial production of 'Golden Rice and BT Eggplant'

- A court in the Philippines recently revoked biosafety permits for the commercial propagation of genetically modified golden rice and Bt eggplant. Golden rice is a genetically modified variety of rice.
- It has been developed by the Philippines-based International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). Bacillus thuringiensis/Bt brinjal was developed by the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB).



## 3. Iceland elects businesswoman Halla Tomasdottir as President

- ✓ **CAPITAL:** Reykjavík
- ✓ **CURRENCY:** Icelandic króna (ISK)



## 4. Kuwait's Emir makes Sheikh Sabah al-Khalid Crown Prince

## 5. Claudia Shienbaum :First elected Woman President of Mexico

### About Mexico

- Mexico's official name is the **United Mexican States**. Although it is located in North America, it is culturally considered part of **Latin America**.
- The country has the largest **Spanish-speaking population** in the world.
- Its capital, **Mexico City**, is one of the most populated cities in the world.
- Currency: **Mexican Peso**
- President : **Manuel López Obrador**

## 6. New volcanic eruption near Iceland's town of Grindavik

- Near Grindavik on Iceland's Reykjanes Peninsula, a volcano erupted, marking the **fifth eruption** since December.
- The eruption was preceded by **significant seismic activity**, with about **400 earthquakes** recorded in the previous week, and substantial magma accumulation detected under the Svartsengi area.

## 7. Helen Mary Roberts becomes First Woman Brigadier in Pakistan Army from Minority Community

- **Dr. Helen Mary Roberts**, a **Christian lady**, became the first woman to be promoted to the rank of one-star officer in **Pakistan's 77-year military history**

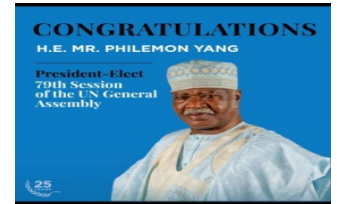


## 8. Donald Trump becomes first former U.S. President convicted of felony crimes

- Donald Trump became the first former American President to be convicted of felony crimes as a New York jury found him guilty of all 34 charges in a scheme to illegally influence the 2016 election

## 9. Philemon Yang of Cameroon elected President of upcoming General Assembly Session

- The **UN General Assembly (UNGA)** on June 6, elected former Cameroonian **Prime Minister Philemon Yang** as president of the **79th UNGA session**.
- Yang will succeed **Denis Francis of Trinidad and Tobago**, president of the **78th UNGA session**, when the 79th UNGA session opens on Sept. 10 at the UN headquarters in New York.



## 10. 'Prachanda' inaugurated the 'Arun-3 Hydro Electric Project' in Nepal

- Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal '**Prachanda**' inaugurated the 900 MW Arun-3 Hydroelectric Project in Nepal.
- The 900 MW hydropower projects being **constructed on the Arun River** with a budget of about USD 1.4 billion, is a **run-off-the-river type** project whose construction started in May 2018.

## 11. Nvidia overtakes Apple to become world's second most valuable company

- US semiconductor maker **Nvidia Corp** has overtaken **iPhone maker Apple** to become the world's second most valuable company. The company's market cap rose to more than \$3.06 trillion
- Washington-based **Microsoft** most valuable company with a market value of **\$3.14 trillion**



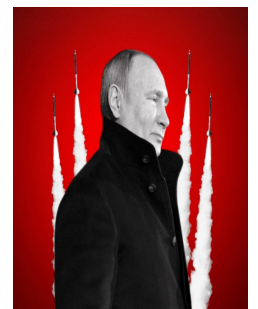
## 12. Peru and Slovakia sign the Artemis Accords for Peaceful Moon Exploration

- Both countries signed the accords at **NASA's Washington headquarters**, but in separate ceremonies with Peru the first to add its name to the accords on May 30 followed by Slovakia.
- **Peru became 41st and Slovakia 42nd** countries to do so.
- Artemis accord is launched by **NASA and seven other nations in 2020**, the Artemis Accords are a **nonbinding political commitment** to a set of principles guiding the conduct of civil space exploration.
- The namesake of the accords is the Artemis Program, which NASA is leading along with industry and international partners to **create a sustainable human presence on the Moon** and eventually on Mars.

## 13. Russia threatens Europe with Operation 'Unthinkable'

- A Russian military expert Dr Yuri Baranchik has claimed that if a third world war breaks out, Vladimir Putin's regime will knock out the nuclear capability of **Britain and France** within a day under '**Operation Unthinkable**'
- Russia is the world's **largest country by area**. It is a **Eurasian country that geographically lies in both Europe and Asia**.
- However, it is considered to be a European country.
- The Modern Russian Federation came into being in 1991 after the dissolution of the USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republic) or the Soviet Union.

- Capital: **Moscow**
- Currency: **Rouble**
- President: **Vladimir Putin**
- Prime Minister: **Mikhail Mishustin**



## 14. Mount Kanlaon volcano erupted in the central Philippines recently

- Hundreds of people sheltered in evacuation centres after Mount Kanlaon volcano erupted in the **central Philippines recently**.

### About Mount Kanlaon:

- It is a strato volcano located in the north-central portion of the island of Negros, Philippines.
- It is the **highest mountain on the island of Negros and the 42nd tallest peak on an island in the world**.
- It is one of the **active volcanoes in the Philippines and part of the Pacific Ring of Fire**.



## 15. Massive eruption in 'Kilauea Volcano', one of the world's most active volcanoes in Hawaii

- **Kilauea volcano**, one of the world's most active volcanoes in Hawaii, USA, started erupting.



- According to the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory (USGS) of the US Geological Survey, this is happening in the area that last erupted half a century ago.

#### 16. 2025 to be International Year of Quantum Science and Technology: UN

- The United Nations has said 2025 will be designated the 'International Year of Quantum Science and Technology'.
- The initiative will be "year-long", "worldwide".
- The opening ceremony is expected to be conducted on January 14, 2025, in Berlin.
- The Government of India announced a 'National Quantum Mission' in April 2023 at a cost of Rs 6,000 crore, to be implemented from 2023 to 2031 by the Department of Science & Technology (DST).

#### 17. Malawi Vice President Saulos Chilima among 9 killed in plane crash

#### 18. Australia will allow noncitizen permanent residents to join the armed forces

- Australia will allow non-citizen permanent residents who have been living in Australia for at least 12 months to join the Australian Armed Forces from July 2024.
- This is aimed at achieving Australia's recruitment target for its army

#### 19. Ukraine peace summit to be held in Switzerland, 2024

- A peace summit for Ukraine will be held on 15-16 June 2024 in Bern, Switzerland.
- Nearly 90 countries and organisations, half of them from Europe, have confirmed their participation in the Swiss-hosted Ukraine peace summit over the weekend, while Russia has refused to attend the conference.

#### 20. India & UAE Forge New Path With Local Currency Settlement System

- India and the UAE have embarked on a groundbreaking initiative with the introduction of the Local Currency Settlement System (LCSS), aimed at transforming their economic relations.
- This system allows transactions between the two nations to be conducted in their respective domestic currencies—Indian Rupees and UAE Dirhams—thus reducing reliance on intermediary currencies like the US Dollar.

#### 21. G7 summit: PM Modi leaves for Italy, 1st foreign trip this term

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi went to Italy to attend the 50th G7 outreach summit.
- It will be his first trip abroad after assuming charge as the Prime Minister for the third term.
- The Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni had invited PM Modi for the G7 Outreach Summit.
- It will be India's 11th participation in the G7 Summit and PM Modi's fifth consecutive participation at the G7 Summit.



#### 22. Ancient Greek sanctuary slowly sinks into the Aegean Sea

- Delos, one of the most important sanctuaries of the ancient Greek and Roman world, is at danger to be sunk in around 50 years into the Aegean Sea due to climate change
- The island is home to the Sanctuary of Apollo, which includes temples, altars, and other structures dedicated to the god. The sanctuary served as a focal point for religious festivals and ceremonies. Delos is a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- According to Greek mythology, Delos is the birthplace of Apollo. Delos was a thriving commercial and trading hub. Its strategic location made it a key center for trade routes in the Mediterranean.



#### 23. Cyril Ramaphosa secures second term as South African President

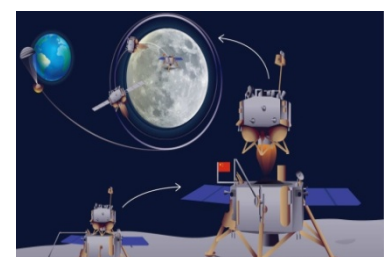
##### Republic of South Africa

- South Africa lies at the southernmost tip of the African continent.
- The apartheid ended in 1994, and black leader Nelson Mandela was elected as the first Black President of South Africa in 1994.
- Capital of South Africa: It has three capitals. Pretoria (executive), Cape Town (legislative), and Bloemfontein (judicial).

- Currency: Rand
- President: Cyril Ramaphosa

#### 24. Chang'e-7 Mission: Egypt, Bahrain Join China to Build Hyperspectral Camera

- Egypt and Bahrain have joined China as international partners to develop and deliver scientific instruments for the Chang'e-7 mission.
- The Egyptian Space Agency (EgSA), Bahrain's National Space Science Agency, and the Changchun Institute of Optics, Fine Mechanics, and Physics signed a cooperation agreement to jointly develop a hyperspectral camera as part of the goal of developing and delivering scientific instruments for the Chang'e-7 mission.
- The Chinese lunar mission aimed at searching for water ice at the moon's South Pole in 2026.



## 25. India to host the 81st International Air Transport Association (IATA), AGM in 2025

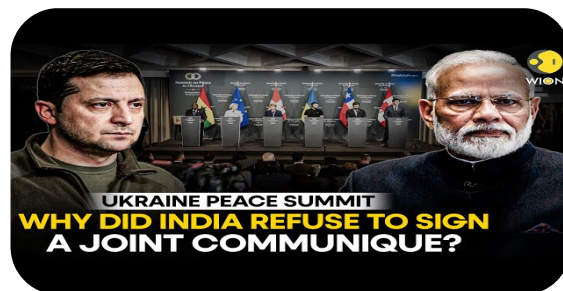
- The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced that IndiGo will host the 81st IATA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and World Air Transport Summit in Delhi, India in June 2025
- India will host the world's most premier aviation event, the annual general meeting (AGM) of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), in 2025, after a gap of 42 years.
- Next year's AGM will be the third time that the world's airline leaders gather in India. The country has hosted the AGM in 1983 and 1958.
- About 330 airlines, comprising more than 80 per cent of global air traffic, are members of IATA.

## 26. Volvo to Issue World's First EV Battery Passport ahead of EU Rules

- Volvo Cars announces the debut of the world's first EV battery passport, which meticulously documents the lineage of raw materials, components, recycled content, and carbon footprint for its forthcoming flagship EX90 SUV, ahead of the EU rules.
- Volvo owners can access a simplified version of the passport using a QR code on the inside of the driver's door.
- The EV battery passport is a result of a collaboration between Volvo and UK-based startup Circular, which uses blockchain technology to map supply chains for companies

## 27. India refuses to sign the declaration on Ukraine at Swiss Conference

- India has refused to endorse the communique issued after the end of the Summit on Peace in Ukraine.
- The two day Summit on Peace in Ukraine was hosted by Switzerland at Burgenstock on June 15 and 16.
- The summit ended with many countries supporting the territorial integrity of Ukraine and calling upon all the parties to find a lasting solution to the conflict.



## 28. 'Petrodollar deal' between USA and Saudi Arabia ends

- The US-Saudi Arabia petrodollar deal, a key arrangement in global finance, has ended after 50 years. Introduced on 1974, this landmark deal facilitated the exchange of US dollars for crude oil exports, leading to the dominance of the dollar
- The term "petrodollar" refers to US dollars earned by oil-exporting countries through the sale of oil. The concept emerged in the early 1970s and has played a key role in global economics and geopolitics

## U.S.-SAUDI PETRODOLLAR DEAL ENDS



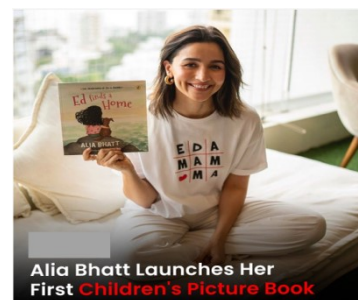
## 29. NSA of India & US Co-chair 2nd India- US meeting on ICET In New Delhi

- The 2nd meeting of the India-US initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) was held between the two countries on 17 June 2024 in New Delhi.
- The meeting was co-chaired by the National Security Advisor (NSA) of India, Ajit Doval and the United States (US) NSA Jake Sullivan.
- The iCET focuses on deepening and expanding strategic cooperation in space, semiconductors, advanced telecommunications, artificial intelligence, quantum, biotechnology, and clean energy between the two countries.
- The first iCET meeting was held in Washington, D.C., USA, in January 2023.

## 30. Alia Bhatt releases debut children's book 'The Adventures of Ed-a-Mamma: Ed Finds A Home'

## 31. Thailand Passes Marriage Equality Bill, A First in Southeast Asia

- Thailand will become the first nation in Southeast Asia to legalize same-sex marriage after the kingdom's Senate approved a marriage equality bill on June 18, with supporters calling it a "monumental step forward for LGBTQ+ rights."
- The result of the vote means that Thailand will become only the third place in Asia to allow for marriage equality after Taiwan legalized same-sex marriage in 2019 and Nepal in 2023.



Alia Bhatt Launches Her First Children's Picture Book

## 32. Nvidia Becomes World's Most Valuable Company

- Nvidia, the startup at the centre of the artificial intelligence boom, has become the world's most valuable company, knocking Microsoft off the top spot.
- Nvidia's market capitalisation hit \$3.335 trillion on June 18, as shares of the chipmaker rose by 3.5 percent to \$135.58.
- Shares of Microsoft and Apple, holders of the number two and three spots, fell by 0.45 percent and 1.1 percent



## 33. Ukraine launches world's first 'Unmanned Systems Forces'

- In a move aimed at revolutionising modern warfare, Ukraine has officially established the world's first Unmanned Systems Forces (USF), new branch of the military dedicated to harnessing the power of unmanned warfare dedicated to advancing the capabilities of unmanned and robotic warfare in the air, sea and land domains.



### 34. Actor Theo James appointed UNHCR global goodwill ambassador

### 35. New Zealand scraps 'burp tax' on livestock after sharp reaction from farmers

### 36. Canada declares Iran's 'IRGC military force' a terrorist entity

- Canada has declared Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), a branch of the Iranian armed forces, a terrorist entity.
- Announcing this, Canadian Public Safety Minister Dominic LeBlanc said that Canada will use all means available to it to counter the terrorist activity of the IRGC
- The move makes Canada the second country in North America to label the IRGC as a terrorist organisation after the US, which did so in 2019



### 37. Tajik Parliament Bans Hijab

- Muslim-majority Tajikistan has prohibited the use of hijab (Arabic headcover for women), terming it an "alien garment".
- Tajikistan has also banned 'Idi', the custom of children seeking money during Eid.
- The move to prohibit the hijab in the Central-Asian nation is the latest in a series of measures by the government to promote a secular national identity.

**Tajikistan**  
President: Emomali Rahmon  
Capital: Dushanbe  
Currency: Somoni

**Note:** With around 10 million Muslims, more than 96% of the Republic of Tajikistan follows various sects of Islam.

### 38. North Korea, Russia sign mutual defence pact; immediately to help if either one attacked

### 39. China Becomes First Country to Retrieve Rocks From the Moon's Far Side

- China's Chang'e 6 spacecraft (Chang'e 6's 53-day mission,) has successfully brought samples from the far side of the moon back to Earth, marking the first-ever return of materials from this scarcely seen lunar region.



### 40. USA designates Kenya as Major Non-NATO Ally

- The United States has designated Kenya as its Major Non-NATO Ally, MNNA. A memorandum published by the White House states that MNNA status is a designation under US law.
- Kenya has become the first subSaharan African nation and the fourth country in Africa to be given this status.
- Earlier, Egypt was given this status by former President Ronald Reagan (1987), Morocco by George W. Bush (2004) and Tunisia by Barack Obama in 2015.

### 41. India ranked 171st by number of female heads of state and cabinet members according to UN Women global data

- According to UN Women's Global Data on Women Political Leaders 2024, women are still largely excluded from positions of power and diplomacy. 113 countries around the world have never had a female head of state or government.
- The top positions are held by Finland, Nicaragua, Liechtenstein and Belgium.
- India has been placed at 171st place. India has 6.5 per cent women in key political positions. .
- The top positions are held by Finland, Nicaragua, Liechtenstein and Belgium.
- At the last 184th place are Azerbaijan, Hungary, Papua New Guinea, Saudi Arabia, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Yemen.



### 42. Paraguay Joins International Solar Alliance as 100th Member

- Paraguay has officially become the 100th full member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), marking a significant milestone in global solar energy cooperation
- Launched in 2015 during COP21 by India and France, the ISA aims to accelerate global solar energy deployment to support climate action.



#### About International Solar Alliance

- India and France conceived the idea of the International Solar Alliance as part of the effort to mobilize the countries to use solar energy to counter global warming and climate change.
- The Indian prime minister Narendra Modi and the French president Françoise Hollande agreed to set up the International Solar Alliance during the sidelines of the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Paris in 2015.

#### Members of the ISA

- 119 countries have till date signed the ISA Framework Agreement. 100 countries have ratified and submitted the necessary International Solar Alliance Instrument of Ratification to become a full member.
- Headquarters of ISA: Gurugram, Haryana

**43. RBI announces SAARC currency swap framework for 2024-27**

- The Reserve Bank of India has put in place a revised framework on currency swap arrangements for countries within the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) grouping for the time period 2024 to 2027.
- The total corpus of the Rupee support is ₹250 billion (Rs 25,000)
- SAARC currency swap facility, which was first operationalised in November 2012, is intended to provide a backstop line of funding for short-term foreign exchange liquidity requirements or balance of payments crises suffered by SAARC countries till longer-term arrangements are made.
- The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was established with the signing of the SAARC Charter in Dhaka on 8 December 1985.
- The idea of regional cooperation in South Asia was first raised in November 1980.
- After consultations, the foreign secretaries of the seven founding countries—Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka—met for the first time in Colombo in April 1981.
- Afghanistan became the newest member of SAARC at the 13th annual summit in 2005.
- The Headquarters and Secretariat of the Association are at Kathmandu, Nepal.

**44. South Korea, USA and Japan launch first trilateral multidomain exercise 'Freedom Edge**

- The three-day exercise called Freedom Edge began on South Korea's southern island of Jeju
- deepen security cooperation against threats from North Korea by strengthening its ties with Russia
- focus on ballistic missile defence, air defence, anti-submarine warfare, search and rescue, maritime interception and defensive cyber training
- agreed upon during the Camp David summit of US President Joe Biden, his South Korean counterpart Yoon Suk-yeol and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida last August

**45. Indian folk and tribal art exhibition 'Hunar' opens in Dubai, UAE**

- The Dubai Art Centre, one of the oldest art institutions in the UAE city of Dubai, is currently hosting the "Hunar" exhibition
- The exhibition highlights the rich cultural heritage of India's folk and tribal art forms
- Aipan art from Uttarakhand, Madhubani art from Bihar and Warli art from Maharashtra, vibrant murals from Kerala, intricate Muria art from Chhattisgarh
- including a Ramayana painting depicting all seven chapters of the epic

**46. Denmark Set to Impose World's First Carbon Tax on Gassy Cattle**

- Denmark plans to implement a tax on livestock farmers starting in 2030, making it the first nation to do so.
- This initiative targets methane emissions from cows, sheep, and pigs, which are significant contributors to global warming
- The goal is to achieve a 70 per cent reduction in Danish greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by the year 2030.

**47. Moscow, Delhi work on PM visit to Russia, his first since Ukraine war**



# National News

## Current Affairs

**June  
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### 1. Adani Ports to manage Dar es Salaam Port of Tanzania for 30 years

- The Gautam Adani-owned Adani group has entered the port business in the African country of Tanzania by securing a **30-year lease** of Container Terminal 2 at the Dar es Salaam Port.
- An agreement was signed between the **Tanzania Ports Authority and Adani International Ports Holdings Pte Ltd**, a subsidiary of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd. (APSEZ).
- Recently, the Indian government-owned **Indian Ports Global Ltd** secured a **10-year deal** to manage and operate the **Shahid Beheshti terminal of Chabahar Port of Iran**.



#### About Tanzania

- Tanzania is an East African country situated along the coast of the Indian Ocean.
- The country was formed in **1964** by the union of **Tanganyika** and **Zanzibar**.
- Africa's highest mountain, **Kilimanjaro** (5,895 meters), is in Tanzania.
- Tanzania also has the **second-deepest lake** in the world -**Lake Tanganyika** (1,436 meters deep). The deepest lake in the world -**Lake Baikal**, is in the Siberian region of Russia.
- Lake Tanganyika is also the world's **longest freshwater lake**.

Capital: **Dodoma**  
Currency: **Tanzanian Shilling**  
President: **Samia Suluhu Hassan**

### 2. Sikkim High Court introduces menstrual leave policy for its women employees

- The **Sikkim High Court registry** stated that women employees may avail "2-3 days of menstrual leave" in a month.
- However, such leave would only be granted on the **prior recommendation of the Medical Officer** of the High Court.
- This leave will not be counted against the employee's overall leave account.
- The Sikkim HC, the **country's smallest High Court**, has three judges, with just 9 officers in the registry including one-woman officer.
- The Sikkim High Court is the **first High Court to introduce a menstrual leave policy**. Currently, there is no national policy or law for menstrual leave.



#### About Sikkim

- It is bordered by Tibet (China) to the north and northeast, Bhutan to the east, Nepal to the west, and the Indian state of West Bengal to the south.
- Sikkim is the **least populous and second smallest among the Indian states**.
- Kangchenjunga, the **third highest peak in the world**, Sikkim shares with Nepal.
- Kanchenjunga National Park, which is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.
- Influenced by Tibetan culture due to the spread of Buddhism.
- Sikkim stands out for its commitment to **organic farming**
- **Capital - Gangtok**

### 3. India's first urban ropeway in Varanasi to be ready by August 2024

- The first section of India's **inaugural urban ropeway project** in Varanasi will link **Varanasi Cantonment Railway Station to RathYatraby** August 2024, under the '**ParvatmalaPariyojana**'.
- Constructed by **Vishwa Samudra Engineering** in partnership with **Switzerland's Bartholet Maschinenbau AG**.
- The project is designed to **carry 96,000 passengers daily**, improving connectivity in congested areas.

#### 4. DRDO Industry Academy Excellence Center' in IIT Kanpur inaugurated

- The Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK) has established the DRDO-Industries-Academia Center (DIA COE) in its premises for interdisciplinary research in the next generation defense technologies in collaboration with the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO).

##### About DRDO

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation is the leading research and development establishment of the government of India.
- It was set up in 1958 under the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.
- DRDO was set up to develop advanced defence technology to make the Indian armed forces self-reliant in weapon systems.
- DRDO has developed various missiles like Agni, Prithvi, light combat aircraft Tejas, main battle tank Arjun multi-barrel rocket launcher, Pinaka; air defence system, Akash; a wide range of radars and electronic warfare systems; etc.,
- Chairman of DRDO: Dr Samir V Kamath

#### 5. Ruchira Kamboj, India's first woman Permanent Representative to UN, retires

- Ruchira Kamboj retired after 35 years of service, during which she served as Indian envoy in Bhutan, South Africa and the UNESCO.
- Ruchira Kamboj became Permanent Representative/Ambassador of India to New York, on August 2, 2022.
- From 2011-14, she was India's Chief of Protocol, the first and the only woman so far in Government to have held this position.

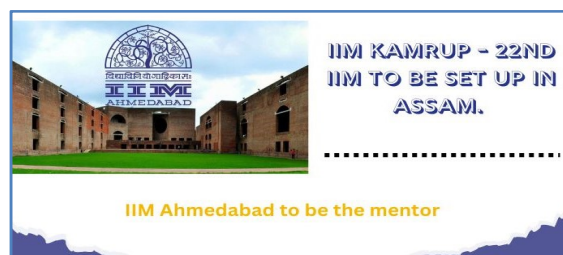


#### 6. NSE launched India's first 'EV index'

- NSE Index Limited, a subsidiary of the National Stock Exchange of India, has introduced India's first electric vehicle (EV) index.
- The Nifty EV and New Age Automotive Index EV tracks the performance of companies and advanced automotive vehicles and related technology.

#### 7. Assam to set up new IIM Kamrup after Centre's nod, IIM Ahmedabad to mentor

- The Centre has approved an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) for Assam, and it would come up near Guwahati
- Of the 21 IIMs across the country, only one — IIM Shillong — is located in the Northeast.



#### 8. India receives highest FDI from Singapore in 2023-24; Mauritius second biggest investor

- The overseas capital inflows into India contracted by about 3.5% due to global economic uncertainties, according to the latest government data.
- Though FDI from Singapore has dipped by 31.55% to \$11.77 billion in 2023-24, India has attracted the maximum inflows from that country
- Since 2018-19, Singapore has been the largest source of such investments for India.

#### 9. Centre Launches New Mobile Number Series for Service, Transactional Calls

- The Centre has introduced a new numbering series, 160xxxxxxx, for making service or transactional calls.
- This move aims to help citizens easily identify legitimate calls and curb unsolicited voice calls from telemarketers using 10-digit mobile numbers.
- Currently, the 140xxxxxxx series is allocated to telemarketers for promotional, service, and transactional calls

#### 10. Supreme Court Reconstitutes Gender Sensitisation Committee

- The Supreme Court of India has reconstituted its Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee, in accordance with the Gender Sensitisation and Sexual Harassment regulations of 2013.
- The reconstitution, initiated by the Chief Justice of India, appoints Justice Hima Kohli as the Chairperson, alongside Justice BV Nagarathna as a Member and Dr. Sukhda Pritam as the Member Secretary.



#### 11. River Sunkoshi Cleanup Campaign Removes 24,575 Kg Of Plastic Waste In Golanjor Municipality Of Nepal In 36 Hours

- To clean river Sunkosi in the Bagmati province of Nepal, 134 people participated in a river cleanup campaign organised by Project CAP (Collaborative Approach for Preventing Plastic Leakages in Rivers) in Golanjor rural municipality under the PLEASE (Plastic Free Rivers and Seas of South Asia) program



- **Sunkoshi is a tributary of Satkoshi river**
- **The Koshi River drains eastern Nepal.** It is also known as Saptkoshi River because of the seven rivers joining in east-central Nepal to form this river. The main rivers forming the Koshi River system are Sunkoshi, Indravati, Tamba Koshi, Bhote Koshi, Dudh Kosi, Arun and Tamur Rivers.
- **River Sunkoshi's water source is located in the Zhangzangbo Glacier** in Tibet, which merges with River Saptkoshi ultimately joining River Ganga in Katihar district of Bihar in India, finally draining into the ocean at the Bay of Bengal in Bangladesh.

## 12. Over one lakh farmers voluntarily surrenders PM-Kisan benefits

- Union Ministry of Agriculture and Family Welfare, **116,000 farmers** have voluntarily surrendered their benefits under the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan)** scheme during **June 2023 to May 2024 period** across the country.
- The PM-KISAN scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at **Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh**
- It is a **100% centrally sponsored scheme** under which farmers get **Rs 6000 per year**.
- **Bihar leads the state in surrendering PM -Kisan scheme followed by UP and RAJASTHAN.**



### Reason for surrendering of the PM Kisan

- absentee landlords;
- Land being transferred to tax-paying descendants through succession and change in the status of landowners.

## 13. India Created World Record with 64.2 crore People Voting in Lok Sabha Poll(including 31.2 crore women)

## 14. PV Sindhu Invests in and Becomes Brand Ambassador for Greenday's 'Better Nutrition'



## 15. Shah Rukh Khan Appointed as New Brand Ambassador of Muthoot Pappachan Group

## 16. Malaysia's Newly Appointed High Commissioner To India Muzaffar Shah Mustafa

## 17. Gautam Adani becomes Asia's richest person again

- **Gautam Adani**, founder and chairman of Adani Group, has **overtaken Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani** to become **Asia's richest person**, according to a report by the **Bloomberg Billionaires Index**.
- **Bloomberg Billionaires Index** list of the world's top 50 richest people, **Gautam Adani** is ranked **11th** with a net worth of **\$111 billion**, while **Mukesh Ambani** is ranked **12th** with a net worth of **\$109 billion**

## 18. Lok Sabha Secretariat Develops "Prerana Sthal" To Showcase Statues Of Great Leaders & Freedom Fighters Of India

## 19. According to Election Commission, a total of 65.79 percent voting took place in General Elections 2024

- **Lakshadweep** recorded the highest voter turnout of **84.16 percent**, followed by **Assam** at **81.56 percent** and **Tripura** at **80.93 percent**
- **Bihar** recorded the **lowest voter turnout of 56.19 percent** and **Mizoram** at **56.87 percent**, while **Uttar Pradesh** recorded **56.92 percent**.
- The total number of **male voters who voted in the 18th Lok Sabha elections** was **65.80 percent**, while **65.78 percent** of voters were women. The third gender turnout was **27.08 percent**

## 20. Mission Karmayogi Aims to Transform India's Civil Services by 2047

- India has embarked on the **path towards Viksit Bharat by 2047**.
- In **September 2020**, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched **Mission Karmayogi**, that is, the **National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building**, in order to transform India's three million civil servants into **citizen-centric, future-ready and result-oriented karmayogis**.
- **Indian Institute of Public Administration** assessed the impact by seeking inputs on recently trained staff from their supervisors and reported increased proficiency in data analytics and e-governance tools
- As part of **Mission Karmayogi**, the **Capacity Building Commission (CBC)** was **constituted in 2021** to provide **policy guidance and tools to enhance the capabilities of all levels of India's vast civil services**.
- It will promote **citizen-centric approaches among civil servants**.

## 21. Om Birla Re-Elected, Breaks 20-Year Lok Sabha Trend

- **Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla** won the Kota parliamentary, Rajasthan seat, thus becoming **the first presiding officer in 20 years to be re-elected to the Lower House.**
- **The last Lok Sabha speaker to get re-elected to the Lower House was P A Sangma**, who was the presiding officer of the 11th Lok Sabha from 1996 to 1998.
- Sangma, then a Congress member, was re-elected from Tura in Meghalaya in the 1998 Lok Sabha election.

## 22. Peru becomes first South American country to tie up with NPCI to build UPI payment system

- **NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL)**, the international subsidiary of **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**, has signed an agreement with the **Central Reserve Bank of Peru (BCRP)** to deploy a real-time digital payment system similar to the **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** in Peru.

## 23. Indian Navy Gets its First Woman Helicopter Pilot

- Sub Lieutenant **Anamika B. Rajeev** became the **Indian Navy's first woman helicopter pilot** during a passing out parade held in the naval air station **INS Rajali** at Arakkonam in Ranipet district.
- A total of **21 officers** were awarded the prestigious '**Golden Wings**' by **Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar**, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command



## 24. India Expands Overseas Port Operations: Targeting Mongla Port in Bangladesh

- In a strategic move to counter China's growing influence in the region, India sets its sights on managing the **Mongla Port in Bangladesh.**
- Following the successes of **Chabahar in Iran** and **Sittwe in Myanmar**, India **aims to further strengthen its commercial and security interests by expanding its overseas port operations.**

## 25. PM Narendra Modi Releases 17th Instalment Of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi

- After assuming the charge as Prime Minister for the third time, Mr Modi signed the **first file authorising release of 17th instalment of PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi.**
- This will **benefit 9 crore 30 lakh farmers** by distributing around 20 thousand crore rupees.

### Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN):

- It is a Central-Sector scheme with 100% funding from the Government of India.
- **Objective:** The scheme aims to supplement the financial needs of the farmers in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields.
- Under the scheme, income support of 6,000/- per year in three equal installments will be provided to all land-holding farmer families.
- It has become **operational from 1.12.2018.**



## 26. NHRC seeks report on 'sale of underage girls' as part of 'Nata Pratha'

- The **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** issued notices on to the **Union Ministry of Women and Child Development** and the **States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Gujarat** over a practice known as '**Nata Pratha**'.
- States have been directed to submit a report on measures taken or proposed within **eight weeks.**
- The '**Nata Pratha**' is **comparable to modern forms of prostitution.** Given the immoral consequences of '**Nata Pratha**' on women and minor girls, the **NHRC has called for its eradication and abolition.**
- **Nata Pratha** is a traditional practice prevalent in certain communities in states like **Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Gujarat.**
- This practice **involves the selling of girls, often on stamp paper, under the guise of marriage.** Often involves **child marriage.**
- Transactions are usually conducted by the girl's own family.
- **The practice has severe moral and legal implications,** particularly for women and minor girls.



### Legal and Human Rights Violations

- **Human Trafficking:** The practice can be classified as human trafficking, which is illegal under Indian law - Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
- **Child Marriage:** Violates the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.
- **POCSO Act:** The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, can be invoked if minors are involved.



## 27. Universities will be allowed to offer admissions twice a year on lines of foreign varsities: UGC

- The two admission cycles of Indian universities and higher education institutions will be July-August and January-February from the 2024-25 academic sessions.
- The biannual admissions will also enable the higher education institutes (HEIs) to plan their resource distribution, such as faculty, labs, classrooms and support services, more efficiently, resulting in a better functional flow within the university.
- Universities worldwide already follow a biannual admission system.

## 28. Oxford University Agrees to Return Stolen 500-Year-Old Bronze Idol to India

- Oxford University's Ashmolean Museum has decided to return a 16th-century bronze sculpture of Saint Tirumankai Alvar to India, following a formal request from the Indian government.
- The 60cm-tall statue, believed to have been stolen from a temple in Tamil Nadu, was acquired by the museum in 1967 from Sotheby's auction house.

## 29. Union Cabinet Approves Construction Of 3 Crore Additional Houses Under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

- Chairing the maiden Cabinet meeting of his third term Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved government assistance for the construction of three crore rural and urban houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY).
- Of the three crore houses, 2 crore will be constructed under PMAY-Gramin, while 1 crore under PMAY-Urban.

### Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) is a credit-linked subsidy scheme initiated to provide affordable housing to low and moderate-income residents across the country.
- The scheme has two components: PMAY-U for the urban poor and PMAY-G for the rural poor.

## 30. National Crime Record Bureau(NCRB) launches Mobile App 'NCRB Sankalan of Criminal Laws'

- National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) has launched a Mobile App "NCRB Sankalan of Criminal Laws" to serve as a comprehensive guide providing complete information about the new criminal laws at one place.
- The New criminal laws will come into force from the 1st of next month (July).

### National Crime Record Bureau:

NCRB was founded in: 11 March 1986  
NCRB's Agency executive: Vivek Gogia, IPS  
NCRB's Headquarters: Delhi

## 31. Zomato sets Guinness World Record in Mumbai

- For the "largest first aid lesson at a single venue".
- The company trained a total of 4,300 delivery partners at a single site
- Founder, Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)- Deepinder Goyal .
- Founded the company in 2008.

## 32. Madhya Pradesh set to allow shops and commercial establishments to stay open 24 hours

- Madhya Pradesh government has decided to allow all shops and commercial establishments in the state to stay open 24 hours in an effort to generate greater revenue and employment opportunities.
- This will make Madhya Pradesh the seventh state in the country after Maharashtra, Karnataka, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Telangana to implement such a policy,
- The project will pilot in Bhopal and Indore but eventually apply to other districts as well.

## 33. Punjab police launch 'Mission Nishchay'

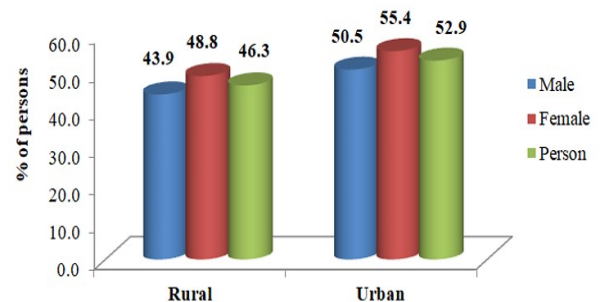
- Punjab Police in association with the Border Security Force (BSF) and Village Defence Committees (VDCs) will carry out a one-week drive against drugs, named as 'Mission Nishchay', in Fazilka district.
- They will reach out to residents of 42 villages along the India Pakistan border to gather actionable intelligence about the demand and supply of drugs.
- Of the 553-km-long Punjab border with Pakistan, 108 km is in Fazilka district.



## 34. All-India Ayush Survey (July 2022 - June 2023)

- Around 46 per cent of rural and 53 per cent of urban individuals in India availed of Ayush for the prevention or treatment of ailments in the past year, according to findings of a survey released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- Ayush refers to the six Indian systems of medicines, namely Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa and Homeopathy are majorly prevalent in the country.
- The findings are a part of the first exclusive all-India

Figure 2: % of persons who have used Ayush for prevention or treatment of ailments, during last 365 days, All-India



survey on Ayush conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), as part of the 79th round of the National Sample Survey (NSS).

- The survey states that about 95 per cent of the rural population aged 15 years and above in India are aware of AYUSH, whereas the number stands at 96 per cent for urban India.
- 79 per cent and 80 per cent of the households in rural and urban India have at least one member aware of medicinal plants and home medicines.
- Around 24 per cent of the households have at least one member aware about folk medicine or local health tradition in both rural and urban India.
- This survey covers the entire country, with information collected from 1,81,298 households, including 1,04,195 in rural areas and 77,103 in urban areas.

### 35. World Bank expert, Pakistan delegates to visit in J&K to examine hydro projects

- A five-member delegation from Pakistan, along with neutral delegates of the World Bank, is scheduled to visit Jammu and Kashmir
- In the wake of Pakistan's objection under the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) of 1960 to at least 10 hydroelectric power projects underway in the Union Territory.
- The neutral expert will examine the Ratle Hydroelectric Project in Chenab Valley, and the Kishanganga Power House in Bandipore's Gurez.
- Under the IWT, India was given full rights over the three eastern rivers of Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej, while Pakistan was granted rights over the three western rivers of Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab.
- However, India is allowed limited use of the western rivers for domestic, non-consumptive, and agricultural purposes.

### 36. Indian Railways Enter Its Name Into Limca Book Of Records

- Indian Railways has entered its name into Limca Book of Records for most people at a public service event at multiple venues.
- Ministry of Railways had organized an event on 26 February 2024, which was attended by over 40 lakh 19 thousand people at over two thousand venues.

### 37. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy organises 'Global Wind Day 2024'

- On the 15th of June 2024.
- Aimed at celebrating the glorious success of Indian Wind Sector so far and also discussing the potential way forward for accelerating wind energy adoption in India.
- With a central theme of "Pawan-Urja: Powering the Future of India",
- With a cumulative installed wind power capacity of 46.4 GW by May 2024, India has progressed to become the fourth largest in the world (after China, US, Germany).
- Wind energy is crucial to India's efforts in achieving 50% of its electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuelbased energy resources by 2030 and net zero by 2070.

### 38. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar Inaugurated Newly Constructed 'Prerna Sthal' In Parliament House Complex

### 39. Jal Shakti Ministry launches portal to ecologically monitor the Ganga

- The Union Jal Shakti Ministry launched an Environmental flows (Eflows) Monitoring System that allows real-time monitoring of river quality.
- It has been developed by the National Mission for Clean Ganga, an arm of the Jal Shakti Ministry, and was launched in the presence of Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Paatil.
- This will aid the planning and monitoring of projects, river water quality, and other key parameters.
- Along with real-time analysis of the water quality of the Ganga, Yamuna, and their tributaries, it also allows monitoring of the Namami Gange programme activities at the central level.
- This includes monitoring the performance of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), and ensuring that they operate at their rated capacity.



### 40. India Is Set To Be 6th Country To Have Its Own Deep Sea Mission

- National Institute of Ocean Technology's (NIOT) is behind the development of Matsyayaan 6000, a crewed expedition submersible which can dive 6,000 metres deep into the ocean.
- Valuable resources like polymetallic nodules and sulphides, containing essential metals, are found between depths of 3,000 to 5,500 meters.
- Countries such as the U.S.A., Russia, China, France, and Japan have already achieved successful deep-ocean crewed missions.
- 1st Stage of harbor trail (40-50m) deep of deep sea mission planned by September 2024 and the subsequent ones by 2026.
- NIOT is working in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to develop a "titanium hull" for the vessel that can bear extreme pressure (up to 6000 bar).





- Self -Floatation' technology to deal with emergency conditions and be submerged for 72 hours.
- Deep Ocean Mission (DOM) is an ambitious initiative of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) which aims to develop technologies and capabilities for deep sea exploration.
- Also, DOM is one of nine missions under the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PMSTIAC).
- India's Deep-Ocean Mining System 2021-2030 has been designated by the United Nations as the 'Decade of Ocean Science'.

#### Major Advancement in DOM Objectives:

- Samudryaan and Matsya6000
- Varaha

#### 41. Govt Denies Rumours Of Agnipath Scheme Relaunch As Sainik Saman Scheme

- The government has termed a WhatsApp message which claims that the Agnipath Scheme has been re-launched as the Sainik Saman Scheme as fake.
- The message doing rounds claims that the scheme has been relaunched with several changes including the duty period being extended to seven years, 60 per cent permanent staff and increased income.
- The Press Information Bureau has clarified that no such decision has been taken by the Center.
- Agnipath scheme is a central government scheme launched in June 2022 for recruitment to the armed forces.
- It is a recruitment process (twice a year) for individuals below the rank of officer, with the goal of deploying fitter, younger troops on the front lines, many of whom will be on 4-year contracts.
- At the time the scheme was brought in, the average age in the Armed Forces was 32 years, which Agnipath is expected to bring it down to 26 years.
- At the end of this tenure, up to 25% of these recruits, the so called 'Agniveers', can join the services on a permanent commission (another 15 years), subject to merit and organisational requirements.

#### 42. Chenab Bridge: Indian Railways Conducts Trial Run(electric engine from Sangaldan to Reasi) on World's Highest Steel Arch Rail Bridge

#### 43. First direct flight service started between India and Cambodia

#### 44. Cabinet green signals a Greenfield major port at Vadhavan, Maharashtra

- The government of India has approved the construction of a new major port at Vadhavan, situated in the Dahanu taluka of the Palghar district of Maharashtra
- The proposed all-weather Greenfield Vadhavan Port is to be India's largest deep draft port.
- Greenfield projects mean that there are no existing ports in the area and a new port will be built from scratch

#### 45. M.P Finalizes Preparations for Second Cheetah Habitat at Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary

- The Madhya Pradesh government has completed preparations for its ambitious cheetah reintroduction project at Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- This is slated to be the second home for cheetahs in India after Kuno National Park.

#### 46. Chirag Paswan and Ravneet Singh launch Website and Mobile App for World Food India 2024

- As a precursor to the 3rd edition of World Food India, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries, Chirag Paswan and Union Minister of State for Food Processing Industries and Railways, Ravneet Singh, launched the website and mobile application for World Food India 2024.
- With the objective of introducing the world to rich Indian food culture as well as promoting investments in the diverse food processing sector of the country, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries launched the first edition of World Food India in 2017.

#### 47. Union Cabinet approves NFIES scheme for Forensic Infra. Development

- The government of India has approved a new central sector scheme to strengthen the criminal forensic infrastructure in the country to aid an efficient criminal justice system.
- The National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES) was approved by the Union Cabinet in a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- The aim of the NFIES scheme is to strengthen the forensic science infrastructure in the country to aid the scientific investigation of crime. The three new criminal laws, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023, will come into effect on 1 July 2024.

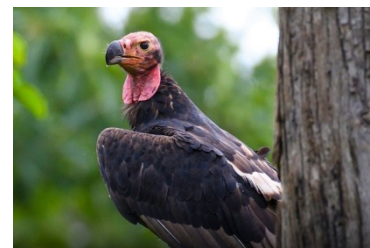


#### Feature of the "National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme

- The "National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES) scheme will be implemented by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The "National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES) will consist of three components:
  1. Construction of Campuses of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) in the country.
  2. Establishment of Central Forensic Science Laboratories across the country and
  3. Strengthening the existing infrastructure of the Delhi Campus of the NFSU.
- The duration of the National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme is five years, i.e from 2024-25 to 2028-29.

#### 48. UP government to inaugurate world's first Asian king vulture conservation and breeding centre in Maharajanj

- Uttar Pradesh is set to inaugurate the world's first conservation and breeding centre for Asian king vultures or red-headed vultures in Maharajanj.
- The facility will improve the population of the critically endangered species listed on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List since 2007.
- The centre is named **Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre**.



#### 49. NITI Aayog launched 'AIM - ICDK Water Challenge 4.0' initiative

- NITI Aayog under its flagship initiative Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has launched the 'AIM - ICDK Water Challenge 4.0'
- to address critical water-related challenges through inventive solutions
- The challenge is a collaborative effort with the Innovation Centre Denmark (ICDK) at the Royal Danish Embassy in India.
- The selected teams from India will participate in the global Next Generation Digital Action program.

##### Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)

- It is the Government of India's flagship initiative set up in 2016.
- **Objective:** To create and promote an ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship across the country at school, university, research institutions, MSME and industry levels.
- Implementing Agency: NITI Aayog

- NITI Aayog Chairperson: Narendra Modi
- Founded: 1 January 2015
- CEO: B.V.R. Subrahmanyam
- Vice Chairperson: Suman Bery

#### 50. Krishi Sakhi Program, Empowering Rural Women

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** awarded certificates to over 30,000 self-help groups as **Krishi Sakhis** in Varanasi.
- This initiative aims to enhance the skills of rural women in agriculture, recognizing their vital role in this sector.
- The KSCP is part of the ambitious '**Lakshpati Didi**' program, which aims to create 3 crore (30 million) LakshpatiDisis.
- Krishi Sakhi is one dimension of this larger initiative.
- Certified Krishi Sakhis can earn between **INR 60,000 to 80,000 per year**.



##### Key Objectives:

- Transform rural India by empowering women as Krishi Sakhis
- Train and certify Krishi Sakhis as para-extension workers
- Align with the "Lakshpati Didi" Program goals

#### 51. Cabinet approves development of Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, Varanasi

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the proposal of Airports Authority of India (AAI) for development of Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, Varanasi with an outlay of Rs 2,870 crore.
- It includes Construction of New Terminal Building, Apron Extension, Runway Extension, Parallel Taxi Track & Allied works.

#### 52. Govt Hikes MSP For 14 Kharif Crops Including Paddy & Cotton

- The Cabinet approved MSP hikes for all 14 kharif season crops.
- The Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), in a meeting held on 19 June 2024 and chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Kharif crops for the marketing season 2024-25.
- In the recently announced MSP for the 2024-25 Kharif season, Bajra has the highest margin over the cost of production (77 percent), followed by Tur (59 percent), maize (54 percent), and Urad (52 percent).



##### What is the Minimum Support Price (MSP)?

- In 1966-67, the government introduced the Minimum Support Price with the objective to :
- encourage farmers to adopt modern scientific farming to increase production,
- To raise productivity and crop production in the country to meet the emerging demand patterns in the country.

##### Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP)

- CACP was set up in 1965 as an expert committee under the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- It calculates the MSP of mandated crops and recommends them to the government.
- The government is not bound to accept the CACP's recommendations, which are advisory in nature.

##### Mandated Crops under MSP

- The CACP recommends MSPs for 22 mandated crops and fair and remunerative price (FRP) for sugarcane.
- The mandated crops include 14 crops of the kharif season, 6 Rabi crops and 2 other commercial crops.

### 53. Pradeep Singh Kharola Has Been Assigned The Additional Charge of NTA DG

- The Director General of the National Testing Agency, Subodh Kumar Singh, was removed from the post, amid controversy over irregularities in exams.
- Subodh Kumar Singh's services were put on a "compulsory wait" in Department of Personnel and Training, the government said in a letter.
- India Trade Promotion Organisation Chairman and MD Pradeep Singh Kharola were assigned additional charge of NTA DG till appointment of a regular incumbent or until further orders.



Pradeep Singh Kharola Has Been Assigned The Additional Charge of NTA DG

### 54. Tough central law to curb irregularities in exam comes into force

- The government of India has notified the stringent Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act 2024 and the law has come into effect from 21 June 2024.
- The law aims to curb the menace of malpractices and irregularities in competitive exams conducted in the country.
- The notification of the law assumes significance in the wake of question paper leaks of the UGC-NET and the undergraduate NEET (National Eligibility cum Entrance Test) medical exams.

### 55. Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024

- The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024, was passed by both houses of the parliament in February.
- President Droupadi Murmu gave her assent to the bill on 12 February, turning it into a law.
- The act aims to prevent unfair means in the public examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission, Railway Recruitment Board, Staff Selection Commission, National Testing Agency (NTA), and banking recruitment examination bodies, among others.

### 56. Ministry of Coal initiates India's First ever pilot project for underground coal gasification in Jharkhand

- The Ministry of Coal, Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) has embarked on an innovative pilot project for Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) at the Kasta coal block in Jamtara District, Jharkhand.
- This first ever groundbreaking initiative aims to revolutionize the coal industry by using in-situ coal gasification to convert it into valuable gases such as methane, hydrogen, carbon monoxide, and carbon dioxide
- These gases can be utilized to produce synthetic natural gas, chemical feedstocks for fuels, fertilizers, explosives, and other industrial applications.
- Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) provides a crucial benefit by unlocking coal deposits that are not economically feasible to extract using conventional mining techniques.
- Current Minister of Coal – G Kishan Reddy

### 57. Kozhikode in Kerala declared India's first UNESCO 'City of Literature'

- Kozhikode in north Kerala, known for its rich cultural heritage, was officially declared as India's first UNESCO 'City of Literature'.
- From 2025, June 23 will be celebrated as the 'City of Literature' Day of Kozhikode, a place known for literary greats like late S K Pottakkad and Vaikom Muhammed Basheer.
- In October 2023, Kozhikode, along with Gwalior, had earned a place in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN).
- While Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh had made it to the coveted list in the 'Music' category, Kozhikode earned the place in the 'Literature' category.
- The newly designated Creative Cities are invited to participate in the 2024 UCCN Annual Conference (July 1-5, 2024) in Braga, Portugal,
- under the theme 'Bringing Youth to the Table for the Next Decade'

#### About Kozhikode:

- Also known as Calicut is a city in the state of Kerala in southern India on the Malabar Coast.
- dubbed the "City of Spices" for its role as the major trading point of Eastern spices
- In 2012, Kozhikode was given the tag of "City of Sculptures" (Shilpa Nagaram)

### 58. AVPL International's VIRAJ drone gets dual certification from European aviation safety agency

- AVPL International has become the first Indian drone manufacturer to obtain dual certification from the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) for its VIRAJ drone.
- This will allow the company to facilitate drone operations in the European market
- The VIRAJ drone is designed for agricultural applications classified under the small category unmanned aircraft.
- Equipped with a 10-litre tank for spraying fertilisers and pesticides. Includes a 10-litre seed dispenser for versatile farming needs.
- Performance: Offers a flight time of up to 30 minutes per charge. Can cover 3-4 acres per charge for spraying or seeding operations.



### 59. Srinagar – ‘World Craft City’ by World Crafts Council

- Srinagar has become the fourth Indian city to be recognised as a ‘World Craft City’ by the World Craft Council (WCC), three years after it was designated as part of the UNESCO Creative City Network (UCCN) for crafts and folk arts.
- Jaipur, Malappuram and Mysore are the other Indian cities that have previously been recognised as World Craft Cities.
- The recognition would boost the handloom and handicraft sector, which will benefit tourism and infrastructure development
- As of now, at least 10 different forms of craftsmanship survive in Srinagar and its suburbs, including papier-mâché, walnut wood carving, carpets, Sozni embroidery and Pashmina and Kani shawls.
- World Crafts Council – Started in 1964. Main office - Belgium

### 60. BCORE launched to give wings to India’s 2036 Olympic dreams

- IOA President P T Usha and senior vice-president Ajay Patel inaugurated BCORE at Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) in Lavad, Gujarat.
- The Bharat Centre of Olympic Research and Education (BCORE) will not only help prepare the country for hosting the 2036 Olympics, but will also pitch for the inclusion of Indian sports such as kabaddi, kho-kho and yoga in the Games
- An independent academic and research centre to offer dedicated academic, research, sports and extension programmes.
- It is the 71st centre globally to receive official recognition from the International Olympic Committee



#### Indian Olympic Association (IOA)

- Established - 1927
- Sir Dorabji Tata and Dr. A.G. Noehren as the Founding President and Secretary General
- IOA is recognised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- Governance: It is currently governed by a 32-member Executive Council, headed by the President.
- The election for the Executive Council is held once in every four years.

### 61. Om Birla elected as the speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha

- Om Birla, a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidate, was re-elected speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha .
- He was elected by **voice vote** after the opposition party did not press for the counting of votes.
- The Opposition candidate was **K.Suresh of the Congress Party**. He is an eight-time Lok Sabha member from Kerala who currently represents the **Mavelikara constituency**.

#### Unique Points to Remember about the Lok Sabha Speaker

- There is **no provision of any oath** for the office of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker.
- **Ganesh Vasudev Mavlankar** was the first Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
- **Five persons have been the Lok Sabha Speaker twice**: Dr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, Gurdial Singh Dhillon, Balram Jakhar, G.M.C Balayogi, and Om Birla.
- The first person to be **unanimously elected** as the Speaker was **Madabhushi Ananthasayanam Ayyangar**.
- **Purno Sangma** was the **first opposition party candidate** to be elected speaker of the Lok Sabha
- **G.M.C Balayogi** of the Telugu Desam Party is the **youngest and first Dalit person** to become the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
- **K.S. Hedge** was the first and **only former Supreme Court Judge** to hold the Lok Sabha Speaker post.
- **Dr Neelam Sanjiva Reddy** is the only Speaker who **resigned from his party** after becoming Lok Sabha Speaker in 1977. He belonged to the Janata party.
- Dr Neelam Sanjiva Reddy is the only Lok Sabha Speaker to be elected as the **President of India**.
- **Meira Kumar** of the Congress (Indira) party is the **first woman** to be the Speaker of the LS.
- **Longest tenure** as a Speaker: **Balram Jakhar** over 9 years
- **Shortest tenure** as Speaker: **Neelam Sanjiva Reddy**, around 109 days in 1977.

### 62. Union Territory of Ladakh achieves full functional Literacy ULLAS

- According to the **Union Ministry of Education**, the **Union Territory of Ladakh** has achieved full functional literacy under the ULLAS-Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram.
- **Ladakh has achieved more than 97 percent literacy**.
- The ULLAS (**Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society**) Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram is a centrally sponsored scheme being implemented from 2022-23 to 2026-27.
- The **scheme seeks to cover all aspects of Adult Education to align with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**. The NEP 2020 has recommendations for **Adult Education and Lifelong Learning**.



### 63. Intelligence Bureau Chief Tapan Kumar Deka gets 1 year extension

### 64. CAG inaugurates India's first 'Chadwick House: Navigating Audit Heritage' Museum at Shimla

- The **Comptroller and Auditor General of India** inaugurated the 'Chadwick House: Navigating Audit Heritage' Museum at Shimla
- A significant milestone in the preservation and celebration of the institution's rich heritage and contributions to the nation's governance.

### 65. MoHUA Launches Safai Apnao, BimaariBhagao Initiative for Monsoon Preparedness

- The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** has launched the **Safai Apnao, BimaariBhagao (SABB)** initiative under **Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0**.
- This initiative aims to **bolster Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)** in tackling heightened cleanliness and health challenges during the monsoon season.
- It aligns with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's '**STOP Diarrhoea Campaign**', emphasizing comprehensive interventions and inter-departmental collaboration.

### 66. JP Nadda Launches National STOP Diarrhoea Campaign 2024

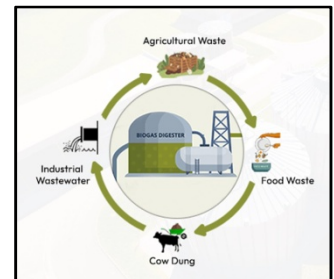
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare - **Jagat Prakash Nadda**
- The goal behind the **STOP Diarrhoea Campaign 2024** is to attain zero child deaths due to childhood diarrhoea
- In 2014, India was the first country to introduce the **Rotavirus vaccine** (to protect against rotavirus infections, which are the leading cause of severe diarrhea among young children.).
- The campaign's 2024 slogan, "**Diarrhoea ki Roktham, Safai aur ORS se rakhenapnadhyaan**"
- The **STOP Diarrhoea Campaign** will be implemented in two phases: the **Preparatory Phase** from 14th to 30th June 2024, and the **Campaign Phase** from 1st July to 31st August 2024

### 67. Dr. Jitendra Singh launches "One Week One Theme" (OWOT) campaign

- Minister of Earth Sciences Dr. Jitendra Singh launched "**One Week One Theme**" (OWOT) campaign showcasing recent success stories of India in different streams of science and technology.

### 68. Uttar Pradesh Leads India in Compressed Biogas Production

- According to a report by the Delhi-based think tank **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)** - **Uttar Pradesh holds a remarkable position in India's renewable energy landscape, with the potential to generate 24% of the nation's compressed biogas (CBG)**
- Biogas is produced from waste / biomass sources (e.g., agricultural residue, cattle dung, sugarcane press mud, municipal solid waste, and sewage treatment plant waste) through the process of anaerobic decomposition



### 69. Mumbai's first underground metro to launch in July

- **Mumbai's first underground metro line**, launching in July, will span 33.5 km and include 27 stations, primarily underground.

#### Extra Facts:

- India's first metro railway was started in Kolkata.
- **Delhi Metro is India's largest and busiest metro rail system** and the second-oldest, after the Kolkata Metro.
- India's first underwater and deepest metro train service commences in Kolkata.
- **Kochi, Kerala India's first city to have a Water Metro Project**

### 70. Tata Sons to Build ₹650 Crore 'Museum of Temples' in Ayodhya

- The **Uttar Pradesh Cabinet** approved **Tata Sons' proposal** to build a '**museum of temples**' in Ayodhya, a project worth **Rs 650 crore** to be funded through **Tata's corporate social responsibility fund**.
- Additionally, the state cabinet has also sanctioned **Rs 100 crore** for further development works in **Ayodhya** and endorsed the initiation of **helicopter services** in **Lucknow, Prayagraj, and Kapilvastu**.

### 71. Government Employees to Receive Extended Maternity and Child Care Leave for Surrogacy

- In a significant amendment to the **Central Civil Services (Leave) Rules, 1972**, commissioning mothers opting for surrogacy will now be entitled to **180 days of maternity leave**.
- This revision extends childcare leave to commissioning mothers with fewer than two surviving children, marking a departure from the **previous 50-year-old regulation**.
- Commissioning fathers are also granted 15 days of paternity leave under the amended rules.
- The amended rules also align with the **Surrogacy (Regulation) Rules of 2022**, allowing married couples to use donor eggs or sperm when one partner faces a medical condition.
- **The rules mandate verification by the District Medical Board to confirm the medical necessity for the use of donor gametes.**
- **ARTICLE 42 OF DPSP STATES "The State shall make provision for securing just and humane conditions of work and for maternity relief."**

### 72. Sengol finds prominence in Parliament amid political controversy; Samajwadi Party calls it "Raja ka Danda"

# State News

## Current Affairs

**June  
2024**

### 1. Uttarakhand Unveils India's First Astro-Tourism Initiative

- ✓ The Uttarakhand government organized India's first-ever astro-tourism event called 'Nakshatra Sabha' in **Mussoorie, the 'Queen of Hills', on June 1 and 2, 2024.**
- ✓ The inaugural event was held at the **George Everest Peak**, famous for its breathtaking views of the Doon Valley and the snow-capped Himalayas.

### 2. Sikkim Krantikari Morcha leader Prem Singh Tamang was sworn in as Chief Minister of Sikkim for the second time

#### About Sikkim

- It is bordered by Tibet (China) to the north and northeast, Bhutan to the east, Nepal to the west, and the Indian state of West Bengal to the south.
- Sikkim is the **least populous and second smallest among the Indian states.**
- Kangchenjunga, the **third highest peak in the world**, Sikkim shares with Nepal.
- Kanchenjunga National Park, which is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site.**
- Influenced by Tibetan culture due to the spread of Buddhism.
- Sikkim stands out for its commitment to **organic farming**
- Capital - Gangtok



### 3. 4-Time MLA Mohan Majhi To Be Odisha's First BJP Chief Minister

### 4. Rajasthan Govt to Invest ₹100 Cr. for Maharana Pratap Tourist Circuit

- **Bhajan Lal Sharma**, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan announced that the state government will develop the **Maharana Pratap Tourist Circuit with an investment of Rs 100 crore.**
- The Chief Minister inaugurating the Maharana Pratap Jayanti celebration in Udaipur. The 484th birthday of Maharana Pratap of Mewar was celebrated on 9 June 2024 (according to the Hindu calendar).
- Places associated with Maharana Pratap of Mewar's life will be developed as part of the project. **These include Udaipur, Chawand, Haldighati, Gogunda, Kumbhalgarh, Dewar, Chhapli, and Chittorgarh**

### 5. N Chandrababu Naidu took Oath Of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister For Fourth Time

### 6. Pema Khandu(BJP) takes oath as the Arunachal Pradesh CM for third time

### 7. Assam Govt. launches scheme to promote Girl education & end Child marriage

- The **Assam government** has announced a new scheme **Mukhya Mantri Nijut Moina (MMNM)** to promote girl education and to end child marriage in the state
- This was announced by the Assam chief minister **Himanta Biswa Sarma** after the Assam government cabinet approved the scheme.
- The scheme will benefit approximately **10 lakh girl students** in the state.
- aims to empower the girls of the state by promoting education amongst them with financial incentive and support from the state government

### 8. Madhya Pradesh CM Launched PM Shri Tourism Air Service from Bhopal

- **Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav** launched an **intraState air service to promote tourism on June 13.**
- It is called '**PM Shri Paryatan Vayu Seva**' and the first flight was flagged off from the **capital Bhopal to Jabalpur.**
- **Aims to connect the major tourist spots in the state by air.** The **PM Shri Tourism Air Service** also aims to enhance the trade, health, education sectors of the state as well.
- Operated by the **Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board (MPTB)** with two **aircraft will connect eight cities across the State** - Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Rewa, Ujjain, Gwalior, Singrauli, and Khajuraho.



### 9. Chief Minister's MannuyirKaathuMannuyirKaappom

- Chief Minister **M.K. Stalin** inaugurated the '**Chief Minister's MannuyirKaathuMannuyirKaappom**' scheme to **improve the soil health across Tamil Nadu.**
- **With a budget of ₹206 crore**, this project aims to improve the health and fertility of the soil across the area.
- A key part of the plan is to **keep the land fertile by using green manure methods.** A start-up fund of ₹20 crore has been put for this.



- In the first phase in 2024-25, it has been planned to distribute green manure seeds, covering about 2 lakh acres and benefiting over 2 lakh farmers.

#### 10. To ease congestion, police reintroduces 'One Minute Traffic Plan' in Shimla city

- According to the plan, at points 6-8 km from entering Shimla city, traffic would be released every minute in the ratio of 40:20 or 30:30 seconds – which means vehicles would be halted for 40 seconds and released for 20 seconds every minute during rush, and released and halted for 30 seconds during normal times.
- The halting distance will be no more than 500 metres at any point
- Shimla police has also decided to introduce portable traffic lights in the town in view of the increasing traffic.

#### 11. Joshimath renamed as Jyotirmath, Kosiyakutoli is now Kainchi Dham

- The Centre has approved the Uttarakhand government's proposal to rename Joshimath tehsil in Chamoli district as Jyotirmath
- And Kosiyakutoli tehsil in Nainital district as Pargana Shri Kainchi Dham.
- It is believed that the area was originally called Jyotirmath after Adi Guru Shankaracharya visited it in the 8th century to perform penance under the Amar Kalpa tree and attained enlightenment (Divya Gyan Jyoti).

#### 12. J&K partners with New Zealand in sustainable agriculture and sheep farming sector

#### 13. Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurates 'Janata Bhawan Solar Project'

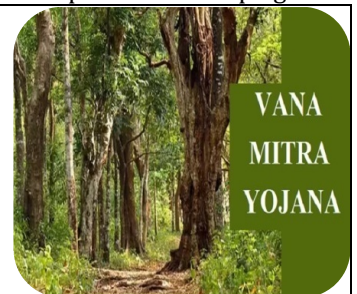
- Janata Bhawan Solar Project, a grid-connected rooftop and ground-mounted solar PV system with a 2.5 MW power generation capacity, at a function held in Guwahati.
- The project will generate an average of 3 lakh units of electricity every month and the investment amount of Rs 12.56 crore
- The Assam Secretariat has become country's first green secretariat with the inauguration of a 2.5 MW solar power project on its campus.
- Installed at a cost of ₹12.5 crore, the grid-connected rooftop solar power plant will save ₹30 lakh in electricity bills every month
- Assam Chief Minister - Himanta Biswa Sarma
- Assam Governor - Gulab Chand Kataria

#### 14. Haryana Government To Recruit Van Mitras Soon Under Van Mitra Yojana

- The Van Mitras will be paid an honorarium for taking care of the plants.
- The officers have been instructed to get regular mapping done by the Forest Department through drones of the plants already planted in the forest area and the plants to be planted every year under the plantation campaign.

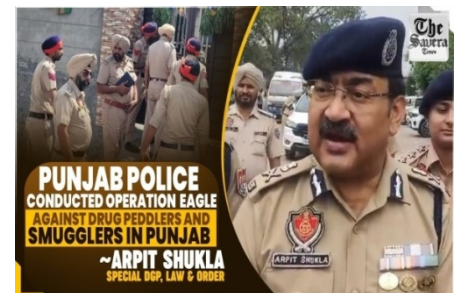
##### Van Mitra' scheme

- The 'Van Mitra' scheme is designed to foster community engagement in afforestation efforts, specifically targeting non-forest areas across the state.
- Eligible individuals aged between 18 and 60 years can register to become 'Van Mitras'.
- The scheme allows each 'Van Mitra' to plant up to 1,000 saplings.
- In the first year, participants will receive Rs 20 for each prepared pit, verified through geo-tagging and photograph uploads.
- Subsequently, Rs 30 will be awarded for each sapling planted, with additional payments for ongoing maintenance and security of the saplings at different rates over the subsequent three years



#### 15. Punjab Police conducted operation Eagle

- Under fourth phase of Operation Eagle, the Punjab Police intends to a massive crackdown on the drug smugglers and paddlers in the state. The operation was launched on 21 June 2024.
- This comes a day after Punjab Police conducted raids at top 10 drug hotspots in each 28 police districts of the state.
- As per Government of India's figures, every third individual of Punjab is hooked to drugs other than alcohol and tobacco.
- The government data says that there is a very high prevalence of heroine in Punjab. In the recent times, heroine is gradually being replaced by intoxicating tablets commonly known as "nasheeligoliyan".



#### 16. High Court directs Bengal government to ensure 1% reservation for transgender persons in public employment

- The Calcutta High Court has directed the West Bengal government to ensure 1 per cent reservation for transgender persons in all public employment in the state

#### 17. Kerala Assembly again passes a resolution to rename state as Keralam

- The Kerala legislative assembly has unanimously passed a resolution on 24 June 2024 to rename the state to Keralam.
- The resolution, moved by Kerala's chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan, requested the government of India change the state's name in the constitution.
- The modern state of Kerala came into existence on 1 November 1956, when the State Reorganisation Act 1956

- The resolution requested the central government to change the **state's name to Keralam in the first and fourth schedules.**
- The **first schedule** of the constitution mentions the name of the state and the Union Territories.
- The **fourth schedule** of the constitution mentions the seats allocated to the states and the Union Territory, which have a legislative assembly in the Rajya Sabha or the Council of States of the Parliament.

### 18. Madhya Pradesh: Prime Minister College of Excellence to Inaugurate in All 55 Districts on July 1

- In Madhya Pradesh, the Prime Minister College of Excellence will be inaugurated ceremonially in all 55 districts of the state on July 1.
- Under the National Education Policy, the Madhya Pradesh government has approved the **establishment of one Prime Minister College of Excellence in all the districts of the state.**
- The 'Bhartiya Gyan Parampara Kendra' means the Centre of Traditional Indian Knowledge will also be established in each PM College of Excellence.

### 19. 'School in a box' initiative for children in Assam flood relief camps

- The Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), in collaboration with UNICEF, is providing "School in a Box" kits to children aged 6-18 in flood-affected relief camps.
- These kits contain learning materials aiming to address the psychological impact of displacement on children and teenagers.
- The program initially focused on children up to 6 years old, but now includes older children.



#### UNICEF

- Created in 1946 as International Children's Emergency Fund (ICEF) by UN relief Rehabilitation Administration to help children affected by World War II
- UNICEF became a permanent part of the United Nations in 1953.
- The name was shortened to United Nations Children Fund but it is still referred to as UNICEF
- Awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1965 for "promotion of brotherhood among the nations"
- Headquarters: **New York City.**
- Current UNICEF ambassador – **Kareena Kapoor Khan**

### 20. Haryana CM announces hike in income limit for creamy layer of OBC to Rs 8 lakh

- Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini announced at OBC Morcha Sarv Samaj SamrastaSammelan' held in Gurugram.
- An increase in annual income limit for OBC creamy layer from ₹6 lakh to ₹8 lakh, which is similar to the Centre.
- Also, reservation for the backward classes in Group-A and Group-B posts will be increased from 15% to 27%.
- Following the consideration of the Haryana State Backward Classes Commission, this increased limit will be implemented for state government jobs.



# Science & Technology

**June  
2024**

## 1. Djibouti started using GM mosquito to fight malaria

- The release marks a significant milestone in the 'Djibouti Friendly Mosquito Programme,' initiated two years ago to halt the proliferation of *Anopheles stephensi*, an invasive mosquito species.
- The relentless expansion of this highly invasive mosquito, originating from South Asia and the Arabian Peninsula, underscored the urgency of action to combat malaria transmission in Djibouti.
- Genetically modified (GMO) mosquitoes were released to fight malaria in Djibouti of East Africa.
- Oxitech Limited, Djibouti government and association mutualis, was released by a non governmental organization as part of a pilot project in Ambuli, asuburb in the city.
- This is the first time that the genetic mosquito has been released genetically in East Africa and the second time on the African continent.
- Burkina Faso in West Africa left for the first time genetically modified mosquitoes in Bana village in Africa.

## 2. NASA's Magellan Mission Discovers Ongoing Venus Volcanic Activity

- Direct geological evidence of recent volcanic activity on Venus has been confirmed for the second time archival data from NASA's Magellan mission.
- Scientists in Italy **have detected surface changes** indicating new rock formations from lava flows linked to volcanic eruptions that occurred while the spacecraft was in orbit.

## 3. Agnikul launches world's first Rocket with 3D-printed rocket engine

- Chennai-based startup Agnikul Cosmos has launched the **world's first space rocket** with a single-piece **three-dimensional (3D) printed engine**.
- After four failed attempts, Agnikul succeeded in launching its own rocket into space on its fifth attempt.
- The rocket named **Agnibaan** is India's **first semi-cryogenic engine-powered rocket launch**, which was completely designed and manufactured indigenously.
- Agnikul used **Inconel material** to build the 3D-printed rocket. Inconel is an alloy that is oxidation-corrosion-resistant and well-suited for space travel.
- Agnikul designed and developed India's **first privately built rocket launchpad, 'Dhanush,'** in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh
- Agnikul's patented **Agnilet engine** is the world's first single-piece 3D-printed engine
- The Agnibaan rocket is a customisable **two-stage rocket** with a height of about 20 meters.
- The rocket can carry a payload of up to **300 kg** to the low earth orbits (LEO) roughly 700 km above Earth. Agnibaan is a **SOTrED (SubOrbital Technological Demonstrator)** that has a plug-and-play configuration.
- The rocket uses **liquid propellant-liquid oxygen or kerosene**.



### Second private company to launch a rocket in Space

- Agnikul became the second Indian private company to launch its rocket in space.
- The **first private company** to launch a rocket was the Hyderabad startup **Skyroot Aerospace**.
- It launched its indigenously developed **Vikram-S** rocket from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Sriharikota launchpad.

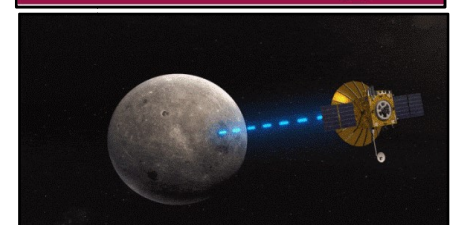
## 4. Axis Bank and Mastercard Introduce NFC Soundbox

- **Axis Bank and Mastercard** has launched the NFC Soundbox, set to redefine payment experiences in India.
- This innovative device is poised to be an all-in-one solution, enabling users to accept various payment methods such as Bharat QR, UPI, Tap & Pay, and Tap + Pin.



## 5. Chinese spacecraft successfully lands on moon's far side

- The **China National Space Administration** announced that **Chang'e-6** successfully landed at the designated landing area on June 2.
- In a **huge crater known as the South Pole-Aitken Basin**.
- To **collect soil and rock samples that could provide insights** into differences between the less-explored region and the better-known near side.





- **Chang'e-6 will attempt to be the first to collect samples from the moon's far side and transport them back to Earth.**
- The mission is China's second to the far side, following a landing by the Chang'e-4 spacecraft in 2019.
- **The emerging global power aims to put a person on the moon before 2030**, which would make it the second nation after the United States to do so.

#### 6. South Korea launches its first space agency

- **South Korean President Yoon Sukyeol launched the country's first space agency, (KASA), and announced plans to land on Mars by 2045, launch the country's first lunar lander by 2032, and spend 100 trillion won (\$72.6 billion) on space exploration.**
- The new space agency's first administrator is **Yoon Young-bin**. The new agency, based in Sacheon, South Gyeongsang Province.



#### 7. Twelve countries sign European Space Agency's 'Zero Debris Charter'

- **Twelve countries have signed the Zero Debris Charter of the European Space Agency (ESA)/EU Space Council, reinforcing their commitment to the long-term sustainability of human activities in Earth orbit.**
- **The Zero Debris Charter, presented at the ESA Space Summit in Seville, Spain in November 2023, aims to achieve Debris-Neutrality by 2030.**
- Apart from the 12 countries, the European Space Agency has also signed the Zero Debris Charter as international organisation (IGO)



#### 8. Pakistan launches multi-mission communication satellite from China

- **Pakistan launched a multi-mission communication satellite PAKSAT MM1 for faster internet connectivity with the help of its all-weather ally China, making it Islamabad's second satellite to be sent into orbit within a month**
- **PAKSAT MM1 was launched from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in China's southwestern province of Sichuan**
- The satellite entered its planned orbit.
- **Pakistan's Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) , the satellite's launch was a part of the National Space Programme 2047.**
- **Pakistan's mini satellite 'iCube-Qamar' was launched as part of China's Chang'e-6 lunar mission, and which sent images of the moon captured in the lunar orbit.**

#### 9. Russian cosmonaut becomes first person to spend 1,000 days in space

- ✓ **Oleg Kononenko, a 59-year-old Russian cosmonaut has become the first person to spend 1,000 days in space, Russian space agency Roscosmos.**
- ✓ This milestone was reached during Kononenko's fifth mission to the International Space Station (ISS) which commenced on September 15, 2023.
- ✓ Kononenko first took the cumulative space time record in February 2024, when he surpassed the total of 878 days, 11 hours, 29 minutes, and 48 seconds set by fellow Russian Gennady Padalka in 2015.
- ✓ If Kononenko's mission ends as scheduled Sept. 23, 2024, he will have spent a total of 1,110 days in orbit



#### 10. James Webb Telescope Discovers Earliest Giant Galaxy

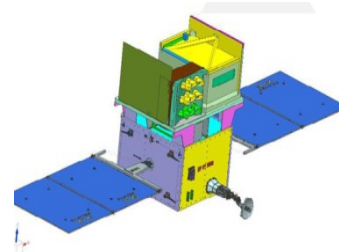
- **NASA's James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) has spotted the earliest-known galaxy, JADES-GS-z14-0, formed 290 million years after the Big Bang.**
- One that is surprisingly bright and big considering it formed during the universe's infancy— **at only 2% its current age.**
- This galaxy has a mass equivalent to 500 million stars the size of our sun and was rapidly forming new stars, about 20 every year.
- **This discovery is very important** because it gives us a look into the universe 290 million years after the Big Bang, during a time called the cosmic dawn. Before this, **the oldest known galaxy was seen about 320 million years after the Big Bang.**
- **James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) has revolutionized the understanding of the early universe since becoming operational in 2022.**

#### 11. PhonePe Partners with PickMe to Offer UPI Payments for Indians in Sri Lanka

- The Indian digital payment company **PhonePe** has announced a partnership with **Sri Lankan ride-hailing platform PickMe.**
- This collaboration allows Indian travelers in Sri Lanka to use PhonePe's UPI payment option to pay for PickMe rides, enabling cashless transactions and enhancing travel convenience.

## 12. ISRO gives details on Indo-French TRISHNA mission

- ISRO has announced a joint Indo-French infrared earth observation satellite mission, TRISHNA (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for High-Resolution Natural Resource Assessment), to monitor surface temperature and water management around the world.
- Will provide data points for climate impacts on earth through evapo transpiration monitoring, which measures the evaporation of water from land as well as release from plants.
- The mission will study water presence and concentrations, as well as dynamics including melting glaciers, in various parts of the biosphere, quantifying water being used on land and how.
- the mission would address critical water and food security issues by providing essential data that can in turn be used for newer sustainable policies in water, among watershed managers, agro-industries, and the farming community in India.



### Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) was set up by the government of India on
- **15 August 1969.**
- ISRO was earlier known as the Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR), which was set up by the Government of India in 1962.
- ISRO is involved in science, engineering and technology to use the benefits of outer space for India and mankind.
- ISRO comes under the Department of Space (DOS), Government of India.
- **Vikram Sarabhai** the founder of ISRO was its first chairman.
- Headquarters: **Bengaluru**
- Chairman: **S.Somanath**

## 13. WHO confirms H9N2 bird flu in India in 4-year old

- World Health Organization (WHO) recently said that a case of human infection with bird flu — caused by the H9N2 virus — was detected in a four-year-old in West Bengal.
- This is the second documented case in India; **the first was found in 2019.**

### H 9N2 virus

- H9N2 is a subtype of avian influenza virus, commonly found in birds.
- Transmission: Primarily via contact with contaminated environments or diseased birds.
- Common Symptoms: Like any other viral infection –Fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, and headache.
- Other Symptoms: Muscle aches, fatigue, and conjunctivitis.

## 14. Three craters discovered on Mars by scientists of Physical Research Laboratory

- The scientists of Ahmedabad-based Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) have discovered three new craters on Mars.
- They have been discovered in the Tharsis volcanic region on Mars.
- The International Astronomical Union (IAU) Working Group for Planetary System Nomenclature approved naming the three craters on Mars.
- One crater has been named “Lal crater” after Prof. Devendra Lal, a renowned Indian geophysicist and former director of PRL from 1972-1983. It is a 65 km wide crater.
- The second crater has been named “Mursan crater” after a town in Uttar Pradesh, India. Mursan crater is a ~10 km wide crater superimposed on the eastern side of the rim of the Lal crater.
- The third crater is “Hilsa crater”. It is a ~10 km wide crater superimposed on the western side of the rim of the Lal crater. It is named after a town in Bihar, India.

## 15. IIT Madras, NASA Study Multidrug-Resistant Pathogens on ISS

- NASA reassured the public that there was no emergency on the International Space Station (ISS) after a medical drill was mistakenly broadcasted, causing alarm on social media.
- The simulation involved a crew member in distress but was not related to any real situation. NASA clarified that the incident was a training exercise and not an actual emergency

## 16. WHO Recognises 3rd Indian Institute For Traditional Medicine Research

- The World Health Organisation (WHO) has designated the National Institute of Indian Medical Heritage (NIIMH) in Hyderabad, under the Ministry of Ayush, as a WHO Collaborating Centre (CC) for traditional medicine research.
- Established in 1956, NIIMH has been a pioneer in various digital initiatives of Ayush, has been granted for a period of four years, marking NIIMH as the third Indian institute to receive such an honor.
- The institute also operates the NAMASTE Portal, which compiles cumulative morbidity statistics from 168 hospitals, and the Ayush Research Portal, which indexes 42,818 published Ayush research articles.

### WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

- WHO chief General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
- The World Health Organization (WHO), established in **7 april 1948**
- Membership: WHO currently has **194 member states**

Headquarter - Geneva, Switzerland

### 17. IIT DHARWAD UNVEILS INNOVATIVE FIRE RESCUE DRONE

- A group of teachers and students at the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Dharwad**, with funding from the **TiHAN Foundation, IIT Hyderabad (NMICPS, Indian government)**, has created a **drone for fire rescue assistance**.
- During the two-day workshop on **Drone design and autonomous navigation in fire rescue (DDANFR 2024)**, organized by the **Fire and Thermal Research Laboratory (FLRL)** and the **Control System and Robotics Laboratory at IIT Dharwad**, there was an unveiling and demonstration of what is purported to be the **first fire rescue assistance drone**.

### 18. CHINESE SATELLITE DISCOVERS NEW SOLAR ATMOSPHERIC ROTATION PATTERN

- Chinese scientists have made a significant **breakthrough in solar research** through the use of their solar exploration satellite, the **Chinese H-alpha Solar Explorer (CHASE)**, which has led to the discovery of a new pattern of solar atmospheric rotation.
- The team successfully generated a **precise three dimensional representation of solar atmospheric rotation for the first time ever**
- **China's H-alpha Solar Explorer (CHASE)** is a satellite project that was made to look at the sun.
- Its main goal is **focusing on its magnetic activity and how its atmosphere behaves**.
- CHASE, which is also called the **Kuafu-1 satellite**, was launched in **2022** to keep an eye on the solar chromosphere.

### 19. NASA'S PERSEVERANCE ROVER SPOTS MYSTERIOUS ROCK 'ATOKO POINT' ON MARS FOR THE FIRST TIME

- **NASA's Perseverance rover** made an **unprecedented discovery** while exploring the **Jezero Crater on Mars** that could potentially give scientists insight into life that existed there many eons ago
- The peculiar boulder, called **'Atoko Point'**, measured about 18 inches wide and 14 inches high, was speckled and distinctly light in color.
- NASA described the boulder as **"of a type never seen before on Mars."** It was spotted among dark boulders on the **'Mount Washburn' hill**.

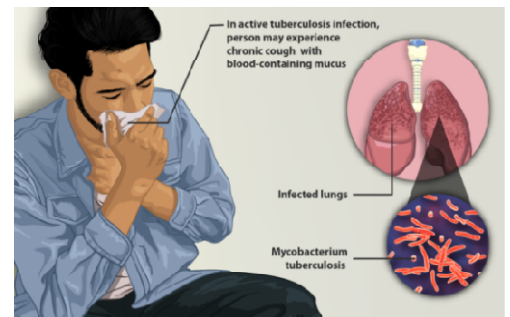


### 20. WHO lauds India's TB diagnostic technology 'TrueNet'

- At the **77th World Health Assembly** held recently in **Geneva, Switzerland**, the **Global Fund** lauded **TrueNet**, a **rapid molecular diagnostic test for pulmonary and extra-pulmonary TB and rifampicin-resistant TB**.
- Developed by **Goa-based Molbio**, a point-of-care molecular diagnostics company, **Truenat**, **first launched in 2017**, is a portable, battery operated machine that has been deployed in laboratories, health centres and the field.

#### WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

- **WHO chief General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**
- The World Health Organization (WHO), established in **7 april 1948**
- Membership: **WHO currently has 194 member states**
- Headquarter - **Geneva, Switzerland**



### 21. SINO-FRENCH SATELLITE LAUNCHED TO STUDY GAMMA-RAY BURSTS

- The satellite, named **Space Variable Objects Monitor**, was launched from **Xichang Satellite Launch Center** in **Sichuan, China**.
- Aimed at studying the farthest explosions of stars, including **gamma-ray bursts**.
- It is the **first astronomy satellite** developed by **China and France**
- This follows their previous joint effort with the **China-France Oceanography Satellite** launched in **2018**.

### 22. IISC RESEARCHERS DESIGN NOVEL 3D HYDROGEL CULTURE TO STUDY TB INFECTION AND TREATMENT

- Researchers from the **Department of Bioengineering (BE)**, **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)**, have designed a **novel 3D hydrogel culture system** that mimics the **mammalian lung environment**.
- It provides a **powerful platform** to track and study how **tuberculosis bacteria** infect lung cells and test the efficacy of **therapeutics** used to treat TB.
- **Mycobacterium tuberculosis (Mtb)** is a dangerous pathogen.

### 23. NASA, SPACEX LAUNCHES GAME-CHANGING WEATHER SATELLITE GOES-U

- **SpaceX** has launched **NASA's final satellite for the NOAA program**, enhancing continuous weather monitoring across the **Western Hemisphere**.
- This launch improves the **US ability to monitor solar flares** from **eight-hour intervals** to every **30 minutes**.
- **GOES-U** will provide **continuous monitoring of weather conditions** over extensive regions

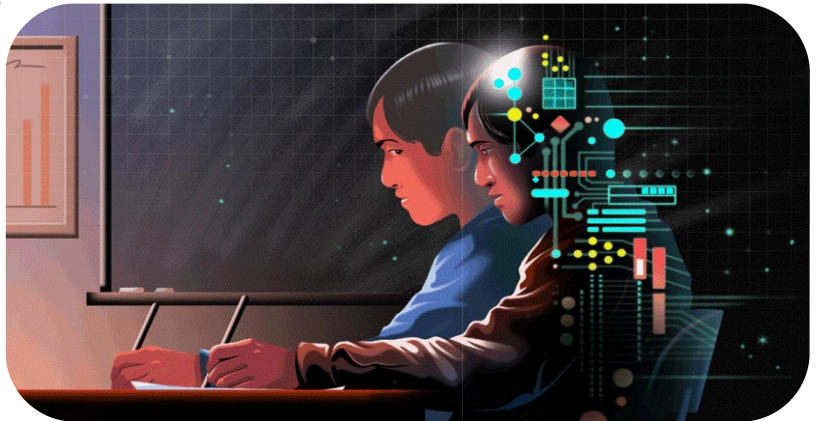


# Artificial Intelligence

**June  
2024**

## 1. KERALA INTRODUCES ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LEARNING IN SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS

- The state of **Kerala** has introduced **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** learning in the **Information & Communication Technology (ICT) textbook** for **Class 7** students.
- This initiative aims to familiarize over **4 lakh students** with AI in the upcoming academic year, marking a significant step towards enhancing technological education in the state.
- New ICT textbooks for Classes 1, 3, 5, and 7 will be made available in **Malayalam, English, Tamil, and Kannada**, ensuring accessibility to students across different linguistic backgrounds.
- The textbooks introduce students to the **PictoBlox package and Scratch software**, enabling them to practice programming, AI, robotics, and more.



# Defence

## June 2024

### 1. INDIAN AIR FORCE CONTINGENT REACHED ALASKA TO PARTICIPATE IN MULTI-NATIONAL EXERCISE, RED FLAG 24

- An Indian Air Force contingent reached the **Eielson Air Force Base** of the U.S. Air Force in Alaska, USA, to participate in the upcoming edition of the multi-national exercise **Red Flag 24**.
- Ex-Red Flag is a two-week advanced aerial combat training exercise.
- **8 Rafale fighter jets** will take part from India.

### 2. 8TH EDITION OF JAPAN INDIA MARITIME EXERCISE (JIMEX)-24 START IN JAPAN

- The **8th edition** of the **Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX-24)** has started at **Yokosuka, Japan**. The JIMEX-24 exercise is being hosted by the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF)
- The **Japanese Navy** is called the **Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force**.
- The Indian Navy's indigenously built **Stealth Frigate INS Shivalik** is participating in the JIMEX -24 exercises. The JMSDF is represented by its **Guided Missile Destroyer JS Yugiri**.



### 3. ARMY LAUNCHES INTEGRATED GENERATOR MONITORING, CONTROL SYSTEM 'VIDYUT RAKSHAK'

- A tech-based innovation -- an integrated generator monitoring, protection and control system -- developed by the Indian Army was launched.
- 'Vidyut Rakshak', developed by the Army Design Bureau (ADB) was launched by the Army's Vice Chief Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi.
- Indian Army is observing the 'Year of Tech Absorption'
- Apart from monitoring generator parameters, it enables fault prediction, and prevention and automates manual operation, saving manpower.



### 4. INDIAN ARMY RECEIVES FIRST BATCH OF INDIGENOUS SUICIDE DRONES 'NAGASTRA-1'

- The Indian Army has received the first batch of man-portable suicide drones named **Nagastra-1**.
- The drones are capable of accurately striking enemy training camps, launch pads and infiltrators, hence minimising risk to soldiers.
- The high-tech drones are designed and developed completely in India by **Economic Explosives Limited (EEL)**, a subsidiary of **Solar Industries, Nagpur**.
- The drones have an indigenous content of over 75 per cent.
- It will **enhance the capability of the Indian Army to execute shallow strikes across the border when necessary**.
- Drones like **Nagastra-1** with in-built warheads are known as **kamikaze or exploding drones**.
- The Indian Army placed an order of 480 such drones to EEL, out of which 120 Nagastra-1s have been delivered
- **Nagastra -1**, in a "**kamikaze mode**", can neutralise any hostile threat with a **GPS-enabled precision strike** with an accuracy of 2m.

### 5. 'INS MYSORE' SHIP CELEBRATES SILVER JUBILEE

- **INS Mysore** — the front-line guided-missile destroyer of the Eastern Fleet, celebrated its silver jubilee, marking 25 years of service to the nation.
- The ship, indigenously designed and constructed, is the second of the **Delhi class** destroyers
- The ship fosters a strong bond between the Navy and Army through its affiliation with the **Madras Regiment of the Indian Army**.

### 6. IAF CONTINGENT PARTICIPATES IN EXERCISE RED FLAG 2024 CONDUCTED AT EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, ALASKA

- An Indian Air Force-IAF contingent participated in the Exercise Red Flag 2024 conducted at **Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska** of the **United States Air Force**.
- This was the **second edition** of **Ex Red Flag 2024**,
- The exercise witnessed participation of the **Indian Air Force** along with **Republic of Singapore Air Force, Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom, Royal Netherlands Air Force, German Luftwaffe, and the US Air Force**.
- This was the **first time** the **IAF Rafale aircraft** participated in **Ex Red Flag**. The Exercise Red Flag 2024

## 7. INDIA TO HOST ITS FIRST MULTINATIONAL AIR EXERCISE TARANG SHAKTI IN AUGUST

- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** is set to make history this August by hosting its first-ever multinational air exercise, **Tarang Shakti-2024**.
- It is a first **multinational air exercise** to be hosted by the Indian Air force. **Tarang Shakti 2024** will feature air assets from 12 countries, with six nations actively participating with their frontline fighter aircraft, transport aircraft, and **mid-air refuellers**
- Forces from the **Quad nations** —**Australia, Japan, and the United States**—along with **France** and the **United Kingdom** in addition to **Germany**



## 8. INDIAN ARMY TO INDUCT INDIGENOUS ASMI SUBMACHINE GUN

- The **Northern Command** of the Indian Army has ordered 550 indigenously designed, developed, and manufactured ASMI submachine guns worth Rs 4.26 crores
- This is the first such indigenously designed and manufactured weapon to be inducted into the Indian Army.
- The ASMI submachine gun has been manufactured by the **Hyderabad-based Lokesh Machine Limited**.
- The AMSI is short for Asmita, which means **pride**. It was designed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO) Pune-based laboratory Armament Research & Development Establishment (ARDE) in collaboration with the Indian Army.



## 9. ARMY HOSPITAL LAUNCHES FIRST OF-ITS-KIND SKIN BANK FACILITY FOR ARMED FORCES IN DELHI

- The Army's Research and Referral Hospital in New Delhi has launched a **state-of-the-art skin bank facility**, the first of its kind to be set up within the Armed Forces Medical Services.
- The Defence Ministry said the landmark initiative **aims to revolutionise the treatment of severe burn injuries and other skin conditions among service members and their families**

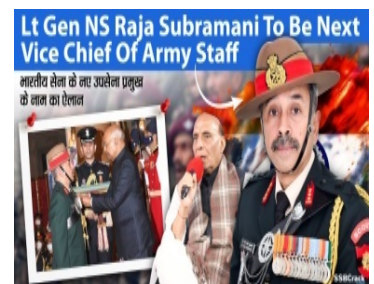
## 10. INDIAN AIR FORCE TO ACQUIRE 6 TAPAS DRONES

- **Tapas drones** are **medium-altitude long, endurance-category** drones that have been developed indigenously by the DRDO and **being manufactured by a consortium of Bharat Electronics Limited and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited**.
- The Tapas drones have been tested by the defence forces and during the trials, they **managed to reach 28,000 feet altitude and could fly for over 18 hours**.
- The IAF has made a proposal to the Centre to buy 10 made-in-India Tapas drones – **6 for the Indian Air Force, 4 for the Indian Navy**.

## 11. LT GEN NS RAJA SUBRAMANI AS THE NEXT VICE CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF

## 12. X-HOPEX: INDIA-EGYPT DEFENCE COOPERATION STRENGTHENS; IAF AND EGYPTIAN AIR FORCE HOLD DRILL

- The Indian Air Force's (IAF) Rafale fighter jets are currently in Egypt for Ex-HOPEX.
- The C-17 Globemaster and IL-78 tankers are also participating in the weeklong exercise
- The aim of this exercise is to promote bilateral and regional cooperation, which is a **symbol of the longstanding relations between the two countries**.



## 13. US HAS EMERGED TOP DESTINATION FOR INDIA'S DEFENCE EXPORTS: AMCHAM

## 14. HIGH SPEED EXPENDABLE AERIAL TARGET 'ABHYAS' SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES DEVELOPMENTAL TRIALS WITH IMPROVED BOOSTER CONFIGURATION

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully completed six consecutive developmental trials of High Speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) 'ABHYAS' with improved booster configuration from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha.
- With this, ABHYAS has successfully completed 10 developmental trials demonstrating the reliability of the system.
- ABHYAS has been designed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment, Bengaluru, and developed through Production Agencies - Hindustan Aeronautics Limited & Larsen & Toubro.
- It offers a realistic threat scenario for weapon systems practice.





**Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO):**

This organization is a subsidiary unit of the Defence Ministry.

- DRDO was formed in 1958 by merging the existing Technical Development Establishments (TDEs) of the Indian Army, the Directorate of Technical Development and Production (DTDP), and the Defence Science Organization (DSO).
- The function of the Defence Research and Development Organization is to design, develop, and produce state-of-the-art sensors, weapons, and equipment, as well as conduct research for the security forces.

Headquarters – Delhi  
Chairman – Dr. Samir V Kamat

**15. MR-MOCR DEVELOPED BY DRDO LAB JODHPUR, HANDED TO THE INDIAN NAVY**

- The **Medium Range-Microwave Obscurant Chaff Rocket (MR-MOCR)** developed by the **Jodhpur Laboratory** of the Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was formally handed over to the Indian Navy.
- **The MR-MOCR is a niche technology that integrates a particular type of fibres having unique microwave obscuration properties.**
- This helps mask radar signals and creates a microwave shield around platforms and assets.
- This **will reduce the chance of detection of the Indian Navy's platforms and assets by the enemy forces.**
- When fired, the **rocket spreads a cloud** that blocks radar signals, providing an effective defense against threats.

**16. JAIPUR MILITARY STATION: 2ND MILITARY STATION TO HAVE PLASTIC WASTE ROAD**

- **Jaipur Military Station** has become the **second military station** in the country to have a road made of plastic waste.
- The **first military station** to have a road built up of plastic waste was the **Narangi Military station, Guwahati, Assam in 2019.**
- The Jaipur military station road is **100 meters long**, from Sagat Singh Road under bridge to Cubs Corner complex.



# Sports

## Current Affairs

**June  
2024**

### 1. PRAGGNANANDHAA BEATS WORLD NO. 1 MAGNUS CARLSEN FOR FIRST TIME IN CLASSICAL EVENT AT NORWAY CHESS 2024

- The 18-year-old Indian prodigy took down the World No. 1 in the 3rd round of Norway Chess 2024.

### 2. BADMINTON STAR PV SINDHU APPOINTED BRAND AMBASSADOR FOR TOBACCO CONTROL

- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, organized an event to observe **World No Tobacco Day 2024**.
- This year's theme, "Protecting Children from Tobacco Industry Interference," highlights the urgent need to shield youth from the detrimental influences of tobacco consumption.



### 3. INDIA JOINS NEWLY FORMED WORLD BOXING BODY

- The **Boxing Federation of India (BFI)** has taken a significant step by agreeing to join the **World Boxing (WB)**, a newly established governing body formed after the **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** refused to recognize the **International Boxing Association (IBA)**.

- This move comes amidst the ongoing **World Olympic qualifiers** in Bangkok, where the **BFI's affiliation** will be ratified by the WB executive board.



### 4. NAYANA JAMES CLINCHES GOLD MEDAL IN WOMEN'S LONG JUMP AT TAIWAN ATHLETICS OPEN

### 5. REAL MADRID WIN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TITLE FOR RECORD EXTENDING 15TH TIME, BEAT BORUSSIA DORTMUND



### 6. DINESH KARTHIK ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET

- **Dinesh Karthik**, the veteran **wicketkeeper-batter**, announced his **retirement** from all forms of cricket.
- The writing was on the wall after his emotional farewell from the **Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB)** franchise in the recently concluded **Indian Premier League (IPL)** season.
- Karthik's international career spanned **180 games** across all three formats, where he amassed **3463 runs**, including solitary Test hundred and 17 half-centuries. His wicketkeeping skills were equally impressive, with **172 dismissals**.



### 7. ICC MEN'S ODI CRICKETER OF THE YEAR 2023

- ICC Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year 2023
- ICC men's Test cricketer of the year 2023
- ICC mens T20 Cricketer of the Year 2023
- ICC Womens T20 Cricketer of the Year 2023
- **SIR GARFIELD SOBERS TROPHY** FOR ICC MEN'S CRICKETER OF THE YEAR 2023
- **RACHAEL HEYHOE FLINT TROPHY** FOR ICC WOMEN'S CRICKETER OF THE YEAR 2023

### 8. ALL-ROUNDER KEDAR JADHAV RETIRES FROM ALL FORMS OF CRICKET

### 9. INDIA DRAWS 0-0 WITH KUWAIT IN CHHETRI'S LAST MATCH: FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 QUALIFIER

Awards and Achievements	
Trophies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AFC Challenge Cup: 2008</li> <li>SAFF Championship (4): 2011, 2015, 2021, 2023</li> <li>Nehru Cup (3): 2007, 2009, 2012</li> <li>Intercontinental Cup (2): 2018, 2023</li> <li>Tri-Nation Series: 2023</li> </ul>
National Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award: 2021</li> <li>Padma Shri: 2019</li> <li>Arjuna Award : 2011</li> </ul>

Awards and Accolades	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AIFF Player of the Year (7): 2007, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018–19, 2021–22</li> <li>FPAI Indian Player of the Year (3): 2009, 2018, 2019</li> <li>SAFF Championship Player of the Tournament (4): 2011, 2015, 2021, 2023</li> <li>SAFF Championship Top Scorer (3): 2011, 2021, 2023</li> <li>Football Ratna Award (first recipient) by Football Delhi: 2019</li> </ul>



### 10. SARABJOT SINGH WINS GOLD AT ISSF MUNICH WORLD CUP 2024

- On 6 June 2024, **Sarabjot Singh** won India's first medal at the **International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup**, which was held in **Munich, Germany**.
- The Indian shooter Sarabjot Singh scored 242.7 points in the final to win the **gold medal** in the **men's 10-meter air pistol event**.
- **Sift Kaur Samra** won the **second medal for India in the women's 50-meter Rifle event**, the bronze.
- **India is currently in third place with France in the medal tally**, having won two medals each. China leads the medal tally with 11 medals, followed by Norway with 3 medals.



### 11. KUMUD SAINI SOLE INDIAN GOLD MEDALIST IN 2024 ARCHERY ASIA CUP STAGE 3

- **Kumud Saini** won the sole **gold medal** for India at the **Archery Asia Cup 2024 Stage 3**, being held in **Suwon, South Korea**,
- The Indian archery team finished its campaign in the Asia Cup with **five medals - one gold, two silvers and two bronze**.

### 12. CARLOS ALCARAZ, IGA SWIATEK WINS 2024 FRENCH OPEN TENNIS SINGLES TITLE

- **Carlos Alcaraz** of Spain and **Iga Swiatek** of Poland won the **2024 French Open men's and women's Tennis Single titles**, respectively.
- It was the **first French Open singles title for Alcaraz** and the **fourth singles title for the world no.1 Iga Swiatek**.
- The **123rd edition of the French Open, also known as Roland Garros**, was held at the **Stade Roland Garros in Paris, France**. It is the second Grand Slam event of a calendar year after the Australian Open.
- Carlos Alcaraz defeated Tokyo Olympic Champion **Alexander Zverev** of Germany. Iga Swiatek defeated **Jasmine Paolini** of Italy



#### Tennis Grand Slam Tournament

- In a calendar year, four tennis tournaments are known as Grand Slam tournaments.
- **Australian Open**: It is the first Grand Slam tournament to be held in a calendar year. It is held in the Australian city of Melbourne and played on a Hard court. The two-week event generally starts in mid-January.
- **French Open Tournament** : It is the second Grand Slam event in a calendar year after the Australian Open. It is generally held in the May/June month. It is played in the French capital city of Paris and is played on the Red Clay surface.
- **Wimbledon Open Tournament** : It is the third Grand Slam event played in London, England in the June-July month. It is played on a Grass court.
- **US Open Tournament** : It is the fourth and final Grand Slam event of the year which is played in New York, United States of America. It is played on a Hard Court and is usually held in the August-September month.

### 13. SUMIT NAGAL WINS HIS 6TH ATP CHALLENGER TENNIS TITLE

- The Indian men's tennis player **Sumit Nagpal** won the men's singles title at the **Heilbronn Neckarcup 2024 ATP Challenger Tennis tournament** in Germany.
- It was the **sixth ATP Challenger title for India's top-ranked men's tennis singles player**. This win will improve the ATP ranking of Sumit Nagpal making him eligible for the 2024 Summer Paris Olympics.
- Sumit Nagpal defeated **Alexander Ritschard** of Switzerland

### 14. POOJA TOMAR BECOMES THE FIRST INDIAN FIGHTER TO WIN THE ULTIMATE FIGHTING CHAMPIONSHIP

- **India's Pooja Tomar** has created history by becoming the **country's first mixed martial arts (MMA) fighter to win a bout in the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC)**.
- Tomar achieved the feat at **UFC Louisville**, where she scored a split-decision win over **Brazil's Ryan dos Santos** in the strawweight (52kg) division on June 8, 2024.

### 15. MAGNUS CARLSEN AND JU WENJUN WIN NORWAY CHESS 2024 TITLE

- Magnus Carlsen won his sixth Norway Chess title after a yearlong break, while **Women's World Champion Ju Wenjun** emerged victorious in the inaugural women's event.
- The **12th edition of this prestigious competition took place in Stavanger, Norway**



### 16. UP GOVT AGREES FOR 2025 EDITION OF MOTOGP BHARAT IN NOIDA

- The **Uttar Pradesh government** will sign a contract with **Spain headquartered Dorna Sports** and its Indian partner, **Fairstreet Sports**, to organise **MotoGP event in Noida** next year, and will keep organising the annual event till 2029.
- **Marco Bezzecchi**, of the **Mooney VR46 Ducati (GP22)** team had





secured a win at the **IndianOil Grand Prix of India MotoGP Bharat 2023** at the **Buddh International Circuit**.

## 17. MAX VERSTAPPEN WINS 3RD STRAIGHT CANADIAN GRAND PRIX FOR 60TH FORMULA 1 VICTORY

### F1 Races 2024 & Winners

Bahrain GP - Max Verstappen	Saudi Arabia GP - Max Verstappen	Australia GP - Carlos Sainz
Japan GP - Max Verstappen	China GP - Max Verstappen	Miami Grand Prix - Lando Norris
Emilia Romagna Grand Prix - Max Verstappen	MONACO GP - CHARLES LECREC	

## 18. INDIA'S GULVEER SINGH CLINCHES SILVER MEDAL IN MEN'S 5000 METRE RACE AT PORTLAND TRACK FESTIVAL HIGH PERFORMANCE MEET IN US

- In Portland, US.
- The Asian Games bronze medalist also became the **fastest Indian in the men's 5000-metre race**.
- **Gulveer clocked the national record timing of 13 minutes 18.92 seconds** to surpass the previous record of 13 minutes 19.30 seconds, set by Avinash Sable last year.
- **Gulveer now holds the national records in both the 10,000metre and 5,000-metre races.**

## 19. INDIA NAMED HOSTS FOR 2025 FIH HOCKEY MEN'S JUNIOR WORLD CUP

- The **Executive Board of the International Hockey Federation (FIH)** has designated **India** as the **host country** for the **inaugural FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup** featuring **24 teams**, set to take place in **December 2025**.
- **FIH President Tayyab Ikram**

## 20. TWO-DAY MIZORAM SPORTS CONCLAVE 2024 TO BEGIN TOMORROW WITH 'VISION 2036'

- In Mizoram, a two-day State Sports Conclave began on 13th June with the theme **"Vision 2036"**.
- The aim of the conclave is to hunt and nurture young talents so that more athletes and players from Mizoram could participate in the forthcoming Olympics 2036.
- **India has bid to host the 2036 Olympics**
- **Centre has sanctioned Rs. 60.80 lakh to upgrade sports infrastructure and help sportsperson in Mizoram & NE**



## 21. GUDAKES MOTIE AND CHAMARI ATHAPATHTHU NAMED ICC PLAYERS OF THE MONTH FOR MAY

## 22. SHRUTI VORA FIRST INDIAN TO WIN 3 STAR GP IN DRESSAGE, CLOSES IN ON PARIS DREAM

- **Shruti Vora**, astride **Magnanimous**, has become the **first Indian rider** to win a **three-star Grand Prix event**- a historic achievement for the Indian equestrian.
- Shruti scored **67.761 points in the CDI-3 event in Lipica, Slovenia** from June 7-9.
- The Indian finished ahead of **Moldova's Tatiana Antonenco (Aachen)**, who scored 66.522. **Austria's Juliane Jerich (Quarter Girl)** completed the top 3 with a score of 66.087.

## 23. DIVYA DESHMUKH WINS WORLD JUNIOR GIRLS' CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

## 24. GRETCHEN WALSH SETS A WORLD RECORD IN THE 100-METER BUTTERFLY AT THE U.S. OLYMPIC TRIALS

- **Gretchen Walsh** set a world record in the women's 100-meter butterfly, posting a time of 55.18 seconds
- Previous record of 55.48 set by Sweden's Sarah Sjöström at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics

## 25. FERRARI WIN 24 HOURS OF LE MANS FOR SECOND YEAR IN A ROW

- **Ferrari won the 24 Hours of Le Mans for the second year in a row**
- The 24 Hours of Le Mans is an endurance-focused sports car race held annually near the town of Le Mans, France.

## 26. LEE ZII JIA TRIUMPHS AT BWF AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2024

- In a thrilling final at the **BWF Australian Open 2024** in Sydney on Sunday (16 June), **Lee Zii Jia** from **Malaysia** emerged victorious against **Naraoka Kodai** of Japan, securing his second title of the season.



## 27. WORLD CHAMPION NEERAJ CHOPRA WINS GOLD IN JAVELIN THROW AT WORLD ATHLETICS CONTINENTAL GOLD TOUR IN FINLAND

## 28. INDIAN NATIONAL ULTIMATE FRISBEE TEAM WINS SILVER AT 2024 ASIA OCEANIC CHAMPIONSHIP IN JAPAN

- The Indian National Ultimate **Frisbee** team put up a valiant effort in the finals of the **Asia Oceanic Beach Ultimate Championships (AOBUC) 2024**, finishing as **runners-up** after a hard-fought match against the **Philippines** with a final score of 9-12
- 4 overs, 4 maidens, 3 wickets! **Lockie Ferguson** creates incredible T20I record in clash against PNG

## 29. TRENT BOULT (NEW ZEALAND) ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM INTERNATIONAL CRICKET

### 30. PAT CUMMINS TAKES FIRST HAT-TRICK OF T20 WORLD CUP 2024

#### Lists of Hat-Trick players in T20 World Cup

Player	Team	Opposition	Figures	Year
Brett Lee	Australia	Bangladesh	3/27	2007
Curtis Campher	Ireland	Netherlands	4/26	2021
Wanindu Hasaranga	Sri Lanka	South Africa	3/20	2021
Kagiso Rabada	South Africa	England	3/48	2021
Karthik Meiyappan	UAE	Sri Lanka	3/19	2022
Josh Little	Ireland	New Zealand	3/22	2022
Pat Cummins	Australia	Bangladesh	3/29	2024

### 31. SUMIT NAGAL FINISHES RUNNERUP AT PERUGIA CHALLENGER, ITALY

- **Indian tennis star Sumit Nagal**, a 26-year-old player from Jhajjar, Haryana, suffered a defeat in the final of the ATP Challenger in Perugia. Nagal lost 6-1, 6-2 to top seed Luciano Darderi of Italy
- **Nagal reached his career-best world ranking of 71.**

### 32. ROHIT SHARMA BECOMES FIRST BATTER TO HIT 200 SIXES IN T20IS

### 33. SMRITI MANDHANA, THE FIRST INDIAN WOMAN CRICKETER TO SCORE CONSECUTIVE CENTURIES IN ODIS

- **Smriti Mandhana** became the **first Indian woman** to record **two consecutive ODI hundreds** during the second ODI against **South Africa** at the **M Chinnaswamy Stadium** in **Bengaluru**.
- She scripted history, after she registered the record for the most runs by an Indian woman in a bilateral **One-Day International series**.

### 34. INDIA WINS 11 MEDALS AT THE U-17 ASIAN WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2024

- Indian wrestlers have ended their campaign in the Under- 17 Asian Wrestling Championship 2024 with a total of **11 medals- four gold, two silver, and five bronze**.
- The annual Under 17 & Under 23 Asian Wrestling Championship 2024 is being held in the **Jordanian capital city of Amman**

### 35. JESSICA PEGULA WON BERLIN OPEN

### 36. ANDRE RUSSELL BECOMES HIGHEST WICKET-TAKER FOR WI IN T20 WC HISTORY

- **Andre Russell** surpassed **Dwayne Bravo** to become the highest wicket-taker for West Indies in **T20 World Cup** history with 29 wickets.
- The previous best was held by Bravo who had a total of 27 wickets.
- **T20 World Cup: Organised by International Cricket Council**
- **Current champion: England (2nd title)**
- **Host: USA and West Indies.**

### 37. KAPIL DEV ELECTED AS THE PRESIDENT OF PROFESSIONAL GOLF TOUR OF INDIA

- Renowned Indian cricketer and ardent amateur golfer **Kapil Dev** has been elected as the new **president of the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI)**.
- Kapil Dev, nicknamed **Haryana Hurricane** for his all-around cricket ability, was also the Kapil Dev-Grant Thornton Invitational host for the past three years.

### 38. AUSTRALIA'S EXPLOSIVE BATSMAN DAVID WARNER RETIRES FROM INTERNATIONAL CRICKET

- **To an end** after Australia's exit from the T20 World Cup at the Super Eight stage
- **Warner** has scored 22 centuries and 6,932 runs in 161 ODIs at an average of 45.30 and won two World Cups in the format
- Played 111 Tests for Australia, scoring 8,695 runs at an average of 44.58, including 26 centuries and 36 half-centuries
- **110 matches**, he scored 3277 runs, including a century against Pakistan in 2019

# Awards

## June 2024

### 1. INDIAN-AMERICAN BRUHAT SOMA TRIUMPHS AT SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

- **Bruhat Soma**, a 12-year-old **Indian-American** seventh-grader from Florida, has emerged victorious at the prestigious **Scripps National Spelling Bee**.
- Maintaining the dominance of the small ethnic community in this prestigious competition, Bruhat correctly spelled **29 words** in the tiebreaker round, earning him more than **\$50,000** in cash and other prizes.



### 2. WHO NELSON MANDELA AWARD FOR HEALTH PROTECTION 2024 FOR NIMHANS

- The **National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS)** in **Bengaluru** has been conferred with the World Health Organization's (WHO) 2024 **Nelson Mandela Award** for Health Promotion.
- **Dr. Pratima Murthy**, the director of NIMHANS, received the award.



#### WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

- **WHO chief General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**
- The World Health Organization (WHO), established in **7 april 1948**
- Membership: **WHO currently has 194 member States**
- Headquarter - **Geneva, Switzerland**

#### About NIMHANS

- The National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) was established on 27 December, 1974 by merging the Mental Hospital established by the Government of Mysore and the Government of India's All India Institute of Mental Health.
- The institute is under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- In 2012, NIMHANS was declared an Institute of National Importance.
- Main Campus: Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Director: Dr. Pratima Murthy

### 3. NAR SINGH, ROHINI LOKHANDE WIN DILIP BOSE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

- ✓ The All India Tennis Association (AITA) has announced the **Dilip Bose award for lifetime achievement to coach Nar Singh**.
- ✓ The first award would be presented to the 69-year-old Rohini Lokhande who was a member of the national team along with Kiran Bedi, Nirupama Mankad, Susan Das and Udaya Kumar, before she took to coaching at a young age.

### 4. EY WORLD ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD 2024 TO VELLAYAN SUBBIAH

- Indian entrepreneur **Vellayan Subbiah** was conferred the **EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2024** at a ceremony held in **Monaco's Salle des Etoiles**.
- Vellayan Subbiah became the **fourth Indian to win this prestigious award in its 24 years of history**. He joined the illustrious list of **NR Narayana Murthy of Infosys, Uday Kotak of Kotak Finance, and Kiran Mazumdar Shaw of Biocon Limited**.

### 5. SEBI WINS "BEST CONDUCT OF BUSINESS REGULATOR" AWARD IN ASIA PACIFIC

- by The Asian Banker
- For its role in enhancing the regulatory framework for securities markets in India.
- The award was received by SEBI's Whole Time Member **Kamlesh Chandra Varshney** in a ceremony held in **Hong Kong**.
- In 2021, T+1 settlement was introduced in a phased manner, which was fully implemented from January 2023.
- **This move has provided investors with faster access to their funds following trade execution and settlement, enhancing market efficiency and liquidity**

#### SEBI

- The SEBI is a regulatory body established by the Government of India in 1988 as an executive body.
- It was given statutory powers through the SEBI Act, 1992.
- Objective: To regulate the securities market in India and protect the interests of investors in securities.
- Chairperson - Mrs. Madhuri Puri Buch



## 6. MAHARASHTRA GOVERNOR RAMESH BAIS PRESENTS "PLASTIC EXPORT EXCELLENCE AWARD"

- Maharashtra Governor Ramesh Bais highlighted the global success of the Indian plastic industry and urged the sector to establish "Brand India" through research, innovation, and excellence.
- The 'Plastic Export Excellence Award' given by the Plastics Export Promotion Council under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Government of India in Mumbai.
- P. Tapadia received the Lifetime Achievement Award, and Arvind Goenka
- In total, 75 plastic exporters were awarded.



## 7. MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING ANNOUNCES 3RD EDITION OF ANTARASHTRIYA YOGA DIWAS MEDIA SAMMAN FOR 2024

- Aimed at recognizing the positive role and responsibility of the media in promoting the spread of yoga both in India and abroad.
- A total of 33 awards will be conferred under three categories – Print, Television, and Radio – in 22 Indian languages as well as English.
- This includes 11 awards each for the "Best Media Coverage in Yoga in Newspaper," "Best Media Coverage in Yoga in Electronic Media (TV)," and "Best Media Coverage in Yoga in Electronic Media (Radio)."

## 8. SIDDHESH SAKORE, FARMER FROM MAHARASHTRA, NAMED LAND HERO BY UN AGENCY

- Siddhesh Sakore, a farmer and the founder of AGRO RANGERS from Maharashtra, has been recognized as a Land Hero by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) on World Desertification and Drought Day (UNCCD celebrated its 30th anniversary).
- The announcement was made during a programme in Bonn, Germany, honoring 10 Land Heroes from around the globe.

## 9. KAVLI PRIZE IN ASTROPHYSICS, NANOSCIENCE AND NEUROSCIENCE, 2024 ANNOUNCED

- The winners of the 2024 Kavli Prize were announced. The eight winners were honored for their contributions to astrophysics, neuroscience and nanoscience
- Astrophysics: astrophysics This prize year's has been awarded to David Charbonneau and Sarah Seager for discovering exoplanets and characterizing their atmospheres.
- Nanoscience: The Nanoscience prize was awarded to Robert Langer, Armand Paul Alivisatos and Chad Mirkin for breakthroughs in biomedical applications.
- Neuroscience: The prize in neuroscience has been awarded to Nancy Kanwisher, Winrich Freiwald and Doris Tsao for their collective effort over decades to map the connection between facial recognition and the brain



## 10. GUJARAT'S 'SMRITIVAN EARTHQUAKE MEMORIAL MUSEUM' LISTED BY UNESCO FOR 'PRIX VERSAILLES AWARD-2024

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed happiness over the inclusion of Smritivan Earthquake Memorial Museum in Bhuj, Gujarat in the world selection for the UNESCO Prix Versailles Museum 2024.
- Smritivan in Kutch is a tribute to the lives lost in the tragic earthquake of 2001.
- For the first time, a museum in India has received global recognition for the expression of local culture and nature conservation. The design of this museum, built among thousands of trees on Bhujia hill, is remarkable.

## 11. RESERVE BANK OF INDIA BAGS 'RISK MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2024' BY LONDON'S CENTRAL BANKING PUBLICATION

- RBI was awarded the best risk manager for improving its risk culture and awareness.
- Central Banking is a renowned publication headquartered in London.

### RBI (RESERVE BANK OF INDIA)

- The RBI was established in 1934, under the Reserve Bank of India Act.
- The bank was set up based on the recommendations of the 1926 Royal Commission on Indian Currency and Finance, also known as the Hilton Young Commission.
- Though privately owned initially, it was nationalized in 1949 and since then fully owned by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- India's central bank and regulatory body responsible for regulation of the Indian banking system.
- RBI@90, a program marking 90 years of RBI (2024)

## 12. GUJARAT HONOURED FOR HIGHEST WIND POWER INSTALLED CAPACITY

- Gujarat won the "First Rank" award for highest wind power installed capacity at a function held in New Delhi under the aegis of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India, when the state surpassed Tamil Nadu.
- Gujarat won the award at an event "Wind – Energy: Powering India's Future" organized to commemorate Global Wind Day, observed on 15 June 2024

### 13. SAHITYA AKADEMI ANNOUNCES YUVA PURASKAR, BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR WINNERS FOR 2024

- The Sahitya Akademi announced the names of 23 writers for Yuva Puraskar 2024.
- The winner for Sanskrit will be announced later.
- In English category - K Vaishali will be honoured for her memoir "Homeless: Growing up Lesbian and Dyslexic in India"
- In Hindi Category - Gaurav Pandey won the prestigious award for his poetry collection "Smritiyon Ke Beech Ghiri Hai Prithvi".
- Yuva Puraskar awardees will receive a casket containing an engraved copper plaque and a cheque of Rs 50,000 at an awards.
- The National Academy of Letters also announced the names of 24 winners of the Bal Sahitya Puraskar for 2024.
- For the Bal Sahitya Puraskar, the Akademi has picked English writer Nandini Sengupta for her historical fiction "The Blue Horse and Other Amazing Animal Stories from Indian History" and Devender Kumar's collection of children's stories "51 Baal Kahaniyan".
- The award in the form of a casket containing an engraved copper plaque and a cheque of ₹50,000 will be presented

### 14. GOLDEN THREAD BAGS THE PRESTIGIOUS GOLDEN CONCH AWARD AT MIFF 2024

- Nistha Jain's 'Golden Thread' film won the prestigious Golden Conch award for the best documentary at the 18th MIFF 2024.
- Earlier noted wildlife filmmaker Subbiah Nallamuthu was conferred with the 18th V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award at the inauguration of the 18th MIFF 2024.

### 15. KARNATAKA VIKAS GRAMEENA BANK GETS NATIONAL AWARD FOR APY IMPLEMENTATION

- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), a regional rural bank sponsored by Canara Bank, has been honoured with a national award by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for significant enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY).

### 16. SOMALIA'S FEMALE MEDIA TEAM 'BILAN' WINS 'ONE WORLD MEDIA PRESS FREEDOM AWARD

- Somalia's only female news team, Bilan, has won the London-based 2024 One World Media Press Freedom Award, becoming the first Somali media team to receive the honour.

### 17. ARUNDHATI ROY HONORED WITH PRESTIGIOUS PEN PINTER PRIZE 2024

- The Pen Pinter Prize, established in 2009 by the charity English PEN, stands as a beacon for:
  1. Defending freedom of expression
  2. Celebrating impactful literature
  3. Honoring the memory of Nobel-Laureate playwright Harold Pinter



### 18. GRSE WINS SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE CHAMPION AWARD

- Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) Ltd. has been honoured with the "Sustainable Governance Champion Award" at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024.
- This recognition highlights GRSE's unwavering commitment to sustainable practices and governance excellence.

# Cinema

## Current Affairs

**June  
2024**

### 1. INDIAN FILM 'SUNFLOWERS WERE THE FIRST ONES TO KNOW' WINS LA CINEF FOR BEST SHORT AT CANNES 2024

- Indian filmmaker Chidananda S Naik's short film 'Sunflowers Were the First Ones to Know' won the 1st prize in the 27th La Cinef category of the 77th Cannes Film Festival
- Chidananda S. Naik is a student at Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune. Cannes will give a grant of 15,000 euros for the first prize
- Actor Anasuya sengupta becomes the first indian actor to win the uncertain regard prize for the best actress for the film THE SHAMELESS at the CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

### 2. 18TH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL TO BE HELD FROM 15TH TO 21ST JUNE, 2024.

- Festival to be held in Mumbai with parallel screenings across Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Pune
- Record submissions of over 1000 Films from 59 Countries across 61 Languages
- 2024 Edition sees the introduction of the DOC Film Bazaar, aimed at championing Documentary films



### 3. SUBBAIAH NALLAMUTHU RECEIVES SHANTARAM LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, 2024

- Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting L Murugan announced at the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF 2024) that this year's most prestigious, V. Shantaram, Lifetime Achievement Award went to Chennai-based renowned, wildlife filmmaker Subbaiah Nallamuthu.
- He filmed the longest running wildlife series "Living on the Edge". Nallamuthu, received a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh, a trophy and a citation.





# Summits & conferences

## June 2024

### 1. INTERNATIONAL STEEL CONCLAVE HELD IN RANCHI, JHARKHAND

- MEcon Limited, in Association with Sail, under the Aegis of Ministry of Steel, Government of India has organized A Two-DAY International Conference on Steel (ICONS-2024) Khand on 30th and 31st May 2024.

### 2. 21ST SHANGRI LA DIALOGUE ENDS IN SINGAPORE

- The 21st edition of the Asia Pacific premier defence meet, the Shangri La Dialogue or the Asian Security Summit, ended in Singapore.
- It was attended by over a hundred delegates from Asia Pacific regions and from other parts of the world.
- The Dialogue brings together security practitioners, including defence ministers, senior officials and non-governmental stakeholders, to discuss the most pressing security challenges in the Asia-Pacific, engage in bilateral discussions, and identify fresh approaches.

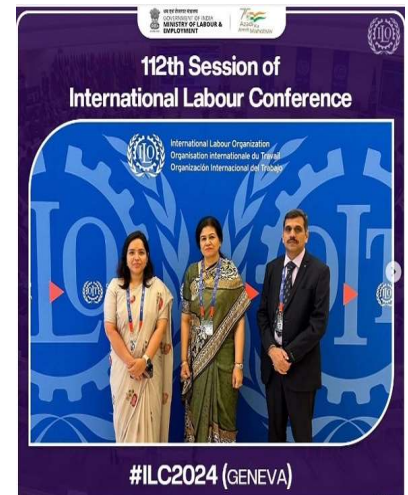


### 3. UNDP AND GEF LAUNCH 'BLUE AND GREEN ISLANDS INTEGRATED PROGRAMME'

- UNDP and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) launched a new \$135 million 'Blue and Green Islands Integrated Programme' (BGI-IP) during the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4).
- Targeting fifteen SIDS
- The initiative aims to emphasize the vital role of nature and expand nature-based solutions to combat environmental degradation in three key sectors: urban development, food production and tourism.

### 4. INDIAN TRIPARTITE DELEGATION AT THE 112TH SESSION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE (ILC)

- The International Labour Organization is holding its 112th annual International Labour Conference in Geneva from 3–14 June 2024.
- Worker, employer and government delegates from the ILO's 187 Member States will tackle a wide range of issue.



#### International Labour Organisation (ILO)

- It was created in 1919, as part of the Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I.
- In 1946, the ILO became a specialized agency of the newly formed United Nations.
- HQ: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Parent organization: Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).
- It is also a member of the United Nations Development Group (UNDP)
- Gilbert F. Houngbwa was elected as the ILO's 11th Director-General by the organization's Governing Body in March 2022.

### 5. INDIA-IOA CRUISE TOURISM CONFERENCE CONCLUDES IN NEW DELHI

- The India- IOA (Indian Ocean Rim Association) Cruise Tourism conference came to an end in New Delhi .
- The objective of the two day conference was to bring together government and business stakeholders from IOA Member States and Dialogue Partners to boost the cruise tourism sector and related sectors in the Indian Ocean region.
- The India-IOA Tourism Conference was organised by the Ministry of External Affairs in association with the Indian Ocean Rim Association Secretariat and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

### 6. 67TH GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF) COUNCIL

#### Global Environment Facility (GEF):

- Established : the 1992 Rio Earth Summit of UNFCCC 186 member countries, including India.
- Secretariat - Washington, D.C.

- It is a **multilateral** family of funds **dedicated to confronting biodiversity loss, climate change, and pollution, and supporting land and ocean health.**
- **67th GEF Council Meeting** from 17 - 20 June 2024 in Washington DC , **United States of America**
- The meeting ended with an approval for \$736.4 million in funding to support 34 **nature conservation and renewal projects globally.**
- **The Council comprises 32 members** appointed by constituencies of GEF member countries (14 from developed countries, 16 from developing countries, and 2 from economies in transition).
- Council members rotate at different intervals determined by each constituency.
- **The Council customarily meets twice annually but has decided to meet three times in 2024.**

# Reports & Indices

## June 2024

### 1. RELIANCE AND TATA GROUPS RECOGNIZED AMONG TIME'S WORLD'S MOST INFLUENTIAL COMPANIES

- Each year since 2020, TIME has put out a list of the world's most influential, innovative, and leading companies in a variety of fields. Nominations are carefully considered by TIME's network of experts as well as outside experts.
- The Time list falls into five categories: **leaders, disrupters, innovators, titans and pioneers.**
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), Serum institute of India and Tata Group, two of India's prominent business conglomerates, have been named among the **World's 100 'Most Influential Companies'** by the renowned TIME magazine.
- RIL: **Titan** of Indian Industry (only Indian company to receive this recognition twice.)
- Tata Group: A Diversified Conglomerate (titan category)
- Serum Institute: **Pioneer** in Vaccine Manufacturing
  1. Times person of the Year 2023
  2. Times CEO of the Year 2023
  3. Time Magazine's Athlete of the Year for 2023



### 2. INDIA AMONG TOP DESTINATIONS FOR CROSS-BORDER REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT

- The report, Asia Pacific Global Capital Flows May 2024, by Colliers listed India, China, Singapore and Australia in the top five destinations globally for crossborder capital investment in land/development sites in the first quarter of 2024.
- Global investors have consistently preferred the Indian real estate market, infusing over \$23 Billion since 2018, accounting for 77 per cent of the total investments during this period.
- US remains the top investor contributing to about 44 per cent of the foreign inflows
- Most of these cross border purchases (73%) are in assets that are ready to use, with a clear preference for properties that are already making money.
- Foreign investments in Indian real estate reached \$3.6 billion in 2023, making up 67% of all the money that came in



### 3. VISAKHAPATNAM PORT RANKS IN TOP 20 OF WORLD BANK CPPI

- Visakhapatnam Port achieves the 19th position in the Container Port Performance Index 2023, surpassing Mundra Port.
- Operated by J M Baxi Ports & Logistics, it runs a high-capacity terminal contributing to its efficiency.

### 4. AQUACULTURE OVERTAKES WILD FISHERIES FOR FIRST TIME: UN REPORT

- The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations released **The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2024**, its flagship report providing a comprehensive analysis of the global and regional status and trends in fisheries and aquaculture.
- It shows, **for the first time in 2022, that aquaculture production exceeded fisheries.**

#### FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (FAO)

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), a specialized agency of the United Nations, focuses on global food and agricultural issues
- Led by Director-General Qu Dongyu,
- Established in 1945, FAO's headquarters are in **Rome, Italy**, with India being one of its founding members
- **World Food Day**, commemorating FAO's establishment, is observed annually on **October 16<sup>th</sup>**.





## 5. ACCORDING TO THE HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE SURVEY, HARYANA IS THE TOP STATE IN MAXIMUM USE OF MILK AND MILK PRODUCT

- The detailed report of the **Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) 2022-23** was released by the **Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI)**. It provided important information about the expenditure habits of rural and urban households of different states.
- HCES is conducted by the National Statistical Office every 5 years. It is designed to collect information about the consumption of goods and services by households.

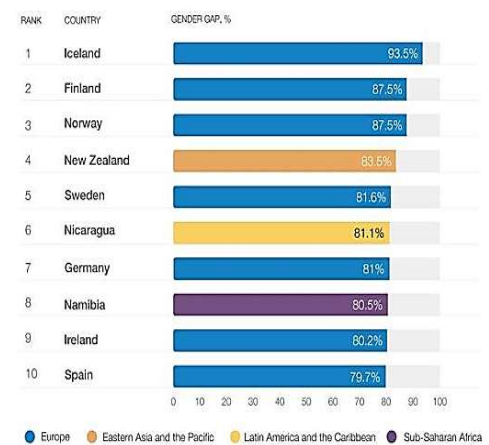
## 6. INDIA RANKS 129 ON GLOBAL GENDER GAP INDEX: WEF

- According to the **Global Gender Gap Index** released by the **World Economic Forum**, India has slipped two places to the **129th position** out of 146 countries.
- **Iceland retained its top spot**, followed by **Finland, Norway, New Zealand and Sweden** in the top five.
- **The U.K. was ranked 14th**, while the **USA was at 43rd place**.
- Globally, **Sudan was ranked last** on the index of 146 countries, while **Pakistan slipped three places** to 145th
- **Within South Asia, India was ranked fifth** after **Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bhutan**, while **Pakistan was ranked last**.
- However, **India showed the best gender parity in terms of enrolment in secondary education**, while it scored well on political empowerment of women at 65th rank globally.
- The **WEF said India's economic parity score has trended upwards for the past four years**.

Global Gender Gap Report 2024

### The Global Gender Gap Index 2024 Rankings

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM



Source: World Economic Forum, Global Gender Gap Index 2024

## 7. ICELAND IS THE MOST PEACEFUL COUNTRY ACCORDING TO THE INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMICS AND PEACE'S GLOBAL PEACE INDEX 2024

- **Iceland remains the most peaceful country**, a position it has held since 2008, followed by **Ireland, Austria, New Zealand and Singapore**, according to the **18th Global Peace Index (GPI) 2024** by the Australia based Institute for Economics and Peace. **Singapore has entered the top 5 for the first time**.
- **India is ranked 116th**, improving 5 places to fifth in South Asia.
- **Bhutan is the most peaceful country in the South Asia region**, a position it has held since 2011. It is now out of the 20 most peaceful countries in the world. **The country is ranked 21st. Bangladesh is ranked 93rd**.
- **Nepal came second in the region at 81st globally**, Sri Lanka came fourth at 110th, Pakistan ranked is followed by Sudan, South 140th and Afghanistan ranked lowest in South Asia at 160th.

## 8. INDIA IS WORLD'S SECOND LARGEST EMITTER OF NITROUS OXIDE

- **India is the world's second largest source of nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)**, a greenhouse gas that heats up the atmosphere far more than carbon dioxide, according to a global assessment of N<sub>2</sub>O emissions published in the journal **Earth System Science Data**
- **Nearly 11% of such global man-made emissions in 2020 were from India**, topped only by **China at 16%**. The major source of these emissions comes from fertiliser usage

## 9. RECORD 120 MILLION PEOPLE FORCIBLY DISPLACED GLOBALLY: UNHCR

- The **U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)** said the number of people forcibly displaced stood at a record 117.3 million as of the end of last year.
- These are refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced people, people being forced away by conflict, by persecution, by different and increasingly complex forms of violence
- There had been a yearly **increase in the number of people forcibly displaced over the last 12 years**.
- UNHCR estimates that the number of those displaced is likely to have exceeded 120 million by the end of April.

## 10. AAMRAS FROM INDIA IS THE WORLD'S BEST DISH MADE WITH MANGOES, ACCORDING TO THE POPULAR FOOD GUIDE TASTE ATLAS

## 11. TCS, HDFC, AIRTEL AND INFOSYS INDIAN FIRMS FEATURED IN WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE BRANDS

- Four Indian companies have featured in **Kantar BrandZ's list of 100 most valuable global brands this year**. In the 2024 list, **TCS has been ranked the 46th most valuable global brand**, valued at around \$44.8 billion.
- It is followed by **HDFC Bank, which is ranked 47th**, with a brand value of around \$43.3 billion. **Airtel is at the 73rd spot**, valued at around \$25.3 billion.
- It is followed by **Infosys at the 74th spot**; with a brand value of around \$25.3 billion is around \$24.7 billion.

## 12. MUMBAI RANKED THIRD GLOBALLY IN KNIGHT FRANK'S PRIME GLOBAL CITIES INDEX

- According to a report by real estate advisory company **Knight Frank**, **Mumbai is ranked third** and **Delhi fifth** among the top 44 cities globally in terms of increase in house prices during January-March this year.

The Knight Frank Prime Global Cities Index Q1 2024  
Ranked by annual % change

Rank/City	12-month % change	6-month % change	3-month % change
1 PH Manila	26.2	6.0	4.6
2 JP Tokyo	12.5	6.3	9.1
3 IN Mumbai	11.5	9.7	1.6
4 AU Perth	11.1	7.9	5.6
5 IN Delhi	10.5	6.4	6.3
6 KR Seoul	9.6	-5.1	0.1
7 NZ Christchurch	9.1	2.6	1.2
8 AE Dubai	8.5	-2.7	4.2
9 US Los Angeles	8.3	1.5	0.4
10 ES Madrid	7.8	3.0	1.3
11 US Miami	6.6	2.4	0.2
12 CA Vancouver	6.5	-2.8	0.6
13 CA Toronto	6.0	-2.9	2.8
14 NZ Wellington	5.2	3.5	-1.2
15 NZ Auckland	5.2	2.3	-1.3
16 SG Singapore	5.0	7.4	3.1
17 IN Bengaluru	4.8	3.7	3.0

### 13. INDIA AT 176 AMONG 180 COUNTRIES IN ENVIRONMENT PERFORMANCE INDEX 2024

- According to the 2024 Environment Performance Index (EPI), India is ranked 176th out of 180 countries with an EPI score of 27.6
- (Surpassing only Pakistan, Vietnam, Laos, and Myanmar BOTTOM 4)
- Estonia tops the 2024 EPI with an EPI score of 75.3 followed by Luxembourg and Germany at 2nd and 3rd spot.
- Note: Previously, India was ranked 180th in the EPI 2022 and 168th in the EPI 2020.
- The 2024 EPI compares and analyses environmental performance across 180 countries using 58 indicators across three main categories: Ecosystem Vitality; Environmental Health; and Climate Change.



#### 2024 index includes 2 new categories

1. Biodiversity and habitat, which assess protection efforts and reveal encroachments in many countries
2. Projected greenhouse gas emissions, which track progress towards achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

### 14. MUMBAI RETAINS TOP SPOT AS INDIA'S MOST EXPENSIVE CITY FOR EXPATS: MERCER REPORT

- In Mercer's 2024 Cost of Living Survey released on June 17, Mumbai solidifies its position as India's most expensive city for expatriates, climbing to 136th globally and 21st in Asia.

### 15. INDIA RANKS 63RD ON ENERGY TRANSITION INDEX, SWEDEN ON TOP: WEF

- India has been ranked 63rd out of 120 countries on Global Energy Transition Index released by the World Economic Forum.
- In 2023 India had ranked 67<sup>th</sup>
- Sweden topping the index, followed by Denmark, Finland, Switzerland and France in the top five. China was ranked 20th.
- India has shown significant improvement across energy equity, security and sustainability.
- The improvement shown by India and other developing countries such as China and Brazil assumes significance as 83% of countries have moved backwards from last year in at least one of the three energy system performance dimensions — security, equity and sustainability.
- The WEF also lauded the strides made by India in its clean energy infrastructure, with renewable energy and biomass comprising 42% of its power generation capacity, making it the fourth-largest renewables market globally.

### 16. 9 INDIAN PORTS AMONG TOP 100 IN CONTAINER PORT PERFORMANCE INDEX 2023

- In a significant boost to the India's port development programme, as many as 9 ports of India made it to the Global Top 100 in the latest edition of Container Port Performance Index (CPPI), 2023. Mundra Port also climbed up the index at 27 in the current ranking.
- This report is prepared by the World Bank and S&P Global Marketing Intelligence).
- The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal gave credit to the ambitious Sagarmalaprogramme, envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for modernisation of the ports and improving their efficiency.
- Vishakhapatnam Port has showcased strong performance with 27.5 moves per crane hour, a turnaround time (TRT) of 21.4 hours, and minimal berth idle time.
- Seven other Indian ports, which secured ranks in the top 100, are Pipavav (41), Kamarajar (47), Cochin (63), Hazira (68), Krishnapatnam (71), Chennai (80) and Jawaharlal Nehru (96).

### 17. UTTAR PRADESH TOPS LIST OF COMPLAINTS WITH NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

- Of the total 12,648 complaints received for violence against women by the National Commission for Women (NCW) till now in 2024, the highest (6,492) were from Uttar Pradesh, followed by Delhi and then Maharashtra.
- Manipur has recorded only three complaints of "crime against women" with the commission.
- The highest numbers of 3,567 complaints were received in the "right to dignity" category that involves harassment other than domestic violence.
- This was followed by 3,213 complaints of domestic violence.
- In 2023, a total of 28,811 complaints related to women were registered by the NCW.

### 18. VIRAT KOHLI RECLAIMS TOP SPOT AS INDIA'S MOST VALUED CELEBRITY BRAND

- Kroll's 'Celebrity Brand Valuation Report 2023: Brands, Business, Bollywood'.
- Cricketer Virat Kohli reclaimed his position as India's most valued celebrity - brand value of USD 227.9 million.
- Ranveer Singh, slipped to the second spot with a brand value of USD 203.1 million.














- **Shah Rukh Khan** surged to third place with a brand value of USD 120.7 million in 2023

## 19. INDIA IS THE SECOND COUNTRY AFTER CHINA IN DEATHS DUE TO AIR POLLUTION AS PER "STATE OF GLOBAL AIR (SoGA) 2024"

- According to the "State of Global Air (SoGA) 2024" published by the **United States-based organization Health research Effects Institute (HEI)**, 464 children under the age of 5 die every day in India due to air pollution.
- According to the research, air pollution has overtaken tobacco and diabetes as the **leading cause of death, trailing only high blood pressure**. 55% of global air pollution deaths in the year 2021 occur in China (2.3 million deaths) and India (2.1 million deaths). PM2.5 is a major contributor

## 20. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2024

- Released by UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
- Published by SDSN since 2016
- It reviews progress made each year on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 193 UN Member States.
- SDSN was established in 2012 & works under the UN Secretary-General
- Adoption: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015.
- Focus: It identified 17 Sustainable Development Goals with 169 specific targets to be achieved by 2030.
- Mandate: The programme is internationally non-binding, but all countries have committed to work towards these goals
- Leading Regions: Finland ranked first, followed by Sweden (2nd), Denmark (3rd), Germany (4th), and France (5th).

Rank	Country	Score	Performance by SDG
1	 Finland	86.35	
2	 Sweden	85.70	
3	 Denmark	85.00	
4	 Germany	83.45	
5	 France	82.76	
107	 Bangladesh	64.35	
108	 Iraq	64.18	
109	 India	63.99	
110	 Lebanon	63.89	
111	 Kuwait	63.76	

- India is ranked 109th, with on track performance in Poverty reduction and Quality Education targets while decreasing progress in Sustainable Cities and Climate Action targets

### Key Highlights of Report

- On average, only 16% of the SDG targets are on track to be met globally by 2030
- 84% show limited progress or regression.
- SDG2 (Zero Hunger), SDG11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 14 (Life below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) are particularly off track.
- SDG progress varies significantly across countries with Nordic countries leading, BRICS countries making significant progress and Poor & Vulnerable countries lagging far behind

## 21. INDIA RANKS THIRD IN GLOBAL DOMESTIC AIRLINE MARKET

- India has achieved significant milestones in its domestic aviation sector over the past decade, emerging as the world's third-largest market for domestic airlines by April 2024.
- This marks a remarkable ascent from its fifth position ten years ago, driven by robust growth and strategic developments under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership
- India has demonstrated the highest average annual growth rate in airline seat capacity globally, at 6.9%

## 22. ACCORDING TO THE REUTERS INSTITUTE'S 'DIGITAL NEWS REPORT 2024', AKASHVANI NEWS IS INDIA'S MOST TRUSTED NEWS BRAND

- According to the 13th Digital News Report 2024 of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism of Oxford University, Akashvani News has received a **much higher trust score than other major media houses in the country**.



- It is followed by BBC News, CNN, DD News and Economic Times. Overall trust in news has increased by 41% in this election year and India has been ranked 18th among 47 countries

### **23. HENLEY PRIVATE WEALTH MIGRATION REPORT 2024**

- India would rank third in the world this year in terms of the net outflows of millionaires from the country, with 4,300 more millionaires leaving than arriving.
- The top two countries on the list are projected to be China (15,200) and the UK (9,500).
- India's projected net outflow of millionaires in 2024 is lower than what happened in 2023 (6,500) and in 2022 (7,500).
- India is adding "far more" millionaires than it is losing to emigration.
- According to Henley's data, India ranks 10th in the world with 3,26,400 high-net-worth individuals, including 1,044 centimillionaires (with more than \$100 million in wealth) and 120 billionaires.
- This is the third-highest billionaire population in the world (after US & China).
- UAE was one of the most popular destinations for millionaires from around the world, including India.

# Appointment

## June 2024

### 1. APPOINTMENT OF RAKESH RANJAN AS CHAIRMAN, STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION (SSC)

### 2. Inderpal Singh Bindra Appointed as CCI (Competition Commission of India) Secretary



### 3. Microsoft Co-founder Bill Gates Announces His Autobiography "Source Code"

- Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates has announced his much-awaited autobiography, "Source Code: My Beginnings".



### 4. LT General Upendra Dwivedi Named New Army Chief

- Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi will take over as the next Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) on June 30.
- In his career of over 39 years, he has served as Northern Army Commander and Director General (DG) infantry amongst other appointments.



### 5. Ajit Doval Re-appointed NSA for Third Consecutive Term Under PM Modi

- The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has re-appointed Ajit Doval as the National Security Advisor (NSA) to the Prime Minister. The former IPS officer Ajit Doval has been re-appointed for his third term.
- The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet consists of the prime minister and the Home Minister.

### 6. FICCI Appoints Jyoti Vij as New Director General

- The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) announced the appointment of Jyoti Vij as its director general.

- FICCI President: Anish Shah
- Headquarters: New Delhi

### 7. LT General Waker-Uz-Zaman Appointed as New Army Chief of Bangladesh

#### People's Republic of Bangladesh

- Bangladesh is a neighbouring country of India. It gained Independence from Pakistan in 1971 after the India-Pakistan war.
- India shares its longest international boundary, 4097 km, with Bangladesh.
- West Bengal, Tripura, Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram share a boundary with Bangladesh.
- Bangladesh is one of the most densely populated countries in the world.
- Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina Wajed
- Capital: Dhaka
- Currency: Taka



### 8. Government Appoints Atul Kumar Chaudhary as Secretary of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India



### 9. Manoj Jain Appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Electronics Limited



### 10. The Government has Appointed Girija Subramanian as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the Largest General Insurer, New India Assurance

Established - 1919 by Sir Dorabji Tata

Nationalized in 1972 as per Insurance Business (Nationalization) Act 1972

Head office - Mumbai

### 11. INDIA'S FIRST AI UNIVERSITY APPOINTS AWARD-WINNING AMERICAN PROFESSOR AS VC

- **India's first artificial intelligence university**, Universal AI University (UAIU), has appointed international strategist and multiple award-winning professor **Simon Mak** as its **vice-chancellor**.
- Mak is the first non-Indian to hold the position of **founding vice chancellor** of an Indian institution.



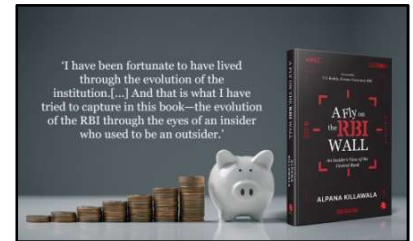


# Books & Authors

**June  
2024**

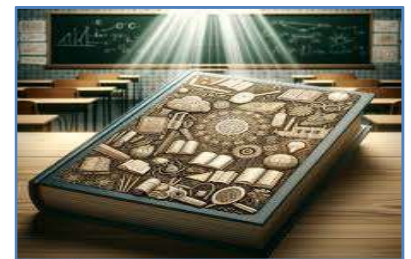
## 1. A BOOK TITLED "A FLY ON THE RBI WALL" AUTHORED BY ALPANA KILLAWALA

- Harshad Mehta scam, liberalisation of the Indian economy — **Alpana Killawala's** more than 2 decades career with the communications department of the Reserve Bank of India coincided with a very vibrant phase of the central bank.



## 2. MAHARASHTRA GOVERNOR UNVEILS BOOK ON MUMBAI'S HISTORIC PORTS AND DOCKS

- Maharashtra Governor Ramesh Bais released the book "Gateways to the Sea: Historic Ports and Docks of Mumbai Region"
- Compiled by the Maritime Mumbai Museum Society (MMMS).
- The book, featuring 18 articles by renowned historians & maritime experts, covers ancient ports like Sopara and Vasai, as well as modern docks such as Mazagon Dock and Mumbai Port.



# Economics

## Current Affairs

**June  
2024**

### 1. RBI FINES HSBC BANK FOR VIOLATION OF FEMA REGULATION

- The Reserve Bank of India fined **HSBC Bank Rs 36.38 lakhs** for violating the provision of the **Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) 1999**.
- According to the RBI, the HSBC bank failed to follow the required reporting requirements under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme of FEMA.

### 2. INDIAN ECONOMY GREW BY 8.2% IN FY 24 : NSO

- According to the provisional estimate of the National Statistical Organisation (NSO), the Indian Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by **8.2 per cent** in the financial year 2023-24.
- The Indian GDP growth rate in 2022-23 was **7 percent**. This is the **ninth time** since 1960-61 the Indian GDP has grown by 8 per cent or more in a financial year

### 3. SBI BECOMES 7TH COMPANY TO CROSS RS 8 LAKH CRORE MARKET CAPITALIZATION

- India's largest commercial bank, **State Bank of India (SBI)**, has become the **seventh listed company in India to reach Rs eight lakh crore in market capitalisation**. The shares of the State Bank of India hit a new high of Rs 899.55 on the BSE.
- SBI joins the ranks of **Reliance Industries, Tata Consultancy Services, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, Infosys, and ICICI Bank** in achieving this milestone.

### 4. SBI MUTUAL FUND BECOMES FIRST TO TOP RS 10 TRILLION IN ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT

- SBI Mutual Fund (SBI MF) achieved a historic milestone on Monday by becoming the first fund house in India to surpass Rs 10 trillion in assets under management (AUM).
- This significant accomplishment is attributed to the post-pandemic equity boom and a growing awareness of mutual fund investing.

### 5. PAYTM UPI LITE ALLOWS RS 500 PER TRANSACTION WITHOUT PIN

- Paytm's UPI Lite Wallet is designed for quick and easy payments without needing to enter a PIN, said Paytm in a press release.
- It allows users to make instant transactions of up to Rs 500 each.
- Users can add up to Rs 2,000 to their wallet twice a day, giving a daily total of Rs 4,000.

### 6. RBI MONETARY POLICY JUNE 2024, REPO RATE UNCHANGED AT 6.5%

- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced that the Monetary Policy Committee has chosen to maintain the policy repo rate at 6.5%, with a 4:2 majority decision.
- Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate remains unchanged at 6.25%, while both the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the bank rate stand firm at 6.75%.

#### RBI Repo Rate is as under

- ✓ Policy Repo Rate: 6.50% (Unchanged)
- ✓ Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): 6.25% (Unchanged)
- ✓ Marginal Standing Facility Rate: 6.75% (Unchanged)
- ✓ Bank Rate: 6.75% (Unchanged)
- ✓ Fixed Reverse Repo Rate: 3.35% (Unchanged)
- ✓ CRR: 4.50% (Unchanged)
- ✓ SLR: 18.00% (Unchanged)



### 7. NETHERLANDS EMERGES AS INDIA'S 3RD LARGEST EXPORT DESTINATION IN 2023-24

- The Netherlands has emerged as India's third largest export destination after the US and UAE during 2023-24.
- The main commodities which registered **healthy exports growth in the Netherlands include petroleum products (USD 14.29 billion), electrical goods, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals in the last fiscal**.
- **India's trade surplus with the Netherlands has increased to USD 17.4 billion in the last fiscal from USD 13 billion in 2022-23.**
- The Netherlands has taken over major destinations such as the U.K., Hong Kong, Bangladesh and Germany.

### 8. INDIA EXIM BANK OPENS NAIROBI OFFICE TO BOOST EAST AFRICA TRADE

- The **Export-Import Bank of India (India Exim Bank)** inaugurated its **East Africa Representative Office in Nairobi, Kenya**, aiming to expand India's business footprint in the resource-rich and demographically young continent of East Africa.



- This initiative seeks to enhance trade and investment ties between India, Kenya, and the broader East African region.
  - 9. SMALLEST KNOWN GREAT APE, WHICH LIVED 11M YEARS AGO, FOUND IN GERMANY**
    - The smallest known great ape has been discovered in Germany, dating to 11m years ago.
    - The tiny creature, far smaller than any other great ape on record, is estimated to have weighed 10kg, about the size of a human toddler.
    - The species, called **Buroniussmanfredschmidi**, is an ancient hominid, part of the ancestral family that gave rise to modern humans, gorillas and chimpanzees.
    - This new genus is far smaller than any living or any fossil hominid
  - 10. WORLD BANK RETAINS INDIA'S FY25 GROWTH FORECAST AT 6.6%**
    - In its latest biannual **Global Economic Prospects**, the World Bank maintains India's growth projection at **6.6% for FY25**, affirming its status as the fastest-growing among the largest economies.
    - The forecast reflects a moderate pace of expansion following a **high growth rate in FY 2023/24**.
  - 11. GAIL TO SET UP INDIA'S LARGEST ETHANE CRACKER PROJECT WITH RS 60,000 CRORE INVESTMENT IN MP**
  - 12. INDIA SURPASSES HONG KONG TO RECLAIM FOURTH SPOT IN GLOBAL EQUITY MARKET**
    - India's equity market has once again outpaced Hong Kong, securing the position as the world's fourth-largest by market capitalization.
    - With India's market value soaring to **\$5.2 trillion**, bolstered by a 10% surge following a post-election market rebound, it now leads Hong Kong, which stands at **\$5.17 trillion** after a 5.4% decline from its peak this year
  - 13. FITCH RAISES INDIA'S GDP GROWTH FORECAST FOR FY25 TO 7.2%**
    - Fitch Ratings has revised India's GDP growth forecast for FY25 to **7.2%**, up from the previous estimate of 7%.
    - This adjustment is attributed to expected recovery in consumer spending and continued investment, although at a slower pace than recent quarters. The economy had grown by **8.2% in FY24**.
  - 14. FDI TO INDIA DROPS IN 2023 BY 43%, RANKED 15TH IN WORLD :UNCTAD2023**
    - According to a report of the **United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**, the foreign direct investment (FDI) to India in 2023 has dropped by **43 percent** as compared to 2022.
    - The report also said that the overall FDI in the world **declined by 2 percent** in 2023 as compared to 2022.
    - Among the **top 20 FDI recipient countries** in the world there has been a drop in the FDI inflow to India, China, France, Australia, the United States of America.
  - 15. NSE LAUNCHES NIFTY INDIA TOURISM INDEX TO TRACK TRAVEL & TOURISM STOCKS**
    - NSE Indices, a subsidiary of the National Stock Exchange (NSE), launched a new thematic index - the **Nifty India Tourism Index**.
    - This index will track the performance of companies from the Nifty 500 that are directly linked to the travel and tourism industry.
    - Travel and tourism are two of the largest industries in India, with a total contribution of about **\$199.6 billion to the country's GDP**.
- Recent index**

  - Environment Performance Index 2024: India at 176; topped by Estonia
  - Global Gender Gap index 2024: India at 129th; topped by Iceland
  - WEF's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024: India at 39th; topped by USA
  - World Press Freedom Index 2024: India at 159th; topped by Norway
  - World Cybercrime Index: India at 10th; topped by Russia
- 16. MAZAGON DOCK SHIPBUILDERS IS NOW A 'NAVRATNA' COMPANY**
    - The Indian government grants Navratna status to premier public sector undertakings (PSUs), empowering them to execute investments of up to ₹1,000 crore without requiring approval from the central authority.
  - 17. THDC WINS PSU LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION EXCELLENCE**
    - THDC India Limited (THDCIL) has been conferred with the prestigious PSU Leadership & Excellence Award 2024 in the category of 'Leadership in Digital Transformation.'
    - R. K. Vishnoi, CMD of THDCIL
    - Formed in July 1988 & It is a Category-1 Mini Ratna Class-A Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU).
    - THDC India Ltd, the erstwhile **Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Ltd**, a 75:25 joint venture (JV) between the Government of India and UP Govt.
  - 18. MINDSPACE BECOMES FIRST INDIAN REIT TO ISSUE SUSTAINABILITY-LINKED BONDS**
    - **Mindspace Business Parks REIT**, the owner and developer of quality Grade A office portfolio, has announced its **₹650 crore Sustainability Linked Bond** issuance placed with the **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**.
    - The coupon of the bond is linked to Mindspace's commitment to achieve certain ESG targets towards building a greener eco-system.
  - 19. RBI REPORTS DECLINE IN SHORT-TERM DEBT'S SHARE OF INDIA'S EXTERNAL DEBT.**
    - India's Reserve Bank (RBI) has announced a notable decline in the proportion of short-term debt within the country's total external debt, marking a decrease of 2.1 percentage points by March 2024 compared to the previous year
    - This reduction is indicative of India's strengthened external sector resilience.



# Environment

## Current Affairs

**June  
2024**

### 1. 64 GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD COUNTED IN NATIONAL DESERT PARK, JAISALMER

- For the first time, 64 Great Indian Bustards, also known as 'Godawan,' were spotted in Jaisalmer district during the annual waterhole survey, a method used for wildlife census.
- In 2022, a count using the waterhole method recorded 42 Great Indian Bustards

#### Great Indian Bustard

- Scientific Name: *Ardeotisnigriceps*
- Habitat: It inhabits dry grasslands and scrublands.
- The state bird of Rajasthan Conservation Status:
- IUCN Red List: Critically Endangered
- Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule 1
- CITES: Appendix 1

### 2. WORLD HEADED FOR 2.7° C WARMING, FINANCE DEAL KEY: UN CLIMATE HEAD

- The United Nations Climate Head Simon Stiell has warned the world at the Bonn Climate Change Conference in Germany
- The world headed for 2.7 degrees Celsius warming, and the road to keeping it to 1.5 degrees Celsius is extremely steep.
- The Bonn meeting from June 3 to 13 is known as halfway to the annual climate summit, also known as the 29th Conference of Parties, or COP29.



### 3. UNESCO'S STATE OF OCEAN REPORT 2024

- The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO launched the State of the Ocean Report 2024 publication (StOR) in Iceland
- The rate of ocean warming has doubled in 20 years - with 2023 seeing one of the highest increases since the 1950s.
- Coastal species are suffocating from declining oxygen levels - Since the 1960s, the ocean has lost 2% of its oxygen due to warming temperatures and pollutants, including wastewater and agricultural run-off. Coastal areas are especially impacted

UNESCO At Glance	
UNESCO Full Form	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCO Established	16 November 1945, United Kingdom
UNESCO Headquarter	Paris, France
Parent organization	United Nations
UNESCO Director-General	Audrey Azoulay

- Rising acidity is also a major cause for concern. 25-30% of fossil fuel emissions absorbed by the ocean. Since pre-industrial times, ocean acidity has increased by 30%, and will reach 170% by 2100.
- Marine forests including mangroves, seagrass plains, and tidal marshes are able to absorb up to 5 times more carbon than forests on land.
- Marine Protected Areas are known to protect biodiversity, harbouring 72% of the 1500 endangered marine species on the IUCN Red List.

### 4. ARCTIC ICE GIANT VIRUSES MAY SLOW MELTING BY EATING ALGAE

- Researchers have found new viruses on the surface of Arctic ice that could slow down the melting of ice due to global warming.
- These giant viruses feed off the algae on ice sheets.
- These algal blooms often lead to faster ice melting, thus exacerbating the effect of greenhouse gases.
- Scientists believe that the viruses, living alongside the algae, can help control the algal spread and thus serve as a natural control mechanism.
- It is the first time that such algae-eating viruses have been found in the ice sheets of the Arctic.

### 5. SUHELWA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY (SWS) IN UP TO BECOME A TR

- A new tiger reserve will soon be established in Uttar Pradesh, following evidence of tiger population in the Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary (SWS), which covers the districts of Balrampur, Shravasti, and Gonda.
- The announcement was made during the 10th anniversary celebration of the Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR)
- Suhelwa was declared a Wildlife Sanctuary in 1988. It is spread across 452 sqkm.



**UP TIGER RESERVE**

1. Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, National Park

2. Pilibhit Tiger Reserve

3. Ranipur Tiger Reserve, Wildlife Sanctuary

4. Amangarh Tiger Reserve (U.P) - (buffer of Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve).

➤ There are a total of 55 tiger reserves in India (Dholpur – Karauli Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan 55th).

➤ Tiger Reserves are notified by State Governments as per provisions of Section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 on advice of the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

**6. BIHAR'S NAGI & NAKTI BIRD SANCTUARIES TAKES INDIA'S RAMSAR SITE TO 82**

➤ Nagi Bird Sanctuary was notified as the 81st Ramsar Site of India.

➤ Nakti Bird Sanctuary is the 82nd Ramsar site in India.

➤ Bihar now has **three wetland sites** under the Ramsar convention, and the total number of Ramsar sites in the country has increased to 82. Bihar now has **three Ramsar sites**. The first one was **Kanwar Lake** in Begusarai district, which was declared a Ramsar site in 2020.➤ **India and China** jointly hold the third-largest number of Ramsar sites in the world, with 82 sites each.**India and Ramsar Convention**• India ratified the Ramsar Convention in **1982**.• The first Indian wetland sites included in the Convention were **Chilika Lake (Odisha)** and **Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)** in **1981**.• Amongst the states, **Tamil Nadu** has 16 sites, followed by Uttar Pradesh, which has 10.• **Largest Ramsar site in India:** Sunderban of West Bengal• **Smallest Ramsar site in India:** Renuka in Himachal Pradesh**7. FIRST ELEPHANT-RICH AFRICAN COUNTRIES' KAZA SUMMIT 2024 HELD IN ZAMBIA**➤ The **KAZA 2024** Heads of State Summit concluded on 31 May 2024 in the Zambian resort town of Livingstone. It was the first summit.**8. AUSTRALIAN FERN SPECIES 'TMESIPTERIS' HAS THE LARGEST GENOME IN THE WORLD**➤ New research shows that the fork fern species, called **Tmesipterisobalanceolata**, has a genome – all the genetic information of an organism – 7% larger than the previous record holder, the Japanese flowering plant *Paris japonica*, and more than 50 times the size of the human genome**9. AUSTRALIAN FERN SPECIES 'TMESIPTERIS' HAS THE LARGEST GENOME IN THE WORLD**➤ New research shows that the fork fern species, called **Tmesipterisobalanceolata**, has a genome – all the genetic information of an organism – 7% larger than the previous record holder, the Japanese flowering plant *Paris japonica*, and more than 50 times the size of the human genome**10. MANGROVES IN SOUTH INDIA, SRI LANKA LABELED 'CRITICALLY ENDANGERED'**

➤ The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has issued a new report cautioning that half of the world's mangrove ecosystems are at risk of collapsing.

➤ This marks the first comprehensive global assessment of mangroves by IUCN.

➤ The report, titled "Red List of Mangrove Ecosystems," unveiled these findings on International Day for Biodiversity (22 May).

➤ Mangrove ecosystem in South India, shared with Sri Lanka and Maldives, is categorised as "critically endangered".

➤ In contrast, mangrove ecosystems in the Bay of Bengal region (shared with Bangladesh) and the western coast (shared with Pakistan) are classified as "least concerned".

➤ India has about 3% of the total mangrove cover in South Asia.

➤ India's mangrove cover has increased by 54 sq km (1.10%) compared to the previous assessment.

➤ The current mangrove cover in India is 4,975 sq km, which is 0.15% of the country's total geographical area.

➤ West Bengal (42.45%) has the largest share of India's mangrove cover, followed by Gujarat at 23.66% and Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands at 12.39%.

➤ The South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal alone accounts for 41.85% of India's mangrove cover. This region includes the Sundarbans National Park, one of the largest mangrove forests in the world.

➤ Gujarat has shown the maximum increase of 37 sq km in mangrove cover.

➤ Coasts along the Northwest Atlantic, North Indian Ocean, Red Sea, South China Sea, and Gulf of Aden are predicted to be significantly impacted.

➤ Without increased conservation, about 7,065 sq km (5%) more mangroves could be lost, and 23,672 sq km (16%) will be submerged by 2050.

### 11. NEW SPECIES OF 100 MILLION YEAR-OLD PTEROSAUR DISCOVERED IN AUSTRALIA

### 12. SCIENTISTS DISCOVER RARE SPECIES OF BIOLUMINESCENT MUSHROOMS IN KASARAGOD

- In the *forests of Kasaragod (Kerala)*, researchers have discovered a rare species of bioluminescent mushrooms that emit a brilliant, otherworldly green light in the darkness of night.
- These fascinating fungi, scientifically known as **Filoboletus manipularis**, are capable of producing their own light through a biochemical process
- Many wild mushrooms contain toxins that can be harmful, and bioluminescent ones are no exception. The chemicals that make them glow could be toxic, leading to severe gastrointestinal issues or worse if ingested.



### 13. INDIAN SCIENTISTS DISCOVER NEW PLANT SPECIES DENDROPHTHOELONGENSIS

- The new species, **Dendrophthoelongsensis**, was found on the Long Islands in the **middle Andamans** by a group of scientists led by Lal Ji Singh.
- The aerial stem-parasitic flowering mistletoe plant species Dendrophthoelongsensis was found on the specific host plant - **Mango, Mangifera indica** in the edge of evergreen forests, low land areas of tropical forests.

### 14. INDIA'S LARGEST LEOPARD SAFARI LAUNCHED AT 'BANNERGHATTA BIOLOGICAL PARK', BENGALURU

- Environment Minister Ishwar Khandre inaugurated South India's first and India's largest leopard safari at Bannerghatta Biological Park, located 25 km south of Bengaluru in Karnataka
- Bannerghatta Biological Park - BBP was separated from the Bannerghatta National Park in 2004
- The safari, spread over 20 hectares, is secured with railway barricades and fenced with 4.5 m long chainlink mesh and mild steel sheets



# Cultural

## Current Affairs

**June  
2024**

### 1. ANNUAL KHEER BHAWANI FAIR BEGINS IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

### 2. MALABAR RIVER FESTIVAL TO BE HELD FROM JULY 25 TO 28 IN KOZHIKODE

- The 10th edition of the Malabar River Festival (MRF) and the International White Water Kayaking Championship will be held in Kozhikode.
- Around 20 countries, besides around 100 national-level Kayakers, were expected to participate in the event.
- The first edition of the Malabar River Festival, held in August 2013.

### 3. RAJ MAHOTSAV 2024 BEGINS IN ODISHA

- Usually celebrated in mid-June, this festival lasts for three to four days. This year it is being celebrated from June 14.
- Raj Mahotsav has religious significance as it is associated with the worship of Hindu goddess Durga.

### 4. 'HEMISTSECHU FESTIVAL, 2024' BEGINS IN LADAKH

- In Ladakh, the annual Hemis monastic festival popularly known as HemisTsechu has begun with great religious fervour and gaiety.
- The Hemis Monastic Festival is celebrated with grand prayers, performance of sacred mask dances and exhibition of Thankas or mural paintings on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Guru Padma Sambhava.



### 5. GANGA DUSSEHRA

- Ganga Dussehra, also known as Gangavataran, is an important Hindu festival
- Celebrated on the tenth day of the waxing moon in the Hindu month of Jyeshtha (Shukla Dashami), the festival spans ten days, including nine days of festivities.
- It commemorates the descent of the holy river Ganga to Earth, which is believed to have taken place on this auspicious day.
- King Bhagirath aimed to purify his ancestors' souls and grant them salvation. Seeking help, he approached Lord Brahma, who advised him to pray to Lord Shiva, as bringing the mighty Ganga to Earth

### 6. AMBUBACHI MELA BEGINS AT KAMAKHYA TEMPLE IN GUWAHATI

- In Assam, the famous Ambubachi Mela has begun on 22 June 2024 at the Kamakhya temple. This will conclude on the 26th June.
- The event celebrates the annual menstruation of the goddess Kamakhya, symbolising fertility and womanhood.
- During the festival, the gates of Kamakhya Temple will remain closed. The temple gates will reopen on June 25th.

### 7. ANCIENT PEARL CITY TU'AM DISCOVERED IN UAE

- A long-lost ancient city famed for its pearl industry may have been identified by archaeologists on Siniyah Island, off the coast of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- believed to be part of the historical city of Tu'am - documented in historical sources, its precise location was never precisely known

#### History of Tu'am

- Tu'am is believed to date back to at least the 4th century, reaching its peak in the 6th century.
- The city is frequently referenced in ancient texts for its pearls, to have been the capital of a coastal territory famous for its pearl fishing industry.
- The city's decline is attributed to regional conflicts and a bubonic plague epidemic that swept through the Near East, the Mediterranean, and parts of Europe in the sixth century.

# MoU / Agreement

**June  
2024**

## 1. HEALTH AND DEFENCE MINISTRIES COLLABORATE TO ESTABLISH TELE MANAS CELL FOR ARMED FORCES

- It aimed at addressing the **mental health needs of armed forces personnel** and their families, the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)** and the **Ministry of Defence (MoD)** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- This collaboration establishes a dedicated **Tele MANAS cell**, the digital extension of the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP), to provide comprehensive, integrated, and inclusive **24/7 tele-mental health services**.



## 2. IGNCA SIGNS MOU WITH SANSAD TV TO PROMOTE INDIAN ART AND CULTURE

- To enhance public accessibility to Indian art and culture, the **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Sansad TV**.
- This collaboration allows Sansad TV to broadcast **IGNCA's cultural programs** and utilize its extensive archival content. The **MoU was formalized by Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi**, Member Secretary of IGNCA, and **Mr. Rajat Punhani**, CEO of Sansad TV.

## 3. TATA COMMUNICATIONS SECURES FIVE-YEAR BROADCASTING DEAL WITH WORLD ATHLETICS

- Tata Communications has finalized a significant **five-year agreement with World Athletics** to provide **broadcasting services, enhancing global coverage of premier events** starting from the **Tokyo World Championships**.
- This partnership marks Tata Communications as a pivotal supplier, committed to innovation and audience engagement.

## 4. FINLAND'S TELECOM EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER NOKIA SIGNS MOU WITH GATI SHAKTI UNIVERSITY

- **Finland's telecom equipment manufacturer Nokia** has signed an agreement with **Gati Shakti University (GSV) Vadodara, Gujarat** located for in joint research related to **5G/6G communications in the transport and logistics sector**.
- It collaborates on research opportunities in 5G/6G communications. GSV is under the Ministry of Railways.

## 5. MEA AND SBI SIGN MOU TO ENHANCE DIGITAL PAYMENTS FOR MIGRANT WORKERS VIA EMIGRATE PORTAL

- The **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** and the **State Bank of India (SBI)** have formalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to integrate SBI's payment gateway, **SBIePay**, with the **eMigrate portal**.
- This collaboration aims to bolster digital payment services for Indian migrant workers, recruiting agents, and users of the portal.



## 6. CCRYN IN COLLABORATION WITH SVYASA ORGANIZES CONFERENCE ON "YOGA FOR SPACE" IN BENGALURU

- The **Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (CCRYN)**, in collaboration with **Svyasa, Deemed to be University**, organized a Conference on **"Yoga for Space"** at **S-Vyasa University, Bengaluru**, in observance of **International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2024** with the theme **"Yoga for Self & Society."**
- This conference brought together experts from various fields to enhance societal health, including astronauts, by exploring the benefits of yoga in extreme conditions and space environments.

## 7. NHAI SIGNS MOU WITH IIIT DELHI TO ENHANCE ROAD SAFETY USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- To enhance road safety, the **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Delhi**, a technical university established by the **Government of National Capital Territory (NCT)**.
- This collaboration aims to leverage **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** to improve the availability and condition of road signs on National Highways, covering approximately **25,000 kilometers**.

## 8. BHARAT 6G ALLIANCE SIGNS MOU WITH UNIVERSITY OF OULU, FINLAND

- MoU will provide India an opportunity to connect EU and Indian R&D companies, academia and research institutions, align R&D efforts in 6G and related technologies, promote joint research initiatives, conduct pilots of 6G technologies and use cases

# Obituaries

**June  
2024**

## 1. INDIA'S FOREMOST WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST AND CONSERVATION ACTIVIST, A J T JOHNSINGH, IS NO MORE

- Asir Jawahar Thomas Johnsingh, also known as A J T Johnsingh, a distinguished Indian wildlife biologist and dedicated conservation activist, passed away in Bengaluru in the early hours of Friday, June 7, 2024. He was 78.
- The ailing biologist-turned-activist died at around 1 am, according to a statement from his family.
- He leaves behind a rich legacy as a courageous environmental advocate and the strongest defender of the earth's flora and fauna.



## 2. EMINENT WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST AJT JOHNSINGH PASSES AWAY IN BENGALURU

- One of the eminent wildlife field biologists and pioneers of wildlife conservation in the Country, **A.J.T. Johnsingh** passed away in Bengaluru.
- His pioneering work in elephants in the early 1980s was instrumental for the Government of India to **formulate Project Elephant**.



## 3. RAMOJI FILM CITY FOUNDER & MEDIA MOGUL RAMOJI RAO (PADMA VIBHUSHAN, IN 2016) PASSED AWAY

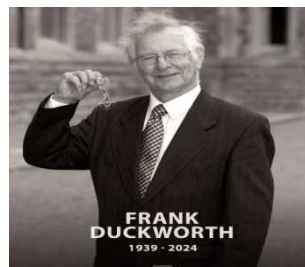
## 4. SAROD MAESTRO RAJEEV TARANATH PASSES AWAY IN MYSURU

## 5. RENOWNED SPORTS JOURNALIST HARPAL SINGH BEDI PASSED AWAY

- Veteran sports journalist **Harpal Singh Bedi**, who covered several highs and lows of Indian sports in a career spanning over four decades, served as the **national Olympic contingent's press attache** in 2012



## 6. FRANK DUCKWORTH, THE CO-INVENTOR OF THE DLS METHOD IN CRICKET, DIES AT THE AGE OF 84





## IMPORTANT DAYS

DATE	DAY	FACTS
2 June	Telangana Formation Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Telangana Formation Day is celebrated on June 2nd</li> <li>On June 2, 2014, Telangana was carved out of Andhra Pradesh as the 29th and the youngest state of India.</li> </ul>
2 June	International Sex Worker's Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In 1975, on June 2, around 100 sex workers gathered at Saint-Nizier Church in Lyon, France to start a conversation regarding the exploiting working and living conditions</li> <li>➤ The theme is same as the previous year - 'Access to Justice'.</li> <li>➤ Notwithstanding the profession, every individual in this country has a right to a dignified life under Article 21." With these words, the Supreme Court recognised prostitution as a profession and said that sex workers are entitled to dignity and equal protection under the law.</li> </ul>
3 June	World Bicycle Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ World Bicycle Day was first marked on June 3, 2018, following a resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on April 12, 2018, during its 72nd Regular Session.</li> <li>➤ The day aims to promote various benefits of cycling, including strengthening education, promoting tolerance, preventing diseases, encouraging physical exercise and facilitating social inclusion.</li> <li>➤ Theme for World Bicycle Day is "Promoting Health, Equity, and Sustainability through Cycling."</li> </ul>
5 JUNE	World Environment Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ World Environment Day is celebrated annually on 5 June to put a spotlight on environmental challenges of our time.</li> <li>➤ World Environment Day 2024 theme on land restoration, stopping desertification and building drought resilience.</li> <li>➤ The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is the global host of this year's edition.</li> <li>➤ On 5 June 2024, UNEP and ESCAP are bringing together partners and stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific to discuss priority areas on land restoration, desertification and drought resilience in the region.</li> </ul>
7 June	World Food Safety Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ To raise awareness about the importance of food safety and promote actions to prevent, detect, and manage foodborne risks.</li> <li>➤ Observed since 2019.</li> <li>➤ Theme is "Food Safety: Prepare for the Unexpected."</li> <li>➤ World Food Safety Day was established in December 2018 by the United Nations General Assembly, following a joint proposal by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Health Organisation (WHO).</li> </ul>
8 June	World Brain Tumour Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ first observed in the year 2000</li> <li>➤ Theme 2024 is 'Brain Health and Prevention'.</li> </ul>
8 June	World Ocean Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The official theme for World Oceans Day 2024 is "Catalyzing Action for Our Ocean &amp; Climate" &amp; "Awaken New Depths."</li> <li>➤ The day was first proposed in 1992 by Canada's International Centre for Ocean Development (ICOD) and the Ocean Institute of Canada (OIC) at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, also known as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).</li> <li>➤ The day was officially recognized by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2008.</li> <li>➤ The oceans cover over 70% of the Earth's surface and contain over 97% of the Earth's water.</li> </ul>
11 June	First International Sports Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The first International Sports Day has been observed on 11 June 2024, marking an important milestone in efforts to preserve, promote and prioritise sport.</li> <li>➤ Recognising this, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child has established sport as a fundamental right of every child under Article 31.</li> <li>➤ The slogan of the first Sports Day is 'Sport makes a better world.'</li> </ul>
12 June	World Day Against Child Labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Every year on 12 June, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and its associated partners celebrate World Day Against Child Labour.</li> <li>➤ The day is dedicated to highlight the issue of child labour and encourage governments, employers, labour organizations and society to put an end to child labour for the benefit of world.</li> <li>➤ The World Day Against Child Labour was first established in 2002 by the International Labour Organization (ILO) with an unwavering commitment to eliminate the issue of global issue of child labour.</li> </ul>

		<p>➤ The theme of World Day Against Child Labour 2024 is <b>'Let's act on our commitments: End Child Labour.'</b></p>
14 June	World Blood Donor Day	<p>➤ <b>World Blood Donor Day</b> is observed on <b>14 June</b> every year.</p> <p>➤ This day is dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of blood donation and to ensure a constant supply of healthy blood for the healthcare industry.</p> <p>➤ The theme for World Blood Donor Day 2024 is <b>"20 years of celebrating giving: thank you blood donors!"</b></p> <p>➤ In <b>1940, Richard Lower</b>, a scientist, successfully transfused blood between two dogs with no appreciable ill effects. This breakthrough made it possible to begin to develop modern transfusion techniques and made blood donation a routine procedure in the healthcare sector.</p> <p>➤ In 2005, the World Health Assembly unanimously declared <b>14 June as World Blood Donor Day.</b></p>
16 June	Father's Day	<p>➤ Father's Day falls on June 16th this year and is traditionally observed on the third Sunday of June in numerous countries, including the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and India.</p> <p>➤ The theme for Father's Day 2024 centers around "Honoring Fatherhood: Strength, Love, and Sacrifice".</p>
17 June	Desertification and Drought Day	<p>➤ <b>The global observance of the Desertification and Drought Day 2024 will be hosted by the Government of Germany on 17 June at the Bundeskunsthalle in Bonn.</b></p> <p>➤ The event will also mark the <b>30th anniversary of UNCCD</b>. It will bring together leaders, youth and prominent personalities from the fields of politics, academia, civil society, the private sector and entertainment to showcase a strong ambition to be united for land, ahead of the largest-ever UN conference on land and drought – UNCCD COP 16 – that will take place in <b>Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in December 2024.</b></p> <p>➤ The future of our land is at stake. Desertification, land degradation, and drought are among the most pressing environmental challenges of our time; with up to <b>40% of all land area worldwide already considered degraded.</b></p> <p>➤ This year's theme of Desertification and Drought Day, <b>"United for Land. Our Legacy. Our Future."</b></p>
23 June	International Olympic Day	<p>➤ The history of <b>International Olympic Day</b> dates back to 23 June 1894, when the <b>International Olympic Committee (IOC)</b> was founded at the <b>Sorbonne in Paris.</b></p> <p>➤ The day was established by IOC in 1948 to encourage individuals from all walks of life to embrace the Olympic values of excellence, friendship, and respect.</p> <p>➤ <b>Theme for year 2024: "Let's Move and Celebrate"</b></p>
23 June	United Nation Public Service Day	<p>➤ This day is designated by the UN General Assembly to celebrate 23rd June as Public Service Day. It highlights the contribution of public service in the development process, recognises the work of public servants and encourages young people to pursue careers in public sectors.</p>
27 June	International Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Day	<p>➤ <b>The 2024 theme is - Leveraging the power and resilience of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to drive sustainable development and eradicate poverty in times of multiple crises.</b></p> <p>➤ <b>MSMEs account for 90% of businesses worldwide, 60 to 70% of employment and 50% of GDP./</b></p>
28 June	World Drug Day	<p>➤ The UNODC calls for increased awareness. Drug abuse continues to be a significant threat to global health and social well-being. Highlighting the urgency to address this issue, the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking will be observed on June 26th.</p>
29 June	Statistics Day	<p>➤ <b>"Statistics Day" will be celebrated on June 29, 2024. Theme: Use of Data for Decision-Making</b></p> <p>➤ Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis is also known as the father of Indian Statistics.</p> <p>➤ .P.C. Mahalanobis came up with the second five-year plan.(the way to industrialization)</p> <p>➤ He emphasised the importance of bolstering the economy's industrial base the most</p>

## Important MCQs June Month

1. NASA's 'Magellan Mission', which was in discussion recently, is related to?
  - (a) Mars
  - (b) Mercury
  - (c) Venus
  - (d) Saturn
2. Who has recently been included in the 100 most influential companies in the world of Time magazine?
  - (a) Reliance
  - (b) Tata Group
  - (c) Serum Institute
  - (d) All above
3. Which African country has recently started using GM mosquito to fight malaria?
  - (a) Djibouti
  - (b) Somalia
  - (c) Uganda
  - (d) South Africa
4. Recently U.S. And U.K. In which country the joint armies have attacked the halt for the 5th time?
  - (a) Iran
  - (b) Lebanon
  - (c) Palestin
  - (d) Yemen
5. Which is the first High Court in the country to start a recent menstrual holiday policy?
  - (a) Odisha
  - (b) Madhya Pradesh
  - (c) Sikkim
  - (d) Kerala
6. When has the World No Tobacco Day 2024 celebrated recently?
  - (a) May 28
  - (b) May 29
  - (c) May 30
  - (d) May 31
7. Where has the recently inaugurated DRDO Industry Academy Excellence Center inaugurated?
  - (a) IIT Madras
  - (b) IIT Mumbai
  - (c) IIT Kanpur
  - (d) IIT Kolkata
8. Who has recently honored the World Health Organization with the Nelson Mandela Award of 2024?
  - (a) ISRO
  - (b) NIMHANS
  - (c) Niti Ayog
  - (d) Ayush ministry
9. Who has recently been appointed to the post of Chairman of Staff Selection Commission (SSC)?
  - (a) Jetha Ahir
  - (b) Gaurav Banerjee
  - (c) P. Santosh
  - (d) Rakesh Ranjan
10. Recently International Steel Conference, 2024 Where has it been done?
  - (a) Raipur
  - (b) Ranchi
  - (c) Kolkata
  - (d) Bhubaneswar
11. Recently, the court of which country has banned the commercial production of 'Golden Rice and BT Eggplant'?
  - (a) Japan
  - (b) Philippines
  - (c) Brazil
  - (d) South Africa
12. Who has recently launched the 'Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program'?
  - (a) UNDP
  - (b) WTO
  - (c) WWF
  - (d) WEF
13. Who has recently launched India's first EV index?
  - (a) BSE
  - (b) India INX
  - (c) NSE
  - (d) Gift City
14. When was World Milk Day 2024 celebrated recently?
  - (a) 30 May
  - (b) 31 May
  - (c) 1 June
  - (d) 2 June
15. From which country has RBI recently brought 100 tonnes of gold?
  - (a) Germany
  - (b) USA
  - (c) France
  - (d) UK
16. According to the recent provisional data of the National Statistical Organization, what is the growth rate of the Indian economy in FY 24?
  - (a) 6.2%
  - (b) 7.2%
  - (c) 8.2%
  - (d) 9.2%
17. Where was 'The Golden Krishna' exhibition held recently?
  - (a) Riyadh
  - (b) Dubai
  - (c) New Delhi
  - (d) Doha
18. Who is the first Indian male boxer to qualify for the year 2024 Paris Olympics recently?
  - (a) Sachin Siwach
  - (b) Sanjeet Kumar
  - (c) Amit Panghal
  - (d) Nishant Dev
19. Recently Adani Ports has signed a 30-year agreement to operate 'Dar es Salaam Port' of which country?
  - (a) Saudi Arabia
  - (b) Tanzania
  - (c) Somalia
  - (d) Egypt
20. Who has recently been appointed as the brand ambassador for tobacco control by the Central Government?
  - (a) PV Sindhu
  - (b) Neeraj Chopra
  - (c) Sunil Chhetri
  - (d) Yuvraj Singh
21. Where was the first 'KAZA Summit 2024' of elephant-dominated African countries held recently?
  - (a) Angola
  - (b) Zambia
  - (c) Botswana
  - (d) Namibia
22. From whom has India received the highest FDI in the financial year 2023-24?
  - (a) Netherlands
  - (b) USA
  - (c) Mauritius
  - (d) Singapore
23. Who has recently launched 'Saathi 2.0 Personal Finance App'?
  - (a) SEBI
  - (b) RBI
  - (c) SBI
  - (d) ICICI
24. Which is the third bank to achieve a market capitalization of ₹ 8 lakh crore recently?
  - (a) ICICI Bank
  - (b) HDFC Bank
  - (c) State Bank of India
  - (d) Bank of Baroda
25. Which is the third bank to achieve a market capitalization of ₹ 8 lakh crore recently?
  - (a) ICICI Bank
  - (b) HDFC Bank
  - (c) State Bank of India
  - (d) Bank of Baroda
26. Recently, where did NOTA create a new record with more than 2.18 lakh votes in the 18th Lok Sabha elections?
  - (a) Indore
  - (b) Varanasi
  - (c) Gandhinagar
  - (d) Raebareli
27. Recently, Finland's telecom equipment manufacturer Nokia has signed an agreement with whom?
  - (a) NITI Aayog
  - (b) Gati Shakti University
  - (c) IIT Kanpur
  - (d) Indian Maritime University
28. Recently, Helen Mary Roberts has been appointed as the first woman brigadier in the army from the minority community in which country?



- (a) Iran (b) Afghanistan  
(c) Pakistan (d) Bangladesh
- 29. Recently, who has been awarded the ICC ODI Player of the Year award?**  
(a) Rishabh Pant (b) Virat Kohli  
(c) Pat Cummins (d) Kane Williamson
- 30. Where was the fern species 'Tmesipteris' with the largest genome in the world discovered recently?**  
(a) India (b) Australia  
(c) Brazil (d) South Africa
- 31. Who has recently won the UEFA Champions League trophy for the 15th time?**  
(a) Borussia Dortmund (b) Manchester City  
(c) Real Madrid (d) Bayern Munich
- 32. Who has recently got the top position in the QS World University Rankings 2025?**  
(a) University of Oxford  
(b) Massachusetts University  
(c) Imperial college  
(d) Harvard University
- 33. Who has recently launched 'Earthcare Satellite'?**  
(a) European Space Agency (b) JAXA  
(c) NASA (d) Both a and b
- 34. Recently, which neighbouring country of India has announced a ban on Israeli passport holders?**  
(a) Bangladesh (b) Pakistan  
(c) Maldives (d) Myanmar
- 35. Who is the first woman to fly Boeing's Starliner spacecraft?**  
(a) Valentina Tereshkova (b) Sunita Williams  
(c) Sally K. Ride (d) Peggy Whitson
- 36. Where was the 'Biopharmaceutical Alliance' announced recently?**  
(a) USA (b) South Korea  
(c) Japan (d) India
- 37. The recently discussed Operation 'Unthinkable' is related to?**  
(a) Israel (b) USA  
(c) Russia (d) Britain
- 38. Oleg Kononenko, the first person to complete 1000 days in space, is related to whom?**  
(a) Russia (b) France  
(c) Britain (d) USA
- 39. Where is the recently reactivated 'Kilauea Volcano' located?**  
(a) Philippines (b) Iceland  
(c) USA (d) Japan
- 40. Who is the youngest tribal woman MP to win from an unreserved seat recently?**  
(a) DK Aruna (b) Priyanka Jarkiholi  
(c) Aparajita Sarangi (d) Kriti Devi Debbarmar
- 41. Sharavati Valley Sanctuary of Karnataka, which was in news recently, is related to**  
(a) Black Rhino  
(b) Lion-tailed Macaque Monkey  
(c) Wild Elephant  
(d) Cobra Snake
- 42. Who has topped the Institute for Economics and Peace's Global Peace Index 2024?**  
(a) Singapore (b) Ireland  
(c) Iceland (d) New Zealand
- 43. Where was the first BRICS ministerial meeting with expanded membership held recently?**
- (a) UAE (b) Brazil  
(c) China (d) Russia
- 44. With which country has the Indian Navy recently started the joint maritime exercise 'JIMEX 24'?**  
(a) Japan (b) USA  
(c) Australia (d) Indonesia
- 45. Which position has India got in the Global Gender Gap Index, 2024?**  
(a) 127th (b) 128th  
(c) 129th (d) 130th
- 46. Who will be appointed as the next Chief of Army Staff of the country?**  
(a) Anil Chauhan (b) Upendra Dwivedi  
(c) VR Choudhary (d) Dinesh K Tripathi
- 47. Recently, where has GAIL (India) announced to set up India's largest ethane cracker project with an investment of Rs 60,000 crore? Recently, where has GAIL (India) announced to set up India's largest ethane cracker project with an investment of Rs 60,000 crore?**  
(a) Maharashtra (b) Gujarat  
(c) Madhya Pradesh (d) Uttar Pradesh
- 48. When was World Day against Child Labour 2024 celebrated recently?**  
(a) 09 June (b) 10 June  
(c) 11 June (d) 12 June
- 49. Recently deceased internationally renowned artist Rajeev Taranath is associated with which of the following?**  
(a) Flute (b) Tabla  
(c) Shehnai (d) Sarod
- 50. Recently the annual Kheer Bhawani fair has started in which place?**  
(a) Jammu and Kashmir (b) Uttarakhand  
(c) Himachal Pradesh (d) Punjab
- 51. Recently who has taken oath as the CM of Andhra Pradesh?**  
(a) Mohan Charan Majhi (b) Pema Khandu  
(c) Chandrababu Naidu (d) Prem Singh Tamang
- 52. Who has recently declared Iran's 'IRGC military force' a terrorist unit?**  
(a) Canada (b) Israel  
(c) Russia (d) Britain
- 53. When will the 10th International Yoga Day 2024 be celebrated?**  
(a) 20 June (b) 21 June  
(c) 22 June (d) 23 June
- 54. Recently, what rank has India got in the Global Energy Transition Index of the World Economic Forum?**  
(a) 61st (b) 62nd  
(c) 63rd (d) 64th
- 55. According to the recent State of Global Air 2024 report, what rank does India have globally in terms of deaths due to air pollution?**  
(a) First (b) Second  
(c) Third (d) Fourth
- 56. Recently, where did NASA discover the 'Atoko Point' rock for the first time?**  
(a) Saturn (b) Venus  
(c) Mercury (d) Mars
- 57. Recently, the National Commission for Women has received the highest number of complaints from which state?**  
(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Delhi

- (c) Maharashtra (d) Rajasthan
58. Recently, who has been awarded for the highest wind energy installed capacity?
- (a) Karnataka (b) Tamil Nadu  
(c) Gujarat (d) Maharashtra
59. Recently, which High Court has directed to ensure 1% reservation for transgender persons in public employment?
- (a) Calcutta (b) Mumbai  
(c) Patna (d) Allahabad
60. Where will the world's first Asian King Vulture Conservation and Breeding Centre be started?
- (a) West Bengal (b) Odisha  
(c) Madhya Pradesh (d) Uttar Pradesh
61. Who has recently made the incredible record of 4 overs, 4 maidens, 3 wickets in T20I cricket?
- (a) Sandeep Lamichhane (b) Kuldeep Yadav  
(c) Sahil Chauhan (d) Lockie Ferguson
62. World's largest single-day election concluded in which country?
- (a) Malaysia (b) Nepal  
(c) Indonesia (d) Australia
63. The 12th edition of the MILAN naval exercise will be held at \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) Chennai (b) Hyderabad  
(c) Mumbai (d) Visakhapatnam
64. Where has the 50th 'Khajuraho Dance Festival' started recently?
- (a) Maharashtra (b) Gujarat  
(c) Goa (d) Madhya Pradesh
65. Who has recently started 'Asha Kiran Scheme'?
- (a) Kerala (b) Karnataka  
(c) Tamil Nadu (d) Goa
66. According to Bureau of Energy Efficiency data, which is the leading state/UT in EV infrastructure development?
- (a) Karnataka (b) Delhi  
(c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Tamil Nadu
67. Recently, which organization has launched the 'Global Initiative on Digital Health (GIDH)'?
- (a) World Health Organization (WHO)  
(b) UNICEF  
(c) United Nations  
(d) European Union
68. What is the purpose of the European Union's recently launched 'Mission Aspidos' in the Red Sea?
- (a) Counterterrorism operations  
(b) Humanitarian aid delivery  
(c) Protection of commercial vessels from attacks by Iran-backed Houthi rebels  
(d) Environmental conservation efforts
69. Sominsai festival, recently seen in the news, is associated with which country?
- (a) Egypt (b) Vietnam  
(c) Japan (d) China
70. Recently Ilham Aliyev has been elected President of which country for the fifth time?
- (a) Azerbaijan (b) Argentina  
(c) Brazil (d) Egypt
71. Who has recently successfully tested the fifth generation aircraft 'KAAN'?
- (a) Russia (b) Israel  
(c) Turkey (d) Japan
72. Which is the first North-Eastern state to launch Universal Health Cover recently?
- (a) Assam (b) Tripura  
(c) Manipur (d) Mizoram
73. Which is the fourth country in the African continent to be designated as a non-NATO ally recently?
- (a) Kenya (b) South Africa  
(c) Ethiopia (d) Tanzania
74. According to UN Women Global Data, what is the rank of India in terms of number of women heads of state and cabinet members?
- (a) 169th (b) 170th  
(c) 171st (d) 172nd
75. Who has recently launched the joint 'SVOM Mission' to study gamma-ray bursts?
- (a) Russia - China (b) China - France  
(c) France - India (d) USA - Japan
76. Who is the first Indian player to win the women's singles title of WTT Contender Lagos 2024 recently?
- (a) Sreeja Akula (b) Archana Kamath  
(c) Manika Batra (d) Ankita Das
77. Recently, which position has India got in the Henley Private Wealth Migration Report 2024?
- (a) First (b) Second  
(c) Third (d) Fourth
78. Where has the 64th International Sugar Organization Council meeting started recently?
- (a) Tokyo (b) Geneva  
(c) London (d) New Delhi
79. Recently, who has been announced to be appointed to the post of Vice Chief of Army Staff?
- (a) Tapan Kumar Deka (b) NS Raja Subramani  
(c) Pradeep Singh Kharola (d) Sudhakar Rao
80. Which is the fourth city of the country to get the status of 'World Crafts City' recently?
- (a) Kolkata (b) Kozhikode  
(c) Srinagar (d) Patna
81. Recently, Bharat 6G Alliance has signed an agreement with the University of Oulu of which country?
- (a) Iceland (b) Norway  
(c) Britain (d) Finland
82. Who has recently launched the 'School in a Box' initiative?
- (a) Assam (b) Bihar  
(c) Odisha (d) West Bengal
83. The first trilateral multi-sectoral exercise 'Freedom Edge', which was in the news recently, is related to?
- (a) USA-Japan-Australia  
(b) South Korea-USA-Japan  
(c) Russia-China-North Korea  
(d) India-Sri Lanka-Bangladesh
84. Where has the Indian folk and tribal art exhibition 'Hunar' started recently?
- (a) London (b) Tokyo  
(c) Dubai (d) Kathmandu
85. Who has recently become the 100th full member of the International Solar Alliance?
- (a) Malta (b) Panama  
(c) Spain (d) Paraguay
86. Where has India's largest leopard safari started recently?
- (a) Bannerghatta Biological Park  
(b) Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary

- (c) TadobaAndhari Tiger Reserve  
(d) Kuno Wildlife Sanctuary
- 87. Where will India's first Global Enterprise Risk Management Centre be established?**  
(a) Odisha (b) Assam  
(c) Tripura (d) Mizoram
- 88. When was the International Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Day, 2024 celebrated recently?**  
(a) 24 June (b) 25 June  
(c) 26 June (d) 27 June
- 89. Where was the Comptroller and Auditor General's first museum 'Chadwick House' inaugurated recently?**  
(a) Srinagar (b) Shimla  
(c) Mumbai (d) Kolkata
- 90. David Warner, who recently retired from international cricket, is related to whom?**  
(a) Netherlands (b) New Zealand  
(c) Australia (d) South Africa
- 91. Recently, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has announced to give the status of 'Mini Ratna' (Category-1) to whom?**  
(a) Central Warehousing Corporation  
(b) Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited  
(c) Central Electronics Limited  
(d) Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited
- 92. Recently, who has been awarded the "Sustainable Governance Champion Award" at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit and Awards 2024?**  
(a) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers  
(b) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited  
(c) NTPC Limited  
(d) Oil India



### Answer Key

1-c	2-d	3-a	4-d	5-c	6-d	7-c	8-b	9-d	10-b
11-b	12-a	13-c	14-c	15-d	16-c	17-b	18-d	19-b	20-a
21-b	22-d	23-a	24-c	25-c	26-a	27-b	28-c	29-b	30-b
31-c	32-b	33-d	34-c	35-b	36-a	37-c	38-a	39-c	40-b
41-b	42-c	43-d	44-a	45-c	46-b	47-c	48-d	49-d	50-a
51-c	52-a	53-b	54-c	55-b	56-d	57-a	58-c	59-a	60-d
61-d	62-c	63-d	64-d	65-b	66-a	67-a	68-c	69-c	70-a
71-c	72-b	73-a	74-c	75-b	76-a	77-c	78-d	79-b	80-c
81-d	82-a	83-b	84-c	85-d	86-a	87-a	88-d	89-b	90-c
91-c	92-a								