

# Monthly G.K Capsule

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## **NATIONAL NEWS**

### **1. PM Modi to launch special 75 coin to mark inauguration of new Parliament**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 28 released a special commemorative postage stamp and a 75 coin to mark the inauguration of the new Parliament building. He released the coin and the stamp at the inauguration event held at the Lok Sabha chamber of the new Parliament building.
- The obverse face of the coin bears the Lion Capital of 'Ashoka Pillar' in the centre with the legend 'Satyamev Jayate' inscribed below. The Ashoka Pillar is flanked by the word 'Bharat' in Devnagri script on the left periphery and the word 'INDIA' in English on the right periphery.

### **2. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan to open international labour conclave**

- A three-day international labour conclave was inaugurated by Kerala Chief Minister Shri Pinarayi Vijayan. The conclave has been organised by the Labour department in association with the State Planning Board.
- Telangana Labor Minister Chamkura Malla Reddy, Bihar Labor Resources Minister Surendra Ram, and India head of the International Labor Organization (ILO) Satoshi Sasaki attended the inauguration. It will pave the way for new policies and changes in the labour sector in Kerala.

### **3. SAMARTH Abhiyan launched by Union Minister Giriraj Singh**

- Union Minister Giriraj Singh launched the SAMARTH campaign to promote digital transactions at the Gram Panchayat level. The campaign aims to empower women and promote digital transactions in rural areas. The campaign was launched in Lucknow as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- It is an initiative of the Ministry of Rural Development.
- It aims to promote digital transactions in 50,000 gram panchayats across India. The campaign is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to mark 75 years of India's independence. The campaign started on February 1, 2023 and will run till August 15, 2023.

### **4. Second G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group meeting concluded in Rishikesh (Tehri), Uttarakhand**

- The second meeting of the G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) organized by the Union Ministry of Defense and Tourism from 25 to 27 May 2023 was held in Rishikesh (Tehri). The meeting witnessed wide participation of 90 delegates from 20 member countries, 10 invited countries and 9 international organizations including UNODC, OECD, Egmont Group, INTERPOL and IMF.
- A unique ancillary event was organized on the first day of the G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group on 'Gender and Corruption'. India looks forward to hosting the delegates again in Kolkata on 9-11 August 2023 for the 3rd meeting of the ACWG. India will also host the first ever in-person anti-

corruption ministerial meeting to give further momentum to the G-20 agenda of strengthening the international fight against corruption.

### **5. Patna becomes first municipal corporation to use CBDC**

- Patna Municipal Corporation in Bihar, India, has become the first municipal corporation in the country to adopt Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC). The digital currency called e-Rupee generated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will be used in the entire Patna Municipal Corporation area. The launch event took place on May 23, 2023 with the participation of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Municipal Commissioner of Patna Municipal Corporation.
- The implementation of the CBDC will start from the municipal headquarters in the Maurya Lok complex, and later extend to all regional offices and payment counters within the corporation.
- A workshop was organised for the corporators to educate them about the benefits and applications of digital e-Rupee currency.

### **6. Goa signs MoU with Uttarakhand to strengthen Tourism Cooperation**

- Government of Goa and the Government of Uttarakhand have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate towards enhancing the tourism landscape of both Goa and Uttarakhand.
- The MoU is aimed at promoting bilateral cooperation in the travel and tourism sector and facilitating travel between the states to increase the number of tourists visiting Goa and Uttarakhand respectively.

### **7. PM Modi chairs 8th governing council meeting of Niti Aayog**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the eighth governing council meeting of the Niti Aayog. Themed on '**Viksit Bharat @2047: Role of Team India**', the meeting was held at the new Convention Centre in the national capital's Pragati Maidan.
- As the chairman of NITI Aayog, PM Modi presided over the meeting, which deliberated on issues related to health, skill development, women empowerment and infrastructure development, with an aim to make India a developed nation by 2047.

### **8. Department of Water Resources Chairs Meeting of Atal Bhujal Yojana**

- The fourth meeting of the National Level Steering Committee (NLSC) of the Atal Bhujal Yojana was held in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Department of Water Resources, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- Atal Bhujal Yojana (ATAL JAL) is being implemented as a Central Sector Scheme since April 2020 in 8220 water-stressed Gram Panchayats of 229 administrative blocks/Talukas in 80 districts of seven States, viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh for a five-year period (2020-25).

### **9. Anti-corruption working group meeting under G20 India Presidency concluded in Tehri**

- The three-day Anti-Corruption Working Group meeting under the G20 India Presidency concluded in Tehri, Uttarakhand. Rahul Singh, Additional Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training, chaired the meeting as the Chairman of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group.
- The meeting focused on combating corruption and discussed various key topics and areas. Discussions included asset recovery, fugitive economic offenders, formal and informal channels of cooperation for information sharing, institutional framework to combat corruption and mutual legal assistance.

### **10.Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot inaugurates ‘Jungle Safari’ at Jaisamand Wildlife Sanctuary**

- Rajasthan Chief Minister (CM) Shri Ashok Gehlot virtually inaugurated ‘Jungle Safari’ at Jaisamand Wildlife Sanctuary. He also addressed the inaugural function of the Peace and Non-violence Cell offices in all districts. Peace and non-violence are the basis of culture, harmony, and brotherhood. Rajasthan is the only state where Peace and Non-Violence Department exist.

### **11.Australia To Establish New Consulate General In Bengaluru**

- Australian Prime Minister (PM) Mr. Anthony Albanese announced that Australia will now open a new Consul-General in Bengaluru, Karnataka in May, 2023 as part of the efforts of the two countries to enhance bilateral ties. The announcement of setting up a new consulate in Bengaluru has been announced after PM Shri Narendra Modi stated that India will open a consulate in Brisbane.
- Albanese stated that the opening of the new diplomatic mission in Bengaluru will help in connecting India's businesses to the fast-growing digital and innovation ecosystem. In May, 2023 the opening of the Consulate General in Bengaluru will be the fifth (5th) diplomatic mission in India. The others are in New Delhi (Delhi), Mumbai (Maharashtra), Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Kolkata (West Bengal).

### **12.Telangana achieves 100% coverage of Prime Minister Jan Dhan Yojana**

- As the Narendra Modi Government completes nine years in office, Akashvani News presents a series of special stories on the government's initiatives. Since the launch of Prime Minister Jan Dhan Yojana, Telangana State has achieved 100 percent household coverage of banking services extending them to all sections of people.
- As per the Social Security Administration survey, the state has achieved 100 percent coverage and the benefits of 135 welfare schemes and programmes under 20 departments are credited to these zero-balance bank accounts of the beneficiaries.

### **13.Maharashtra Government launched Namu Shetkari Mahasanman Yojana**

- The Maharashtra government has approved a new financial scheme under which Rs 6,000 will be paid annually to over one crore farmers in the state. On

May 30, the 'Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Yojana' was approved in a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde in Mumbai.

- Chief Minister Shinde said that this amount is in addition to the Rs 6,000 being given to farmers by the Center under PM Kisan Yojana. The Maharashtra cabinet also approved the implementation of 'Gender Inclusive Tourism Policy' named 'It' to empower women in the tourism sector. The cabinet also approved the starting of women bike-taxi service at some tourist places.

#### **14. New Liberation War Gallery Inaugurated at the Indian Cultural Centre in Dhaka, Bangladesh**

- On 30 May a new Liberation War Gallery of 1971 was inaugurated at the Indian Cultural Center of the Indian High Commission in Dhaka. Bangladesh Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan was the chief guest on the occasion. India's High Commissioner to Bangladesh Pranay Verma joins Home Minister in inauguration of Liberation War Gallery
- The War Gallery houses some rare photographs of the Liberation War of 1971, which culminated in the liberation of then East Pakistan and its rise as the newest nation of South Asian countries. The inaugural program was attended by many freedom fighters, Bir Muktiyodha, and distinguished guests, including many eminent personalities of Bangladesh, representatives of the cultural and educational fields of Bangladesh, and youth.

#### **15. Arunachal Pradesh to set up Institute for Transforming Arunachal with NITI Aayog**

- Arunachal Pradesh government will set up Institute for Transforming Arunachal (ITA) with the help of NITI Aayog to take the development of the state to the next level. The Institute for Transforming Arunachal Pradesh will be instrumental in the transformation of the state, helping various departments to take forward development activities and bring forward their own capabilities.
- The institute will help in developing an ecosystem for knowledge enhancement. The government is looking for ways to build a strong database with the family as a unit. It will help in the timely and accurate disbursement of social security benefits. This would further boost the livelihood of the people and provide hassle free access to various services.

#### **16. Cabinet approves Rs 1 lakh crore scheme to increase grain storage capacity in co-operative sector**

- The Union Cabinet has approved one lakh crore rupee scheme to increase grain storage capacity in cooperative sector. This will be done by convergence of various schemes of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- In order to ensure time-bound and uniform implementation of the Plan in a professional manner, Ministry of Cooperation will implement a pilot project in at least ten selected Districts of different States and UTs in the country. The



Pilot would provide valuable insights into the various regional requirements of the project, the learnings from which will be suitably incorporated for the country-wide implementation of the Plan.

### **17.Telangana Formation Day is observed every year on 2<sup>nd</sup> of June**

- Telangana became the 29th state of India on June 2, 2014, after it was separated from Andhra Pradesh. Telangana has a rich history and was ruled by various dynasties such as the Satavahanas, Chalukyas, Kakatiyas, Delhi Sultanate, and the Nizams of Hyderabad.
- The demand for Telangana was first registered in 1950 when the States Reorganization Commission (SRC) was formed to reorganize the Indian states based on linguistic and administrative factors.

### **18.Naveen Patnaik launches 'Odisha for AI, and AI for Youth' initiative**

- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the 'Odisha for Artificial Intelligence' and 'Artificial Intelligence for Youth' initiatives in the state capital. The State Government has roped in international technology company for the initiative. In the first phase, the initiative will be implemented in Bhubaneswar, Puri and Cuttack.
- Stating that his Government has focused on technology-driven transformation, which is one of the key components of the Government's 5-T initiative, he assured that the initiative will augment the digital literacy of the masses and make them familiar with the next-generation cutting-edge technology.

### **19.PM Modi inaugurated first-ever National Training Conclave in New Delhi**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first-ever National Training Conclave at the International Exhibition and Convention Centre at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi on 11 June.
- The Conclave is aimed to enhance capacity building in the civil services and is organised under the auspices of the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) - 'Mission Karmayogi.' The Conclave is being hosted by the Capacity Building Commission. More than 1500 representatives from various training institutes, including Central Training Institutes, State Administrative Training Institutes, Regional and Zonal Training Institutes, and Research institutes are participating in the conclave.

### **20.Sarbananda Sonowal lays Foundation Stone of Cochin Fisheries Harbour**

- The foundation stone for the modernization and upgradation works of the Cochin Fishing Harbour was laid at Willingdon Island in Kochi on 11 June.
- Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala, and Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, jointly laid the foundation stone for the project. The modernization project is expected to be completed next year, enhancing the infrastructure and capabilities of the Cochin Fishing Harbour. The project aims to modernize and upgrade the Cochin Fishing Harbour at a cost of 169 crore rupees.

## **21.Dr Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates CGHS Wellness Centres in Chandigarh and Panchkula**

- Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare as he inaugurated the CGHS Wellness Centres in Chandigarh and Panchkula in the presence of Smt Kirron Kher, Member of Parliament, Chandigarh, and Shri Gian Chand Gupta, Member of Legislative Assembly from Panchkula, and Speaker in the Haryana Legislative Assembly.
- This makes Panchkula the 80th city with CGHS facilities fulfilling a long cherished demand of the employees and pensioners in the city. Chandigarh already had a CGHS Wellness centre with 47000 registered beneficiaries.

## **22.Bar Council of India Signs MoU With Bar Council Of England & Wales For Mutual Exchange Program Of Lawyers & Law Students**

- The Bar Council of India (BCI) has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bar Council of England and Wales & Law Society of England and Wales for an exchange programme of Lawyers and Law Students for mutual exchange of training & learning amongst each other's jurisdiction.
- It's aim is to facilitate a healthy mutual exchange of ideas, learning and training of the legal fraternity of both jurisdictions. The MoU was signed at a meeting held at London on June 5, 2023 by the Chairman of Bar Council of India, the President of Bar Council of England and Wales as President of Law Society of England and Wales.

## **23.Second summit of Supreme Audit Institutions of G20 countries began in Goa**

- G20-countries-began-in-GoaThe second summit of the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of the G20 countries began on 12 June in Panaji, the capital of Goa. The inaugural address at the summit was delivered by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) Girish Chandra Murmu.
- Goa Governor PS Sreedharan Pillai and India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant also attended the meeting. SAIs from Australia, Brazil, Indonesia, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Nigeria, Oman, Spain, UAE, Morocco and Poland participated in the summit. Apart from the proceedings of the summit, the CAG is expected to sign MoUs with SAIs of Indonesia and Turkey to strengthen cooperation and knowledge sharing.

## **24.Government of Madhya Pradesh launched Mukhyamantri Ladli Bahna Yojana**

- Mukhya Mantri Ladli Bahna YojanaMadhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Ladli Bahna Yojana'. The Ladli Bahna Yojana 2023 was officially inaugurated by CM Chouhan, who took the initiative to deposit the first instalment of Rs 1,000 in the accounts of eligible women beneficiaries.
- This scheme was launched in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh with the primary objective of empowering women and providing financial assistance to them.

The chief minister outlined plans to increase the monthly support to Rs 1,200, Rs 1,500, Rs 1,700 and eventually Rs 2,000, thereby increasing the financial assistance provided to beneficiaries.

## **25.INS Trishul in Durban to mark 130th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's 'Satyagraha'**

- The Indian Navy's frontline warship INS Trishul arrived at Durban port in South Africa to commemorate the 130th anniversary of the 7 June 1893 incident at Pietermaritzburg railway station when Mahatma Gandhi was evicted from a train, which led to his fight against racial oppression.
- INS Trishul will participate in a commemorative event at Pietermaritzburg railway station which would include paying floral tributes at the Gandhi Plinth, and a performance by the Indian Navy band. The ship will also participate in other professional and social engagements during the visit.

## **26.G20 Third Framework Working Group meeting held in Kochi, Kerala**

- The G-20 Third Framework Working Group meeting is currently held in Kochi, Kerala under the G20 Presidency of India. More than 75 delegates from G-20 member states, invited countries and international/regional organisations participated. The meeting was jointly chaired by Dr V Ananth Nageswaran, Chief Economic Adviser, Union Ministry of Finance and Tom Hemingway, Deputy Director of the UK Treasury.
- The focus of the meeting includes discussions on the global economic outlook, the macroeconomic impact of food and energy insecurity, and the impact of climate change and transition pathways on the economy. The purpose of the meeting is to facilitate a shared understanding of member countries' policy experiences and to identify areas where global cooperation can support national efforts.

## **27.Kerala Government launched a reward system up to Rs. 2,500 for reporting illegal waste dumping on roads**

- The Government of Kerala (local self-government (LSG) department) has launched a new scheme to reward for reporting illegal waste dumping on roads. To make the state garbage-free by 2024. This scheme is a part of the 'Malinya Muktham Nava Keralam' campaign. In this regard, Additional Chief Secretary, Local Self Government Department, Sarada Muraleedharan, issued an order (GO).
- The person who informs authorities of such violations will be given Rs 2,500 (maximum) or 25% of the fine imposed on those resorting to illegitimate disposal of garbage. Under this scheme, citizens would report about the littering/dumping (solid and liquid waste) in public spaces, private property and water bodies.

## **28.Geological Survey of India Training Institute gets accredited as 'Athi Uttam'**

- Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI) functioning under the Ministry of Mines has been awarded with the accreditation by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training (NABET) in recognition of



the services it has rendered and high standards maintained in the field of earth science training.

- The Ministry of Mines in a statement said on Tuesday that the assessment was made on the basis of the inspection of all standard operating procedures and methodologies followed by the institute in different levels. The team from Capacity Building Commission (CBC), NABET and Quality Control of India conducted the on-site assessment and awarded the Certificate of Accreditation with the grading of Athi Uttam.

### **29.India, UAE target \$100 billion non-oil trade by 2030**

- India and the UAE set a target to increase the non-oil trade from USD 48 billion to USD 100 billion by 2030. The goal to achieve USD 100 billion non-oil trade was set in the first meeting of the Joint Committee of India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).
- The agreement was implemented on May 1 last year. The decision was reached during the first meeting of the Joint Committee of India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). Both countries aim to double their non-petroleum trade in the next seven years, emphasizing the need to enhance trade cooperation beyond the oil sector.

### **30.Padma Awardees From Haryana To Get 10,000 Monthly**

- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced a monthly pension of 10,000 for the Padma awardees from the state.
- Besides the monthly pension, the chief minister has also announced a free travel facility in the 'Volvo bus' service of the state government for Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awardees from Haryana. The state government is giving the benefit of health insurance up to ₹ 5 lakh to families with an annual income of up to ₹ 1.80 lakh.

### **31.Indian Oil Corp to set up aviation fuel plant with LanzaJet in Haryana**

- Indian Oil Corp will set up an 80,000 tonnes sustainable aviation fuel plant with LanzaJet in Haryana. The company is looking at an investment of about 23 billion rupees (\$280.1 million), S.M. Vaidya said on the sidelines of an industry event in New Delhi.
- The proposed 80,000-tonne aviation fuel plant will contribute to reducing the carbon footprint of the aviation industry by producing sustainable alternatives to traditional jet fuel. SAF, also known as biojet fuel, is produced from renewable sources such as agricultural and municipal waste, non-edible plant oils, and other sustainable feedstocks. By partnering with LanzaJet, which specializes in advanced biofuel technologies, IOC is emphasizing its commitment to sustainable practices and environmental stewardship in the aviation sector.

### **32.KIIT-hosted 1st Janjatiya Khel Mahotsav Comes to an End in Odisha**

- The first Janjatiya Khel Mahotsav kicked off at KIIT DU with great enthusiasm on Friday. This grand sporting extravaganza, set to conclude on June 12, has attracted the participation of approximately 5,000 tribal athletes

and 1,000 officials hailing from 26 states. Promoting traditional sports and tribal culture, this unique event is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Culture and the Odisha Government.

- The opening ceremony was graced by Odisha Governor Prof. Ganeshi Lal, Union Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Hockey India President Dilip Tirkey, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Culture Uma Nanduri, and the esteemed Founder of KIIT and KISS, Dr. Achyuta Samanta.

### **33.Ministry Of Jal Shakti Launches the Unified Registration Portal For GOBARdhan**

- A Unified Registration Portal for GOBARdhan launched by Union Jal Shakti Minister. It will act as a single repository for assessing investment and participation in the biogas/CBG sector on a pan-India basis. More importantly, it will streamline the process of setting up biogas plants/CBG in India.
- Any government, cooperative or private entity that intends to set up a Biogas/CBG/Bio CNG plant in India can obtain a registration number by enrolling in this integrated registration portal that has been launched. The registration number will enable them to get many benefits and assistance from the Ministries and Departments of the Government of India.

### **34.VP Jagdeep Dhankhar to confer fourth National Water Awards in New Delhi**

- Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar will confer the fourth National Water Awards in New Delhi. The Jal Shakti Ministry has announced a total of 41 winners, covering 11 categories, including joint winners, for the 4th National Water Awards, 2022.
- Each award winner will be conferred with a citation and a trophy as well as cash prizes in certain categories. As part of the ongoing nationwide drive to realize the Government's vision of a 'Water Prosperous India', the award focus on encouraging the good work and efforts made by various individuals and organizations. It seeks to create awareness among people about the importance of water and motivate them to adopt best water use practices.

### **35.Centre Introduces “Y-Break Yoga” at Office Chair for Employee Stress Relief**

- Recognizing the importance of employee well-being and stress management, the Indian government has introduced the “Y-Break Yoga” initiative. This innovative program aims to incorporate the benefits of yoga into the daily work routine, helping employees alleviate stress and enhance their physical and mental health.
- In today's fast-paced and demanding work environments, employee stress has become a prevalent concern. The “Y-Break Yoga” initiative is designed to address this issue by providing office workers with simple and effective yoga exercises that can be performed while seated at their office chairs. This allows employees to conveniently integrate wellness practices into their busy work schedules.

### 36. Centre forms expert committee to suggest reforms to arbitration law

- The government has set up an expert panel led by former law secretary T K Vishwanathan to recommend reforms in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act with an aim to reduce the burden on courts. Attorney General N Venkataramani is also part of the expert committee set up by the Department of Legal Affairs in the Union law ministry.
- Law ministry additional secretary Rajiv Mani, some senior advocates, representatives of private law firms, and officials of the Legislative Department, Niti Aayog, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), railways and Central Public Works Department (CPWD) are its other members.



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### 37. UP prisons to be known as “Reform Homes”

- The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, made a significant decision to reform the prison system in the state in June of 2023. During a high-level meeting where he reviewed the conditions of the current prisons, Adityanath issued crucial guidelines that emphasised the importance of prisoner rehabilitation.
- He also asked officials to prepare a proposal to set up open jails in the state as part of prison reforms. High-security barracks will be made for hardened criminals and terrorists.

### 38. Karnataka Government Gruha Jyothi Scheme

- The Karnataka Government recently launched its Gruha Jyothi Scheme, aimed at providing affordable housing to the poor and middle-class families of the state. The scheme is a part of the state’s ambitious “Housing for All” plan and aims to provide housing to nearly 4.5 lakh families in the next five years.
- Under the Gruha Jyothi Scheme, the Karnataka Government will provide financial assistance of up to Rs. 2.5 lakh to eligible beneficiaries for the construction of their own houses. The government will also provide subsidies on the interest rate for loans taken for the construction of the house.

### 39. 146th Jagannath Puri Rath Yatra 2023 begins in Gujarat

- The 146th Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath commenced in Gujarat's Ahmedabad city amid tight security as lakhs of devotees flocked the 18-km route of the procession to catch a glimpse of the deity. The Gujarat Police have for the

first time in the Rath Yatra used 3D mapping technology to monitor the entire route and also deployed anti-drone technology to ensure no unauthorised drones are used during the event.

- Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel in the morning performed 'Pahind Vidhi', a symbolic ritual of cleaning the way for the chariots using a golden broom, following which the chariots of Lord Jagannath, his brother Balbhadr and sister Subhadra embarked on the yatra from the 400-year-old Jagannath Temple in Jamalpur area.

#### **40.Assam Govt Launches Web Portal to Check Illegal Cattle Transportation**

- In a bid to prevent illegal transportation of cattle in the state, the Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department of the Assam Government inaugurated a web portal for cattle transportation. The portal was launched by Assam Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Veterinary Minister Atul Bora in an event held in Guwahati.
- This system prepared under the Assam Cattle Preservation Act, 2021 will alleviate the problems encountered in transportation of improved breeds of high milk producing cattle to the state and help in preventing the illegal transportation of cattle. Livestock farmers and cattle traders can obtain permits required for inter-state transportation of cattle through the website <http://ahvd-cattletrans.assam.gov.in> from now on.

#### **41.Centre launches 'Dakshta' course collection on iGOT platform to enhance skills of young professionals**

- The central government introduced a new curated collection of courses called "Dakshta" (Development of Attitude, Knowledge, Skill for Holistic Transformation in Administration) on the iGOT Karmayogi Platform.
- The Dakshta collection, consisting of 18 courses, is designed to acquaint learners with subjects crucial to effectively discharging their duties and responsibilities. It focuses on building expertise in areas such as data-driven decision making, code of conduct for government employees, office procedures, effective communication, public policy research, stress management, and more.

#### **42.Amit Shah inaugurates CREDAI Garden-People's Park in Ahmedabad, Gujarat**

- On the auspicious occasion of the Jagannath Rath Yatra, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, inaugurated various development works and performed Bhoomipujan in Ahmedabad. Among the inaugurated projects was the CREDAI Garden-People's Park, a beautiful park constructed by CREDAI with the aim of providing a comfortable and environmentally friendly space for people from all walks of life.

#### **43.Uttar Pradesh government to launch 'Didi Cafe' to uplift women**

- "Didi Cafe" is coming up in Uttar Pradesh (UP), which will provide cheap food. A strategy has been made to start 'Didi Cafe' in 17 municipal corporation cities including Mathura, Firozabad and Vrindavan in Agra



division. This Didi Cafe will only be maintained by women's self-help groups, which will provide access to low-cost meals, snacks, and other facilities in areas where women are employed through these canteens.

- The effort is part of the Centre's goal of empowering women associated with self-help groups set up through the National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM). A pilot experiment is already underway in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (UP). In the first phase, 'Didi Cafe' will be run in the municipal corporations of Agra division, as a result of which the authorities will be able to chalk out future strategies.

#### **44.Tamil Nadu Police Launches New Scheme for Women Traveling Alone at Night**

- The Tamil Nadu police have introduced a new scheme called 'Pengal Pathukaaptu Thittam' (Women Safety Scheme) in Chennai city on 20th June. The scheme aims to provide safe transportation for women who return from work between 10 pm and 7 am. It is operational every day of the week.
- Women who feel unsafe while travelling alone at night can dial helpline numbers such as 1091, 112, 044-23452365, and 044-28447701. Upon receiving a call, the police will dispatch a patrol vehicle to accompany the women and ensure their safe transportation to their residences.

#### **45.TRIFED collaborates with Ayush Ministry to supply 34,000 yoga mats**

- Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd, TRIFED has collaborated with Ministry of Ayush to supply 34,000 yoga mats. This collaborative effort, set to coincide with the upcoming International Yoga Day, highlights the government's commitment to uplift tribal communities and celebrate India's rich cultural heritage.
- This initiative not only bolsters the economic prospects of tribal communities but also ensures the preservation and promotion of their unique artistic traditions. These yoga mats, procured exclusively from tribal artisans across different regions of the country, will bear distinct designs and motifs representative of their respective communities.

#### **46.Bihar Governor Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar inaugurates L20 meet in Patna**

- The Governor of Bihar Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar inaugurated the thematic event of the engagement group of L20 held at Gyan Bhawan in Patna. Shri Hiranmay Pandaya, Chair of the L20 meet, also while welcoming the delegations said that this is not only a proud occasion for Bihar but also for the rest of country and representatives of Labour department.
- Addressing the technical session of the conference, Mrs Aarti Ahuja, Secretary, Ministry of Labor and Employment discussed various measures taken by the government for social security in the country. Universal Social Security and its related draft were discussed during the technical session.

#### **47.Surat sets Guinness World Record for largest gathering on Yoga Day**



- A new Guinness World Record was created with the participation of 1.53 lakh people in the Yoga Day event in Surat, Gujarat. Largest gathering for a yoga session at one place, with 1.53 lakh people participating. The previous record was set in 2018 in Kota, Rajasthan with 1,00,984 participants.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel attended the state level 'International Yoga Day' celebrations in Surat. The representatives of Guinness World Records presented the certificate to Chief Minister Patel. The participants were given wristbands with QR codes for accurate counting. The QR code data confirmed the participation of 1.53 lakh people surpassing the previous record.

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **1.Mission Olympic Cell approved Neeraj Chopra's proposal to train in Kuortane, Finland**

- The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) on 28th May approved Olympic Gold Medallist Neeraj Chopra's proposal to train in Kuortane, Finland. Neeraj will train at the Kurtane Olympic Training Center in Finland. He is scheduled to compete in several World Athletics events next month.
- The MOC members also approved paddler Payas Jain's proposal for an advanced training camp in Taiwan. Proposals to get Indian table tennis stars Manika Batra and Sathiyam Gnanasekaran's personal trainers Aman Balgu and Raman Subramaniam for a number of events were also approved by the MOC.

### **2.Latvian Parliament elects foreign minister Edgars Rinkevics as new president**

- Latvian lawmakers picked the country's long-serving and popular foreign minister, a strong backer of Ukraine, as its new head of state in a tight vote. The 100-seat Saeima legislature elected Edgars Rinkevics, the country's top diplomat since 2011, as president to serve for a four-year term. He received 52 votes, one vote more than required to win. Incumbent Egils Levits, Latvia's head of state since 2019, didn't seek reelection.

### **3.Joe Biden and Rishi Sunak unveil 'Atlantic declaration' to strengthen economic ties**

- President Joe Biden and United Kingdom Prime Minister Rishi Sunak signed a new economic framework, dubbed the "Atlantic Declaration," which both said would renew the historic ties between the two nations, while bringing them forward into the 21st century.
- It is a partnership for a new age, of a kind that has never been agreed to before," Sunak said as the two leaders participated in a joint press conference in the East Room of the White House. The declaration outlines the shape of future partnerships on everything from artificial intelligence, critical minerals and defense, to reducing trade barriers and removing China from its decades-old central position in the global supply chain. It also includes a new, secure

data bridge between the U.S. and the U.K. to help cut red tape for small businesses.

#### **4.China Unveils World's Most Powerful Hypersonic Wind Tunnel for Advancing Aerospace Ambitions**

- China has unveiled the world's most powerful hypersonic wind tunnel, marking a significant milestone in its pursuit of aerospace advancement and technological prowess. This state-of-the-art facility underscores China's commitment to becoming a global leader in hypersonic technology, which has the potential to revolutionize aerospace capabilities.
- The hypersonic wind tunnel will play a crucial role in conducting advanced research and development in hypersonic flight. Hypersonic speeds refer to velocities exceeding Mach 5 (approximately 6,174 kilometers per hour or 3,836 miles per hour), which present unique challenges and opportunities for aerospace engineering.

#### **5.Pakistan to hand over Karachi port to UAE as it raises emergency funds**

- Pakistan has formed a negotiation committee to finalize a deal with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to hand over its Karachi port terminals in a bid to raise emergency funds. The country's Finance Minister Ishaq Dar chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Intergovernmental Commercial Transactions where it was decided that a committee was needed to negotiate a commercial agreement between the Karachi Port Trust (KPT) and the UAE government, The Express Tribune reported.
- The negotiation committee has also been permitted to finalize a draft operation, maintenance, investment, and development agreement under the government-to-government arrangements with a nominated agency of the UAE for handing over the Karachi port terminals.

#### **6.China blocks proposal to declare 26/11 attacks accused Sajid Mir global terrorist**

- China blocked a proposal by India and the US at the United Nations to designate Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist Sajid Mir, wanted for his involvement in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, as a global terrorist.
- Beijing blocked the proposal that had been moved by the US and co-designated by India to blacklist Mir under the 1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee of the UN Security Council as a global terrorist and subject him to assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo.

#### **7.UK net debt passes 100% of GDP for first time since 1961**

- The U.K. public sector net debt in May exceeded 100% of the nation's GDP for the first time since 1961. Public sector net debt, excluding that of state-controlled banks, came in at £2.567 trillion (\$3.28 trillion), which amounted to 100.1% of GDP. Government borrowing in May totaled £20.045 billion, the ONS revealed, exceeding consensus expectations of £19.5 billion from a Reuters poll of economists.

- This marked a £3 billion decline from the April figure, but was still more than double that of May 2022 and represented the second-highest May borrowing figure since records began, noted PwC Economist Divya Sridhar. U.K. annual inflation remained unchanged in May from the previous month, the ONS announced, defying economic expectations of a slight decline and piling further pressure on the government and consumers.

## **8.China inks deal with Pakistan to set up nuclear power plant in Punjab province**

- China and Pakistan have signed a significant agreement worth USD 4.8 billion to establish a 1,200-megawatt nuclear power plant. This deal reflects the deepening strategic cooperation between the two nations and comes as a welcome development for Pakistan. Pakistan is determined to enhance its energy sector and overcome its economic difficulties by assuring the prompt initiation of the nuclear power plant project.
- Pakistan's existing Chashma power plants play a crucial role in generating affordable nuclear power. With the addition of the 1,200-megawatt Chashma-V nuclear plant, Pakistan will further enhance its capacity for clean and sustainable energy production. The expansion of nuclear power facilities is vital for meeting the growing energy demands of the country and reducing its dependence on fossil fuels.

## **9.Holi banned in Pakistan universities to 'preserve Islamic identity'**

- Pakistan banned the celebration of Hindu festival of 'Holi' to check 'erosion of Islamic identity'. The decision came after a video showing students at an Islamabad university celebrating the festival went viral. In response, the country's Higher Education Commission issued a notification emphasising the 'role' of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in transforming youth, who "uphold the cultural and moral values of Islam".
- The video, captioned "Holi celebrations in Quaid-I-Azam University Islamabad, Pakistan. Biggest Holi celebration in Pakistan," showcased hundreds of students dancing and enjoying the festival on the university campus. The event was organized by the Mehran Students' Council. The Higher Education Commission expressed its sadness at witnessing activities that it believes are disconnected from the country's socio-cultural values and detrimental to its Islamic identity.

## **BANKING**

### **1.RBI marginally raises GDP growth projection for FY24 to 6.5 % from earlier estimate of 6.4 %**

- The Reserve Bank marginally raised India's economic growth projection for the current financial year to 6.5 per cent on back of higher Rabi crop output, moderating commodity prices, and the government's plan of higher capital expenditure. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had earlier projected the gross domestic product (GDP) at 6.4 per cent.

## **2.Income proof mandatory for Rs 10 lakh investments in small savings schemes**

- The government's decision to make income proof mandatory for investments of Rs 10 lakh or more in small savings schemes is a proactive step towards combating money laundering and terrorist financing.
- Relatively high interest rates and minimal credit risk have made small savings schemes increasingly appealing to investors. However, in an effort to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing activities, the Indian government has implemented new regulations requiring individuals investing Rs 10 lakh or more in these schemes to provide income proof.

## **3.Indian Bank empanelled as a clearing and settlement bank with ICCL**

- Indian Bank has entered into an agreement with Indian Clearing Corporation Ltd. (ICCL) as its Clearing and Settlement Bank. Indian Bank will now facilitate banking services to members of BSE, Mumbai for clearing and settlement operations. Clearing members can now open settlement accounts with the bank for funds settlement under the equity derivatives segment. The proposal to extend this facility to the members of NSE is under active consideration.
- Further, Indian Bank also launched the e-TDR product for online transmission of FDR and margin with ICCL on behalf of the clearing members with its dedicated branch – Fort, Mumbai.

## **4.Urban Unemployment in India Declines to 6.8% in January to March 2023 quarter**

- The unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above in urban areas declined to 6.8 per cent during January-March 2023 from 8.2 per cent a year ago, the National Sample Survey Survey (NSSO) showed. Joblessness or unemployment rate is defined as the percentage of unemployed persons in the labour force. Joblessness was high in January-March 2022, mainly due to the staggering impact of Covid-related restrictions in the country.

## **5.Bank of Maharashtra emerges as top performer in NPA management during FY23**

- Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has emerged as the best bank as far as management of bad loans is concerned with its net non-performing assets (NPAs) falling as low as 25% during the financial year ended March 2023. This is the lowest level among all banks having total business above 3 lakh crore and not just public sector banks (PSBs).
- Bank of Maharashtra was followed by HDFC Bank with net NPA declining to 0.27%. Kotak Mahindra Bank stood at the third place with NPAs at 0.37% of net advances. Among the PSBs, Bank of Maharashtra was followed by the State Bank of India (SBI) with net NPAs declining to 0.67% at the end of March 2023.

## **6.UPI hits record 9 billion transactions worth Rs 14 lakh crore**

- The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) registered more than nine billion transactions in May 2023 amounting to over 14 lakh crore rupees. According to the National Payments Corporation of India NPCI, UPI recorded a total 9.41 billion transactions in May 2023. UPI had recorded 8 billion transactions in January this year, followed by 7.5 billion in February, 8.7 billion in March, and 8.89 billion in April.
- In Financial Year 2022-23, the payment system processed a total of 83 billion transactions, amounting to a value of 139 lakh crore rupees. India's homegrown payments system UPI is one of the globally accepted payment systems and has emerged as a trusted payment mode ever since its launch in 2016.

### **7.Samco launches India's 1st actively managed momentum fund – SAMCO active momentum fund**

- The SAMCO Asset Management Private Limited has launched India's first actively managed momentum fund – SAMCO Active Momentum Fund. The SAMCO Active Momentum Fund's new fund offer (NFO) runs from June 15-29, 2023. Investors seeking to employ a momentum investing strategy to achieve long-term capital appreciation can consider the SAMCO Active Momentum Fund.
- SAMCO Active Momentum Fund is an open-ended equity scheme following momentum theme with Benchmark Nifty 500 Index TRI. The Fund meticulously selects stocks with momentum characteristics such as breakouts, price leadership, and more, deploying a proprietary momentum-seeking algorithm.

### **8.Moody's Projects India's GDP Growth at 6-6.3% in Q1FY24**

- The global credit ratings major Moody projected that the Indian economy is expected to clock a 6-6.3% growth in June quarter, and flagged risks of fiscal slippage arising from weaker than expected government revenues in the current fiscal.
- Moody's growth estimate is lower than the 8% projection for the first quarter made by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) last week.

### **9.ADB and Indian govt sign \$130 million loan to promote horticulture in Himachal Pradesh**

- The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed a \$130 million loan to increase agricultural productivity, improve access to irrigation and promote horticulture agribusinesses to raise farmers' income in the state of Himachal Pradesh.
- The signatories to the Himachal Pradesh Subtropical Horticulture, Irrigation, and Value Addition Project were Rajat Kumar Mishra, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, for the Government of India, and Takeo Konishi, Country Director of ADB's India Resident Mission, for ADB.

### **10.SIDBI launched mission EVOLVE in Partnership with NITI Aayog & World Bank to finance EV MSMEs**



- The principal financial institution for Micro Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in India, the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has launched mission EVOLVE (Electric Vehicle Operations and Lending for Vibrant Ecosystem) in association with National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog, World Bank, Korean-World Bank and Korean Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) to finance MSMEs in the Electric Vehicles (EV) space.
- Under the initiative, SIDBI will give MSMEs access to affordable commercial financing for EV loans including hosting of telematics that could help reduce financing costs and provide data for other financial services.

### **11.Canada Pension Plan Investment Board sells 1.77% stake in Kotak Mahindra Bank**

- Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) sold a 1.7% stake in private sector lender Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMBL). The pension major sold a total of 33 million shares at Rs 1,856 apiece to mop up Rs 6,123.6 crore. The sale of shares by the pension fund was done in two block deals. Around 2.2 crore shares were sold at ₹1,855 each, while another block of 1.09 crore shares were traded at ₹1,864.15. In March 2022, CPPIB had sold 2.02% stake in the bank at Rs 1,699 per share.

### **12.RBI chief Shaktikanta Das named 'Governor of the Year' at Central Banking Awards in London**

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das was named 'Governor of the Year' at the Central Banking Awards in London. The award is presented by Central Banking, a leading organisation that covers matters related to central banks and financial regulators globally.
- The Central Banking Awards 2023 announced the winners at the end of March, the National Bank of Ukraine received the title of Central Bank of the Year. Shaktikanta Das, representing the Reserve Bank of India, was honoured with the Governor of the Year award at the event.

### **13.Education loans register 17% growth in FY23, turning positive for first time in five years**

- For the first time in five years, growth in education loans not only turned positive but also registered a 17 per cent surge in the last financial year ended March, 2023. According to Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) data, the outstanding portfolio under education loans grew 17 per cent at 96,847 crore in the year 2022-23 as against 82,723 crore in the previous year.
- This is significant because the growth in education loans was flat during 2021-22 and it was negative for the three years prior to it. The education loans were down by 3 per cent, 3.3 per cent, and 2.5 per cent during FY21, FY20, and FY19, respectively.

### **14.World Bank launches its first road safety project in South Asia**

- The World Bank (WB) launched its first dedicated road safety project in South Asia with a USD 358 million financing agreement signed in Dhaka with

the government of Bangladesh on 14th June. The project seeks to improve road safety and reduce fatalities and injuries from road crashes in selected cities, high-risk highways, and district roads.

- The project will focus on two national highways in Bangladesh: Gazipur-Elenga (N4) and Natore-Nawabganj (N6). These highways will serve as the primary sites for implementing various road safety measures. The aim is to achieve a substantial reduction of over 30 percent in road traffic deaths on these two highways.



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### **15.Fino Payments Bank partners Hubble for 'Spending Account'**

- Fino Payments Bank has partnered with Sequoia Capital-backed fintech Hubble to introduce India's first spending account. Depositors can save money in the account and save up to 10% cashback on all purchases they make from the account. They can track expenses over 50 partnered brands and potentially save up to Rs. 20,000 annually.
- The spending account is integrated with Fino Payments Bank's digital savings account, accessible through the FinoPay mobile app. Users earn an interest rate of 2.75% annually on their parked funds. Tejas Maniar, Chief Digital Officer of Fino Payments Bank, stated that the partnership with Hubble would enhance customer engagement and contribute to their digital ecosystem.

### **16.Ministry of Defence & Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance tie-up for jobs to veterans**

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Directorate General Resettlement (DGR), an arm of the Ministry of Defence, and Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Ltd.
- This collaboration seeks to create employment opportunities for veterans, enabling them to have a dignified second career in the corporate sector. The partnership aims to enhance the visibility of ex-servicemen in industries and facilitate the utilization of their skills and experience.

### **17.IRDAI approved SBI Mutual Fund to acquire up to 10% stake in ICICI Lombard**

- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) gave its approval to SBI Mutual Fund (SBI MF), along with its group entities, to acquire up to 10% stake in ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited (ICICI Lombard). Currently, SBI Mutual Fund, through various schemes, already holds a 4.62% stake in ICICI Lombard General Insurance.

- The IRDAI had advised SBI Mutual Funds to ensure that the total shareholding of SBI Mutual funds along with its group entities or body corporate under the same management shall not exceed 10% of the total paid-up equity share capital of the company. The approval of the IRDAI is valid for a period of 1 year from the date of the approval letter.

### **18.Axis Bank appoints former RBI Deputy Governor N S Vishwanathan as non-executive & part time chairman**

- Axis Bank has appointed NS Vishwanathan, former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), as an independent director and non-executive (part-time) chairman. His appointment will be effective from October 27, 2023 or the date of approval of his appointment by the RBI for a period of 3 years.
- Vishwanathan had joined the RBI in 1981 and retired in March 2020 as the Deputy Governor, spanning a career of nearly four decades at the central bank. In April 2023 Vishwanathan was roped in as head of the advisory board of Razorpay. In May 2023, he was appointed as an independent director by the Axis Bank.

### **19.Kotak Mahindra Bank launched “ActivMoney” feature for savings account holders**

- Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMBL) announced the launch of its ActivMoney feature which gives customers the benefit of fixed deposit (FD)-like interest rates of up to 7% per annum with no charges on premature withdrawal.
- Once a customer avails the ActivMoney feature in the savings account, it automatically transfers the balance above the threshold (defined as per account variant) in multiples of Rs 10,000 to a Fixed Deposit (FD) of 180 days currently at an interest rate of 7% per annum. In case a customer wishes to use the funds, the entire balance in savings and FD is instantly available.

### **20.Max Life Insurance picks up 2.99% stake in Capital Small Finance Bank for ₹49.5 crores**

- Max Life Insurance Company Limited (Max Life), a subsidiary of Max Financial Services, has picked a 2.99% equity stake in Capital Small Finance Bank (CSFB) for a consideration of 49.50 crores. Towards this investment, as many as 10,57,700 equity shares of CSFB of 10 each at a premium of 458 per equity share has been allotted to Max Life. As of May 31, 2023, this strategic investment has increased the Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) of CSFB by more than 1%, raising it to 20.77%.

## **NEW APPOINTMENTS AND PERSON IN NEWS**

### **1.Karnataka Bank appoints Srikrishnan Hari Hara Sarma as MD & CEO**

- The board of directors of Karnataka Bank Ltd has appointed Srikrishnan Hari Hara Sarma as an Additional Director to take up the role of MD and CEO of the bank. The bank informed stock exchanges that pursuant to the approval

received from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the board of directors at its meeting held on Friday has appointed Srikrishnan Hari Hara Sarma as an Additional Director to take up the role of MD and CEO of the Bank for three years effective from the date of his assuming charge.

## **2.MOC approves Neeraj Chopra's proposal to train in Kuortane**

- The Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) accepted Neeraj Chopra's proposal to train in Kuortane, Finland.
- Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra will train at the Kuortane Olympic Training Center in Finland.
- MOC approved paddler Payas Jain's proposal for an advanced training camp in Taiwan.
- Manika Batra and Sathiyam Gnanasekaran, Indian table tennis stars, received approval for their proposals to bring in personal coaches Aman Balgu and Raman Subramanian respectively for several events. Accepted proposals will cover expenses like air travel, camping expenses, boarding and lodging cost, medical insurance and out-of-pocket allowance.

## **3.Praveen Kumar Srivastava has been appointed as the new Central Vigilance Commissioner**

- President Draupadi Murmu (President Draupadi Murmu) administered the oath of office to Vigilance Commissioner Praveen Kumar Srivastava as the Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) on 29 May. Srivastava was serving as the acting Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) since December last year after the completion of Suresh N Patel's tenure as the Central Vigilance Commissioner. The Commission is headed by the CVC and can have a maximum of two Vigilance Commissioners.

## **4.Justice MS Ramachandra Rao sworn in as Himachal Pradesh High Court Chief Justice**

- Justice MS Ramachandra Rao sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court. The office of the Justice MS Ramachandra Rao sworn in as Himachal Pradesh High Court Chief Justice High Court had been vacant since January after the retirement of Chief Justice Amjad Ahtesham Sayed.
- Before his elevation, Rao was serving as a Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court. Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla administered the oath of office to Justice Rao at a brief swearing-in ceremony held at the Raj Bhavan in Shimla.

## **5.Sachin Tendulkar named 'Smile Ambassador' for oral hygiene campaign in Maharashtra**

- Cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar named the 'Smile Ambassador' for Maharashtra's Swachh Mukh Abhiyan, a campaign that promotes oral hygiene. Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tendulkar.
- The batting maestro will be the campaign's brand ambassador for the next five years. The Swachh Mukh Abhiyaan is a national campaign undertaken by the



Indian Dental Association to improve oral health and hygiene and educate people about its importance.

### **6. Bola Tinubu of Nigeria sworn in as President**

- Bola Tinubu was sworn in as the President of Nigeria on 29 May. Tinubu was inaugurated at Eagles Square in Abuja, which was attended by local and foreign dignitaries. Tinubu's presidency is marked by economic crisis, security concerns, and the need for political stability. Economic challenges in Nigeria include the need for diversification to reduce dependence on oil revenues.

### **7. Realme appoints Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan as New brand ambassador**

- Realme has appointed Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan as its brand ambassador for realme smartphones. This is not the first time that Realme has appointed a Bollywood actor as the face of their brand. In 2020, the company collaborated with Salman Khan for its Realme 6 series and actress Shraddha Kapoor for its AIoT products.
- The first product Khan will endorse for realme is the realme 11 Pro Series 5G, which exemplifies the brand's dedication to providing cutting-edge technology to its customers. This collaboration sets the stage for realme's continued growth and success, while remaining true to its 'Dare to Leap' philosophy.

### **8. Government appoints Ashwani Kumar as MD of UCO Bank**

- The government has appointed Ashwani Kumar as managing director of UCO Bank in place of Soma Sankara Prasad whose terms comes to an end. Kumar is currently an executive director of Indian Bank and prior to this, he served as Chief General Manager of Punjab National Bank.
- Kumar, a chartered accountant, rose through ranks serving various offices of five public sector banks — Bank of Baroda, Corporation Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Punjab National Bank and Indian Bank. His work experience includes working in wholesale banking division and as head of several branches (including Industrial Finance Branches). As general manager, he was heading mid corporate and large corporate verticals and was also chief financial officer.

### **9. Odisha government announces 'Mo Ghara' housing scheme**

- Odisha Chief Minister (CM) Shri Naveen Patnaik announced the launch of the 'Mo Ghara' (My House) a credit-linked housing scheme to provide financial assistance to people of states for completing or upgrading their houses.
- The housing scheme was approved by the Odisha cabinet "to meet the aspiration of the lower and lower middle income households of rural Odisha. This scheme will cover all such families who have been left out of the existing housing schemes.

### **10. Ajay Yadav takes charge as MD of SECI**



- Ajay Yadav, a seasoned IAS officer from the 2005 batch of the Bihar cadre, has assumed the charge of Managing Director at Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI), effective immediately.
- SECI, a Miniratna Category-I Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) established in 2011, serves as the primary implementing agency for renewable energy schemes and projects under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India. With over 58 GW of Renewable Energy (RE) project capacities awarded to date, SECI has played a pivotal role in driving the growth of India's renewable energy sector.

### **11.P Upadhyay INAS takes over as Director General of Naval Armament**

- P Upadhyay, INAS has taken over as Director General of Naval Armament (DGONA) from KSC Iyer, who superannuated on 31 May 23. P Upadhyay is an officer of the 1987 batch of Indian Naval Armament Service. He joined the Naval Armament Organization of the Indian Navy on 12 July 1989.
- An Electrical Engineering Graduate from SGSITS Indore, he earned his Post Graduate degrees from Devi Ahilya University in Electrical Engineering with specialization in 'Digital Techniques and Instrumentation' in 1988. He is postgraduate in Mechanical Engineering from University of Pune with specialisation in 'Guided Missiles', in 1995.

### **12.Sanjay Varma takes charge as MRPL Managing Director**

- Sanjay Varma has taken charge as managing director (additional charge) of Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) here following an order issued by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Varma has been on the board of MRPL as director (refinery) since June 2020 and has had extensive exposure by being on the boards of MSTPL, ONGC Mangalore Petrochemicals Limited and Shell-MRPL Aviation, a release from the company said on Thursday.
- He has rich exposure in various domains of expertise in the oil and gas industry. During his three-and-a-half decades of service, he headed the organisation in operations management, project management, materials management and health, safety and environment management.

### **13.Amarendu Prakash takes charge as new SAIL chairman**

- Amarendu Prakash took charge as the new Chairman and Managing Director of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) with effect from 31 May. He was earlier Director (In-Charge) of SAIL's Bokaro Steel Plant. SAIL had experienced three years of losses from FY16 to FY18. Prakash is heading the Bokaro Steel Plant as Director-in-Charge from September 2020.
- Under Prakash's leadership, Bokaro Steel Plant achieved remarkable production records in FY22 and FY23. Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). It is a leading steel making company in India. SAIL is a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the Ministry of Steel, Government of India. SAIL aims to promote the development and production of steel in the country.

### **14.Anantharaman appointed new chairman of TransUnion CIBIL**

- Veteran banker V Anantharaman has been appointed non-executive chairman of credit bureau TransUnion CIBIL. Anantharaman has extensive experience in the banking industry and has held leadership positions in corporate and investment banking teams at renowned international firms such as Standard Chartered Bank, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank and Bank of America.
- Anantharaman has also served as a senior advisor to the UK's development finance institution British International Investment (formerly CDC). In addition to his new role at TransUnion CIBIL, Anantharaman also serves on the boards of The Indian Hotels Company Limited, Axis Asset Management Company, IIFL Home Finance Limited and Ecom Express Limited.

### **15. Comptroller and Auditor General Girish Chandra Murmu re-elected as External Auditor of WHO for 4-year term**

- Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) Girish Chandra Murmu has been re-elected as External Auditor of the World Health Organisation (WHO) for a 4-year term from 2024 to 2027. CAG is already holding this position in WHO since 2019 for a four-year term from 2019 to 2023.
- The election was held in the 76th World Health Assembly in Geneva. The CAG of India was re-elected with an overwhelming majority of 114 out of 156 votes in the first round of voting itself.

### **16. Janardan Prasad appointed as new Director General of Geological Survey of India**

- Janardan Prasad has been appointed as the new Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI). Prasad joined GSI, Gandhinagar, as a geologist in 1988. He was also posted in Shillong, Patna, Faridabad, Ranchi and Hyderabad in various capacities.
- Before this assignment, he was posted as the Additional Director General and Head of the Department (ADG & HoD) of the southern region since June 2020. He was also chairman of the technical-cum-cost committee (TCC), National Mineral Exploration Trust, New Delhi. He was part of the Justice MB Shah Commission for inquiry into illegal mining of iron and manganese in Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh and Odisha, where the central and state governments were incurring huge revenue loss.

### **17. Amit Agrawal appointed as CEO UIDAI**

- Senior IAS officers Amit Agrawal and Subodh Kumar Singh have been appointed as CEO Unique Identification Authority of India and director general of the National Testing Agency, respectively, as part of a bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre. Both Agrawal (1993 batch) and Singh (1997 batch) are Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers of the Chhattisgarh cadre.
- Agrawal, additional secretary in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, has been appointed as the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Unique Identification Authority in the rank and pay of additional secretary to the Government of India.

### **18.IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers appointed as the Chair-elect, of IATA's Board of Governors**

- IndiGo, India's preferred carrier, is proud to announce that its CEO, Pieter Elbers has been elected as the chair-elect of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Board of Governors. Effective June 2024, he will succeed present Chair, Yvonne Manzi Makolo, the CEO of Rwandair.
- With a focus on enhancing the passenger experience, the airline has consistently demonstrated its commitment to affordable fares, on time performance, courteous and hassle-free services across its unparalleled network. Pieter Elbers' appointment reinforces IndiGo's position as a driving force in the Indian aviation landscape, while placing India firmly on the global aviation map.

### **19.Epson India ropes in Rashmika Mandanna as brand ambassador**

- Epson announced that film actress Rashmika Mandanna will be its brand ambassador in India. The renowned actress will collaborate with Epson to promote its products in India and will feature in a multi-media campaign being launched for Epson EcoTank Printers in June. The campaign will focus on the economical and environment-friendly benefits of Epson's EcoTank printers.
- This association will help us communicate how Epson products deliver purposeful value that enriches lives and helps create a better world," Tushad Talati, director-brand and communication, Epson India, said.

### **20.Hyundai Motor India signs Hardik Pandya as brand ambassador for Exter**

- Hyundai Motor India Limited (HMIL), India's first smart mobility solutions provider and largest exporter since inception, announced the cricketing youth icon – Hardik Pandya as its brand ambassador for its sports utility vehicle (SUV), Exter.
- Hardik Pandya was born on 11 October 1993 in Surat, Gujarat. He played for the Baroda cricket team in domestic cricket and is captain of the Gujarat Titans in the Indian Premier League (IPL) whom he led to their maiden IPL title in the 2022 edition. He worked with over 12 brands including Monster Energy drink, Gulf Oil, William Lawson scotch, boAt, and FMCG player, Britannia, among others.

### **21.Nusrat Choudhury will become the first Muslim woman federal judge in US history**

- Nusrat Choudhury, a civil rights lawyer, has been confirmed by the US Senate for appointment as the first Muslim female federal judge in US history. She became the first Bangladeshi American and the first Muslim American woman to become a federal judge. She will serve as a federal judge in Brooklyn federal court in New York after receiving a 50-49 vote along party lines.
- Endorsed by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), she currently holds the position of Legal Director for the ACLU of Illinois. Chowdhary previously served in the ACLU National Office and was the Deputy Director

of the ACLU Racial Justice Program. Chowdhury has a notable academic background, having graduated from Columbia, Princeton and Yale Law Schools. He has also served as clerk to chief justices in the US District Court and US Circuit Court of Appeals.

## **22.Kamal Kishore Chatiwal Takes Over As IGL Managing Director**

- Kamal Kishore Chatiwal took over as the new managing director of Indraprastha Gas Ltd (IGL), the largest CNG distribution company in the country. Before joining IGL, he was working as executive director and head of zonal marketing of GAIL in Jaipur, a company statement said. State-owned gas utility GAIL is a promoter of IGL.
- Chatiwal, a chemical engineer from IIT Delhi, brings to IGL a rich domain experience of over 32 years in oil and gas sector, particularly in project execution and commissioning of mega petrochemical projects, operation and maintenance of gas processing units, natural gas compressor station and cross-country LPG pipeline.

## **23.National Fertilizers Limited appoints U. Saravanan as chairman & Managing Director**

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of U Saravanan as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of state-owned National Fertilizers Ltd (NFL).
- Saravanan has a wide experience spanning over 33 years covering both oil refinery and fertilizer industries. He has worked as chairman & managing director of Madras Fertilizers. He was a board member of Indian Potash (IPL) and Fortune Biotech. He has also held additional charge as director (technical) of FACT. Prior to this new appointment, he was serving as CMD of another fertilizer CPSE, Madras Fertilizers Ltd.

## **24.Swaminathan Janakiraman appointed as RBI deputy governor**

- Swaminathan Janakiraman has been appointed as the deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India for a period of three years. Current RBI DG Mahesh Kumar Jain's term is set to expire in June.
- Currently, the other three deputy governors of the RBI are Michael D Patra, T Rabi Sankar and Rajeshwar Rao. MK Jain had served as the managing director and chief executive officer of IDBI Bank before being appointed as the deputy governor of the Reserve Bank Of India. Before joining IDBI Bank, he headed Indian Bank.

## **25.Senior IPS Officer Ravi Sinha Appointed As Research and Analysis Wing 's Chief**

- A senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre, Ravi Sinha, has been appointed as the new chief of India's external intelligence Research and Analysis Wing or R&AW chief. The Ministry of Personnel has approved his appointment as Secretary RAW for a tenure of 2 years.
- He will succeed Samant Goel who completes his four-year stint on June 30, 2023. Goel was appointed as the chief of RAW in 2019 and received two

extensions of one year each in 2021 and 2022. In his new role, Sinha is expected to integrate technological and human intelligence dimensions to address the challenges of today's times

## **26. Alibaba appoints Eddie Wu as new CEO and Joseph Tsai as executive chairman**

- Eddie Wu has been appointed as the new CEO and Joseph Tsai as Executive Chairman by Alibaba Group. Eddie Wu is one of the co-founders of Alibaba and currently serves as the chairman of Taobao and Tmall Group. This leadership change is the second major change for Alibaba in recent years after Jack Ma stepped down in 2019.
- It is a Chinese multinational technology company. It specializes in e-commerce, retail, internet and technology. Alibaba operates in a variety of sectors including e-commerce, retail, Internet services and technology solutions. The company's primary strength lies in its e-commerce platforms such as Alibaba.com, Taobao, Tmall and AliExpress.

## **27. Hasmukh Adhia appointed chairman of GIFT City**

- Hasmukh Adhia has been appointed as the chairman of GIFT City Limited. Hasmukh Adhia is a retired bureaucrat and former Union Finance Secretary and Revenue Secretary. Before Hasmukh Adhia, former Chief Secretary of Gujarat Sudhir Mankad was in the post of president.
- GIFT City aims to promote international financial services and develop infrastructure for the finance and technology sectors. Hasmukh Adhia has been appointed as the director and chairman of the boards of Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Limited (GACL) and Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited (GMDC). Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Limited (GACL) and Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited (GMDC) are state public sector undertakings.

## **SCIENCE TECH & DEFENCE**

### **1. Indian Army Exercise Along The Western Border conducted Exercise Sudarshan Shakti:**

- Indian Army's Sapta Shakti Command conducted the exercise 'Sudarshan Shakti 2023' From May 22 to 25, along Rajasthan's western borders. 'Sudarshan Shakti 2023' was created to test operational plans in a network-centric setting. Combat power, combat support, and logistic support were used in tandem across all domains of enemy danger, including Grey Zone Warfare, as part of high-tempo operations.

### **2. India-Saudi Arabia bilateral maritime exercise conducted successfully**

- The sea phase of the second edition of bilateral exercise 'Al Mohed Al Hindi 23', between the Indian Navy and the Royal Saudi Naval Force (RSNF) has been conducted successfully.



- The exercise was held from May 23-25 in Al Jubail, Saudi Arabia. The three-day exercise at sea witnessed a wide spectrum of maritime operations. The successful conduct of 'Al Mohed Al Hindi - 2023' showcased the high level of professionalism, interoperability and exchange of best practices between the two navies. The bilateral exercise has been successful in meeting all its set objectives.



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### **3. Reliance Chairman Mukesh Ambani joins advisory committee of global climate change panel COP28**

- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani has been appointed as the member of Advisory Committee to the President of the 28th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Alongside esteemed global leaders, Ambani will play a crucial role in shaping the agenda and providing guidance in addressing the urgent climate crisis. This article highlights the significance of his appointment and the upcoming COP28 conference in Dubai.

### **4. GSLV-F12 successfully places 2G navigation satellite into intended orbit**

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched a second generation navigation satellite, using a GSLV rocket with a cryogenic upper stage to do the job. NVS-01 would augment the country's regional navigation system, providing accurate and real-time navigation.
- At the end of a 27.5 hour countdown, the 51.7 metre tall, 3-stage Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle lifted off at a prefixed time of 10.42 am from the second launch pad at this spaceport, situated about 130 km from Chennai. This was GSLV's 15th flight.

### **5. South Korea launched first commercial grade satellite – NEXTSAT-2**

- South Korea successfully launched Next Generation Small Satellite-2 (NEXTSAT-2), the first commercial-grade satellite aboard Korean Satellite Launch Vehicle Two (KSLV-II), nicknamed "Nuri," rocket lifted off from the Naro Space Center in Goheung, South Korea.
- The domestically built three-stage Nuri rocket lifted off from a launch facility on a southern island with a payload of 8 satellites, including a main commercial-grade satellite whose mission is to verify radar imaging technology and observe cosmic radiation in a near-Earth orbit. The launch would mark the third test for the country's commercial-grade satellite.

## **6. Razorpay unveils India's fastest one-step payments solution Turbo UPI**

- Razorpay has launched 'Turbo UPI' which the fintech unicorn says is India's fastest one-step UPI (unified payments interface) payment solution. This new product allows customers of online merchants to make UPI payments directly without getting redirected to a third-party UPI app during checkout.
- Razorpay Turbo UPI aims to deliver a 5X faster payment experience. It streamlines the payment process and eliminates any redirection to external apps. This helps businesses achieve a significant increase in the success rate of UPI payments by 10 per cent.

## **7. TCS is the most valuable Indian brand as per the Indian Brand 2023 Ranking**

- Technology giant TCS and India's most valuable company Reliance Industries have topped the list of the country's most valuable brands, according to Interbrand, the renowned global brand consultancy. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) topped the 2023 50 Most Valuable Indian Brands list with a brand value of Rs 1.09 lakh crore.
- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd is at the No.2 spot with a brand value of Rs 65,320 crore. His group's telecom and digital unit Jio is also in the top 5 with a brand value of Rs 49,027 crore.

## **8. IICA and RRU sign MoU for academic and research collaboration**

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) on 9 June. The objective of the MoU is to synergize the professional capabilities of IICA and RRU towards capacity building, education, research and consultancy in the areas of internal security, financial crime, law enforcement, corporate fraud and other subjects. The MoU also provides for exchange of knowledge and resources between IICA and RRU for conducting research, training and consultancy.

## **9. Bangladesh-US joint naval exercise 'Tiger Shark 40' begins in Chattogram**

- The Joint Bangladesh-United States (US) Naval drill Exercise 'Tiger Shark 40' started at BNS Nirvik in Special Forces of Bangladesh Army & Navy and US Special Forces participated in this training exercise held under the management of Commodore Swords Command.
- It's aim is to increase strategic capabilities of both the countries and to acquire mutual technical and procedural knowledge. Chattogram Naval Area Commander Rear Admiral Abdullah AL Mamun Chowdhury attended the event as the Chief Guest. The Special Warfare Diving and Salvage is an elite special operational unit of the Bangladesh Navy. Its base is formally called BNS Nirvik.

## **10. EPFO is set to be an affiliate member of ISSA and gain worldwide recognition**

- The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is set to upgrade its membership status with the International Social Security Association (ISSA)

from associate member to affiliate member. This will enable the EPFO to gain access to professional guidelines, expert knowledge, services, and support for its pension subscribers.

- The retirement fund body, EPFO, has received approval from its central board of trustees to upgrade its membership status with ISSA from associate member to affiliate member. However, the annual membership fees will increase significantly from 10.34 lakh to 2.14 crore based on the number of pension subscribers. According to the minutes of the CBT meeting held in March, only the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation from India is currently an ISSA affiliate member.

### **11. Reliance climbs eight spots to 45th rank on Forbes' Global 2000 list**

- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd climbed eight spots to the 45th rank, the highest for an Indian company on Forbes' latest Global 2000 list of public companies worldwide. This achievement marks the highest position for an Indian company on the list. The Global 2000 ranks public companies worldwide based on sales, profits, assets, and market value.
- JPMorgan, America's largest bank with \$3.7 trillion in assets, has secured the top spot on the Global 2000 list. This marks its first time at the top since 2011. The bank's strong performance during the regional banking crisis, coupled with increased deposits and the opportunistic acquisition of the failed First Republic Bank, contributed to its ranking.

### **12. Indo-Maldives Joint Military Exercise "Ekuverin" Commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand**

- The 12th edition of joint military exercise "Ex Ekuverin" between the Indian Army & the Maldives National Defence Force has commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand from June 11 to 24, 2023. Ekuverin meaning 'Friends' is a bilateral annual exercise conducted alternatively in India and Maldives.
- A platoon strength contingent from Indian Army and Maldives National Defence Force will be participating in 14 days long exercise. The exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability in Counter Insurgency/Counter Terrorism Operations under the UN mandate and carry out joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief operations. The focus is to share best practices, enhance coordination and cooperation between both the forces at tactical level.

### **13. Fourth warship of Indian Navy 'Sanshodhak' launched**

- 'Sanshodhak', the fourth of four ships of Survey Vessels (Large) (SVL) Project, being built by L and T/ GRSE for Indian Navy was launched on 13 Jun 2023 at Kattupalli, Chennai. The chief guest of the Launch Ceremony was VAdm Adhir Arora, Chief Hydrographer to Government of India. In keeping with the Naval maritime tradition, Smt Tanvi Arora launched the ship to the chanting of invocation from Atharva Veda. The ship named 'Sanshodhak', meaning 'Researcher', signifies the primary role of the ship as a Survey Vessel.

- The contract for building four SVL ships was signed between MoD and Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata on 30 Oct 2018. As per the build strategy, the first ship would be built at GRSE, Kolkata and construction of the remaining three ships upto outfitting stage, has been sub-contracted to M/s L and T Shipbuilding, Kattupalli.

#### **14.NTPC climbs up 52 positions to 433rd rank in Forbes' "The Global 2000" List of top companies**

- NTPC Limited, India's largest power generation company, has climbed 52 positions to secure the 433rd rank in Forbes' "The Global 2000" List for 2023. Rising from 485th rank in the list in the year 2022, the climb of 52 positions in just one year demonstrates NTPC's emergence as a strong force in the global market. It is evidence of the company's steady expansion, sound financial condition, and persistent dedication to excellence.
- "The Global 2000" List recognizes the world's largest companies based on four key metrics: sales, profits, assets and market value. Considering Indian companies, NTPC has climbed up one place to secure the 10th rank among the largest Indian companies in the 2023 List. This ranking further solidifies NTPC's status as a leading player in India's corporate sector.

#### **15.Indian Navy Launches "Julley Ladakh" Outreach Program**

- Indian Navy is conducting "Julley Ladakh", an outreach programme to Ladakh to increase awareness about the service in Ladakh and to engage with youth and civil society there. A five thousand kilometre Motorcycle Expedition was flagged off by Vice Chief of Naval Staff, Sanjay Jasjit Singh, from the National War Memorial .
- The Navy had previously made similar efforts in the North East which were hugely successful. It had also undertaken the Sam No Varunah car expedition to engage with citizens in all the coastal States.
- The main objective of the current initiative in the Northern Territory includes celebrating Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav and conducting awareness drives at Schools and Colleges in the Ladakh region about the career opportunities Indian Navy offers including the Agnipath Scheme. This will also motivate youth to join the Indian Navy.

#### **16.SEBI's Guidelines on Product Offerings by OBPPs**

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has recently introduced guidelines to regulate product offerings by online bond platform providers (OBPPs).
- These guidelines aim to ensure compliance, protect investors' interests, and streamline the functioning of the bond market. Under the rules, Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs) need to register themselves as stock brokers in the debt segment of the stock exchange. OBPs offer an avenue for investors, particularly non-institutional investors to access the bond market.

#### **17.NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam commissions first solar rooftop project at IIT Jodhpur**



- NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd (NVVN) NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd (NVVN) commissioned its first rooftop solar PV project at IIT Jodhpur, Rajasthan on June 14, 2023. The 1 MW grid-connected solar project has been implemented by NVVN under the RESCO (Renewable Energy Service Company) model.
- The Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) duration for the project is 25 years. NVVN, an arm of state-run power producer NTPC, is responsible for the project implementation. The rooftop solar project is installed on the roofs of 14 buildings within the IIT Jodhpur campus. The project is expected to generate around 14.9 lakh units of electricity annually, meeting 15% of IIT Jodhpur's electricity requirement.

### **18. Intel and Germany sign agreement for \$32.8 bn chip plant investment**

- Intel and the German government signed a deal that would see the United States company investing more than 30 billion euros (\$32.8 billion) in a chip manufacturing site in the German city of Magdeburg, with financial support from Berlin. Word of the agreement came as German Chancellor Olaf Scholz met Intel CEO Pat Gelsinger in the German capital.
- Intel acquired the land for two semiconductor facilities in Magdeburg in eastern Germany in November, and the company says the first of them is expected to start production in four or five years.

### **19. Indian army contingent participates in multinational joint exercise “ex khaan quest 2023” in mongolia**

- Multinational Peacekeeping Joint Exercise “Ex Khaan Quest 2023” featuring participation from military contingents and observers from over 20 countries has commenced in Mongolia. Mr Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh, the Hon’ble President of Mongolia inaugurated the Exercise in a ceremony organised at the exercise location in Mongolia. The exercise is co-sponsored by Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) and United States Army Pacific Command (USARPAC).
- The Indian Army is represented by a contingent from the GARHWAL RIFLES. The 14-day exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability of the participating nations, for sharing experience and to train uniformed personnel for the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (UNPKO). The exercise will prepare participants for future UN Peacekeeping missions, develop peace operations capabilities and enhance military readiness.

### **20. Reliance tops Hurun's list of most valuable private sector companies**

- With a value of Rs 16.3 trillion, Reliance Industries is India's most valuable company, followed by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) with Rs 11.8 lakh crore and HDFC Bank with Rs 9.4 lakh crore.
- Axis Bank's Burgundy Private and Hurun India released an update on the list of 500 most valuable private sector companies in India which was launched in December 2022. This is a six-month update (from October 30, 2022- April 30, 2023) on the 2022 Burgundy Private-Hurun India 500, the list of 500 most valuable non-state-owned companies in India. By absolute value, the biggest

gainers were HDFC Bank, ITC and Housing Development Finance Corporation.

## **21.NHAI Launches ‘Knowledge Sharing Platform’ for Inclusive Development of National Highways**

- NHAI has launched a ‘Knowledge Sharing’ platform For sharing of knowledge and innovative best practices. Hosted on the NHAI website, this initiative will help the authority to collaborate with experts and citizens who want to share knowledge and insights related to topics such as road design, construction, road safety, environment sustainability and related fields.
- The platform will encourage sharing of best practices from around the world and will contribute towards holistic development of the National Highway infrastructure in the country.

## **22.Adani Group market value fell 52% in 6 months up to April, 6.4% drop for India’s top 500 pvt firms**

- The Adani Group saw its market value nosedive by nearly 52 per cent or by a whopping Rs 10.25 lakh crore to Rs 9.54 lakh crore in the six month period to 30 April, 2023 from 30 October, 2022. The value of the top 500 non-state owned firms in the country registered a modest decrease of 6.4 per cent.
- Adani Enterprises and Adani Total Gas moved out of the top 10 during the period under review, the report said, adding that Adani Total Gas lost 73.8 per cent (about Rs 2,92,511 crore) and reached a value of Rs 1,03,734 crore, while Adani Transmission saw a decline of 69.2 percent and Adani Green Energy was down by 54.7 percent during the period.

## **23.Tata Power Becomes the Most Attractive Employer Brand in India**

- Tata Power Company has emerged as India’s most 'attractive employer brand' beating e-commerce giant Amazon and IT giant Microsoft. In fact, four out of the country’s 10 most attractive employer brands are Tata Group companies. Tata Power, Tata Motors, Tata Steel, and Tata Consultancy Services are the companies that have found a spot amongst the top 10 in the recently released most attractive employer brand list.
- The report revealed that Tata Power Company scored very high on financial health, good reputation, and career progression opportunities -- the top 3 Employee Value Proposition (EVP) drivers for the organisation that helped the brand get to the winning spot from rank 9 in 2022.

## **24.UNDP partners with DAY-NULM towards empowering women entrepreneurs**

- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) entered into a collaborative partnership aimed at empowering women to make well-informed career choices in the field of entrepreneurship.
- The partnership will provide support for women looking to start and expanding their own enterprises, particularly in sectors such as care economy, digital economy, electric mobility, waste management, food packaging and

more. Focused on fostering entrepreneurship development and accelerating enterprise growth, the three-year project, extendable beyond 2025, will cover eight cities in the initial phase.

## **25.India gifts missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam**

- Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh announced that India will gift the indigenously-built in-service missile 'Corvette INS Kirpan' to Vietnam and both the countries will also collaborate in defence industry cooperation, maritime security and multinational cooperation.
- He held bilateral talks with Vietnamese Defence Minister Mr General Phan Van Gang in New Delhi, Delhi. Also, General Phan Van Gang laid a wreath at the National War Memorial and paid homage to the fallen heroes.

## **26.Indian Navy to form 'Ocean Ring of Yoga' on International Day of Yoga**

- An "Ocean Ring of Yoga" will be formed by the Indian Navy on International Day of Yoga , under which naval ships deployed in the Indian Ocean region will visit various ports in friendly foreign countries and spread the message of "**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**", the yoga day theme this year.
- This initiative, known as the 'Ocean Ring of Yoga,' aims to strengthen bonds and foster harmony among nations. Onboard Indian naval ships such as Kiltan, Chennai, Shivalik, Sunayna, Trishul, Tarkash, Vagir, Sumitra, and Brahmaputra, various yoga day events and activities are being organized. These ships are currently stationed in the Indian Ocean Region.

## **BOOKS AND AWARDS**

### **1.Shri Ramcharitmanas became the longest song in the world**

- Dr. Jagadish Pillai of Varanasi created a Guinness World Record by singing Shri Ramcharitmanas for 138 hours, 41 minutes and two seconds.This achievement made Shri Ramcharitmanas the longest song in the world.
- Dr. Jagadish Pillai has been credited with five years of broadcast of Sri Ramcharitmanas recitals on more than 100 official audio channels across the globe.His rendition was streamed on official music platforms such as Apple Music, Spotify, Amazon Music and others.The entire process of recording, editing and mixing took four years, 63 days and 295 hours to complete. The previous record for the longest song was held by UK's Mark Christopher Lee and The Pocket Gods on December 1, 2021 with a duration of 115 hours and 45 minutes.

### **2.Shashi Tharoor releases Vijay Darda's book Ringside**

- On May 30, 2023 Renowned author and Congress MP Dr. Shashi Tharoor released the book "Ringside" written by Lokmat Media Group Editorial Board Chairman and former MP Dr. Vijay Darda. "Ringside" is a compilation of Dr Darda's weekly articles published between 2011 and 2016 in Lokmat Media Group newspapers and other leading national and regional dailies.
- The book serves as a follow-up to Dr. Darda's previous work, "Straight Thoughts" and provides readers with a wide range of topics covering a variety

of topics such as science, environment, economy, security, social development, sports, arts, culture, foreign policy Provides an intellectual journey. , and national and international affairs.

### **3.Hrithik Roshan and Alia Bhatt win the award for best actor at IIFA 2023.**

- Hrithik Roshan won Best Actor in a Leading Role (male) award at the International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA) 2023 held in Abu Dhabi. Alia Bhatt also won the award for Best Actor in a Leading Role (Female) for her role in the movie Gangubai Kathiawadi for her role in the film Gangubai Kathiawadi.
- While Alia was not present at the ceremony, producer Jayantilal Gada accepted the award on her behalf. Hrithik Roshan won best actor for Vikram Vedhan in Indian Film Academy Awards 2023. Ajay Devgn's crime thriller Drishyam 2 won the award for best editing and Best film. Abhishek Bachchan and Vicky Kaushal hosted the award.

### **4.Chennai-based child rights advocate wins prestigious US award**

- Chennai-based lawyer and activist Lalitha Natarajan has won US Department of Labor's 2023 Iqbal Masih Award for the Elimination of Child Labour. Natarajan was presented the award by Consul General Judith Ravin at a ceremony in the US Consulate General in Chennai on May 30.
- As a leader in the fight to end exploitative child labor in southern India, Natarajan identifies child victims of trafficking, specifically bonded labor, assisting in their reintegration into society, the US consulate in Chennai. In her role as a member of the Child Welfare Committee (North Zone), under the Department of Social Defence, Tamil Nadu, Natarajan ensures victims receive compensation under the Child Labor Act and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act . Besides working on child labour issues, Lalitha also provides legal and counseling support to victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

### **5.The book 'A Life Well Spent - Four Decades in the Indian Foreign Service' by Ambassador Satish Chandra is launched**

- The book by Ambassador Satish Chandra covers four decades he served in the Indian Foreign Service from 1965 to 2005. The book is not simply an account of his personal journey. It provides a glimpse into the making of foreign policy. It also covers India's trajectory from the mid-60s, when it was recovering from the 1962 war to the post-Pokhran phase when it had emerged as a nuclear weapons state.
- Mr. Satish Chandra saw many of the defining events of this period from close quarters. He was a Second Secretary in India's Deputy High Commission in Karachi just before the outbreak of the 1971 war. He was India's PR during the crucial 50th session of UNCHR at Geneva in 1994 when Pakistan tabled a resolution on J&K.

### **6.Writer Arundhati Roy receives European Essay Prize for lifetime achievement**



- Writer Arundhati Roy has been awarded the 45th European Essay Prize for lifetime achievement, the Charles Veillon Foundation has announced.
- Arundhati Roy's book of essays, 'Azadi' (2021), especially the French translation, received acclaim. 'Azaadi' explores the concept of freedom in an increasingly totalitarian world, with an emphasis on fiction and alternative imaginations. Roy is known for his notable works, including the Booker Prize-winning novel The God of Small Things. The award ceremony will be held on September 12 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

### **7.Salman Rushdie wins German Book Trade 2023 Peace Prize**

- The Peace Prize of the German Book Trade for 2023 has been awarded to British-American author Salman Rushdie.
- Salman Rushdie was born on June 19, 1947 in Bombay (now Mumbai), India. Rushdie achieved international recognition through his controversial 1988 novel, The Satanic Verses. The novel attracted widespread attention and generated significant controversy in Muslim society for its portrayal inspired by the life of the Islamic prophet Muhammad.

### **8.Olympic Order awarded to WHO Director-General Tedros Ghebreyesus**

- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) awarded Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), with the Olympic Order. This recognition was given to Dr. Tedros for his inspiring efforts in making the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 happen, even amidst the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. The presentation of the Olympic Order took place at the Olympic House and was done by the President of the IOC, Thomas Bach.
- In addition, President Bach extended an invitation to Dr. Tedros to be a distinguished guest of honor at the Olympic Games Paris 2024. This invitation signifies the high regard and respect the IOC has for Dr. Tedros and his significant contributions.

## **SPORTS**

### **1.Magnus Carlsen Won 2023 Superbet Rapid and Blitz Poland**

- Five-time World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen won the 2023 Superbet Rapid & Blitz Poland, the second leg of the Grand Chess Tour (GCT) at the Museum of the History of Polish Jews. The Norwegian Grandmaster, the World No.1, finished with a score of 24/36, taking home the \$40,000 1st place prize.
- Placed second was local favourite and defending champion Jan-Krzysztof Duda, who led until the final day and ended just a point behind with 23/36, after nearly winning a final game against Carlsen that would have forced a playoff. Tied for third were Wesley So of the United States and France's Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, each with 21.5 points, with Levon Aronian finishing in clear fifth place with 20.5.

## **2.Uttar Pradesh Hockey won the 13th Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship 2023**

- Uttar Pradesh Hockey emerged as the champions of the 13th Hockey India Sub-Junior Men's National Championship 2023. Its final was held at Birsamunda Hockey Stadium, Odisha.
- Uttar Pradesh Hockey defeated Odisha Hockey Association in the final. Hockey Haryana defeated Hockey Madhya Pradesh to secure the third position.

## **3.Max Verstappen wins Monaco Grand Prix 2023**

- Red Bull's Max Verstappen has won the 2023 Monaco Grand Prix, his fourth win of the season.
- He led all 78 laps from pole position. The win extended his lead in the Drivers' Championship to 39 points. Fernando Alonso finished second in the race.
- Esteban Ocon took third place. Charles Leclerc retired from the race after a collision with Carlos Sainz.

## **4.Chennai Super Kings beat Gujarat Titans, win 5th IPL title**

- Chennai Super Kings claimed a record-equalling fifth Indian Premier League title with a five-wicket win over Gujarat Titans in a rain-affected but thrilling summit showdown. B Sai Sudharsan slammed 96 in 47 balls as Gujarat Titans posted 214 for four after being asked to bat first.
- Set a revised target of 171 in 15 overs after rain interrupted play at the start of the second innings of a final that was pushed to the reserve day owing to heavy downpour, CSK completed the task in the last ball at a packed Narendra Modi Stadium in what could turn out to be the legendary Mahendra Singh Dhoni's final outing in the T20 league.

## **5.Shubman Gill wins IPL Orange Cap 2023**

- Gujarat Titans opener Shubman Gill won the Orange Cap in IPL 2023 with 890 runs in 17 matches. He scored 4 fifties and 3 centuries. Gill was in top form throughout the tournament, scoring runs at a strike rate of 157.80. He was particularly impressive in the second half of the tournament, scoring 600 runs in his last 8 matches.

## **6.India won the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 title in Hockey**

- India won the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 title in Hockey by defeating Pakistan 2-1 in the final held in Salalah, Oman. The win marked India's fourth title in the men's Junior Asia Cup, having previously won in 2004, 2008 and 2015. Angad Bir Singh and Arjit Hundal Singh scored for India, while Pakistan managed to score a goal through Basharat Ali.
- In the semi-finals, India defeated Republic of Korea 9-1, while Pakistan defeated Malaysia 6-2 to enter the final. Pakistan are the second most successful team in the men's junior Asia Cup with three titles, but their last win was 27 years ago in 1996.

## **7.Iga Swiatek of Poland wins Women's Singles title in French Open**

- In French Open tennis, World No 1 and top seed Iga Swiatek of Poland has won the Women's Singles crown at Paris on 10th June. She defended her title against unseeded Czech Republic's Karolina Muchova 6-2, 5-7, 6-4. This is her third French title in just 5 years. Poland's Iga Swiatek became the first woman since 2007 to win back-to-back French Open titles.
- The 22-year-old Swiatek is just the third woman in the Open era to win each of her first four Grand Slam finals. Monica Seles and Naomi Osaka are the only other players to achieve this feat. Swiatek, the world number 1, is also the youngest woman to claim back-to-back French Open titles since Monica Seles in the early 1990s.

## **8.Australia crowned World Test Champions after comprehensive win in The Ultimate Test**

- Australia clinched the title of World Test Champions in a commanding fashion, securing a resounding 209-run victory over India in the thrilling WTC Final at The Oval. Travis Head and Steve Smith's remarkable centuries in the first innings laid the foundation for Australia's early control of the Test. Despite India's valiant response, the match extended to a fifth day, but they fell short of an extraordinary record chase, ultimately being bowled out for 234. Australia scripted history on Sunday, June 11 as they became the first men's team in world cricket to win an International Cricket Council (ICC) world title in all three formats.

## **9.World Cup Squash Championship begins in Chennai**

- The World Cup Squash Championships began in Chennai on 13 June. 2023 Squash World Cup to be held in Chennai till June 17. The games were formally inaugurated by Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Udhayanidhi Stalin at Express Avenue Mall.
- Notable players who have participated in the tournament include Joshna Chinappa, Saurabh Ghosal, Abhay Singh, Khanna and Jessica Turnbull. On the first day of the championship, India will play against Hong Kong and China in Pool B matches. In Pool A, Egypt will face Australia and Malaysia will take on Colombo.

## **10.Uruguay beat Italy 1-0 to win maiden U-20 World Cup title**

- Uruguay beat Italy 1-0 to win its first Under-20 World Cup title. The Celeste's victory ends a streak of four consecutive wins of European teams in the tournament. Luciano Rodríguez scored the winning goal in the 86th minute in a header from close range on Sunday, giving Uruguay a much deserved victory after an entire match of dominance against Italy.
- More than 40,000 people, mostly cheering for Uruguay, attended the match at the Diego Maradona Stadium. FIFA President Gianni Infantino was also present.

## **11.Egypt won the World Squash Championship**

- Egypt emerged victorious in the World Squash Championship, defeating Malaysia 2-1 in the final held in Chennai on 17th June. Malaysia secured the silver medal in the championship. The third place in the championship was shared between the host country, India, and Japan.
- Malaysia defeated India with a score of 3-0 in the semi-final held the previous day. The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, M.K. Stalin, awarded the winning team with the golden cup, while the Sports Minister, Udhayanidhi Stalin, presented medals to the victorious players. The state of Tamil Nadu has gained recognition in international sports by successfully organizing the Chess Olympiad within a remarkable four-month timeframe.

## **12. Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant unveils ‘moga’ – mascot for 37th national games**

- Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant unveiled the Mascot MOGA which represent Indian Biatlon for 37th National Games at a Mascot launching ceremony on the auspicious occasion of Goa Kranti Din at Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Stadium-Taleigao organized by the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs and the Sports Authority of Goa. As Goa is hosting National games for the first time, he appealed to all the associations and people of Goa to make use of this platform and participate in the upcoming National games in large numbers .

## **13. Bhavani Devi creates history by winning India's first medal in Asian Fencing Championships**

- Bhavani Devi won the bronze medal in the women's sabre event at the Asian Fencing Championships held in Wuxi, China. Bhavani lost her semi-final match against Uzbekistan's Zainab Daybekova with a score of 14-15. In the quarterfinals, Bhavani defeated defending world champion Misaki Emura of Japan by a score of 15-10.
- Bhavani registered his first win against a Japanese swordsman. Bhavani's next challenge will be the World Championships to be held in Milan from July 22 to 30. It is organized by the Asian Fencing Confederation for the Asia-Oceania zone.

## **14. India won the 2023 Women's Emerging Asia Cup title**

- India won the inaugural edition of the Women's Asia Cup after beating Bangladesh by 31 runs at the Mission Round Ground in Hong Kong. India, captained by Shweta Sehrawat, became the champions of the inaugural edition of the Women's Emerging Asia Cup.
- They defeated Lata Mondal's Bangladesh by 31 runs in the finals June 21 at the Mission Round Ground in Mong Kok, Hong Kong.

## **OBITUARIES**

### **1. Padma Shri Awardee Writer Vellayani Arjunan Passed away**



- Eminent scholar, linguist, academician and writer Vellayani Arjunan passed away at the age of 90 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. Vellayani Arjunan began his illustrious career as a research assistant in the Kerala Lexicon Department and later became a Malayalam faculty at Sree Narayana (SN) College in Kollam, Kerala.
- He rose to the position of the head of the Department of Modern Indian Languages at Aligarh Muslim University years later. He also served as the director of the state Institute of Encyclopaedic Publications, the state Institute of Languages and the School of Communication and Information Science at Mahatma Gandhi University in Kottayam, Kerala. In 2008, Arjunan was awarded the Padma Shri for his overall achievements in numerous sectors.



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## **2. Silvio Berlusconi, former Italian prime minister, has died at the age of 86**

- Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, one of the country's most charismatic and controversial contemporary leaders, has died in Milan at the age of 86, his lawyer confirmed to CBS News. Berlusconi's doctors said when he was hospitalized in April that he was battling a rare form of leukemia, and the Reuters news agency said he recently caught a lung infection.
- The country's defense chief Guido Crosetto lauded Berlusconi in a tweet, saying his death had left "a huge void because he was great. An era is over, an era is closing." The former cruise ship singer reinvented himself as a real-estate tycoon and a television media mogul before entering Italian politics and becoming prime minister, for the first of his three terms, in 1994.

## **3. Oscar-winning UK actress & ex MP Glenda Jackson passed away**

- Two-time Oscar-winning United Kingdom (UK) actress and former UK politician Glenda Jackson passed away at the age of 87 in London. Jackson was born on 9 May 1936, Birkenhead, England. Jackson gave up acting to join the House of Commons as a Labour member of parliament (MP) in north London from 1992 to 2015.
- She spent 23 years as a Labour Party lawmaker, serving as a minister for transport in prime minister Tony Blair's first government in 1997. Her notable performances include Mary, Queen of Scots (1971), Hedda (1975), The Incredible Sarah (1976) and Hopscotch (1980). She won two Academy Awards, for Women in Love in 1971 and A Touch of Class in 1974.

**IMPORTANT DAYS**

## 1. International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is observed on 29<sup>th</sup> May

- The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is observed annually on 29 May. It is a day dedicated to honouring the contribution and sacrifice of United Nations (UN) peacekeepers. The day recognizes the efforts of peacekeepers in maintaining peace and security around the world.
- It also serves as a tribute to those who have lost their lives while serving as peacekeepers. The theme for the 75th anniversary of the International Day of UN Peacekeepers 2023 **"Peace begins with me"**. The theme acknowledges the service and sacrifice of peacekeepers, both past and present.

## 2. World Vape Day to be observed on May 30

- The World Vape Day is to be observed on May 30 all over the world. It aims to increase awareness on e-cigarettes and help smokers that are unable to quit smoking.
- Vaping reduces smoking related sickness. The number of vapers in the world has increased from 7 million in 2011 to 41 million in 2018. The emissions from e-cigarettes are not different from ordinary air. It is important to increase the awareness about vaping as there are more than 80,000 young people becoming addicted to tobacco according to World Health Organization.

## 3. World No Tobacco Day 2023 is observed every year on 31<sup>st</sup> May

- World No Tobacco Day is observed every year on May 31. This day is also known as World Anti Tobacco Day. The theme of World No Tobacco Day 2023 is **"We Need Food, Not Tobacco"**. World No tobacco day is to spread awareness to the people about the harmful effects of tobacco which causes cancer, lung disease, etc.
- World No Tobacco Day is one of the public health campaigns organized by the World Health Organization. In 1987, World Health Assembly passed a resolution called "world no-smoking day". The main objective of this day was to urge tobacco users to withdraw tobacco products. In 1988, World Health Assembly celebrated May 31 as World No Tobacco Day. In 1998, World Health Organization established Tobacco-Free Initiative (TFI) to focus on global health issues of tobacco.

## 4. World Milk Day is observed every on 01<sup>st</sup> June 2023

- Every year, World Milk Day is observed internationally on June 1 to recognize the importance of milk as a global food. The day was established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in 2001.
- World Milk Day is also intended to provide an opportunity to bring attention to activities that are connected with the dairy sector and support in any and every way we can. In this article, important details about World Milk Day 2023 such as its history, significance, celebration, etc are provided.

## 5. World Day Against Child Labour is observed every year on 12<sup>th</sup> June

- World Day Against Child Labour is celebrated every year on 12th June. The day aims to inspire a global movement against child labour. The theme for

World Day Against Child Labour 2023 is "**Social Justice for All. End Child Labour**"

- The International Labour Organization launched this program in 2002 to address the issue of child labour at the international level. The day aims to inspire individuals, organizations and governments to combat child labour and work towards its permanent elimination.

## 6. World Blood Donor Day is observed every year on 14<sup>th</sup> June

- World Blood Donor Day is celebrated every year on 14<sup>th</sup> June. The day aims to express gratitude to the selfless voluntary blood donors and celebrate the essence of life and humanity. The program emphasises the importance of ensuring universal access to safe blood transfusions.
- The theme for World Blood Donor Day 2023 is "**Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often.**" The theme highlights the importance of regular blood and plasma donations to create a safe and sustainable supply of blood and blood products around the world.

## 7. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is observed every year on 15<sup>th</sup> June

- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is observed annually on 15 June. The day aims to raise awareness about the abuse, discrimination and neglect experienced by older persons. It serves as a platform to emphasise the importance of upholding the rights of older adults and promoting their dignity.
- The theme for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2023 is "**Closing the Circle: Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Older Age Policy, Law and Evidence-Based Responses.**" The theme focuses on highlighting the issue of gender-based violence among older persons.

## 6. International Yoga Day is observed every year on 21<sup>st</sup> June

- International Yoga Day is celebrated every year on June 21st to promote the numerous benefits of practicing yoga. The chosen date coincides with the summer solstice, the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. This day serves as a platform to raise awareness about the holistic approach to well-being that yoga offers. The Vice President of India, Jagdeep Dhankhar has been invited as the chief guest for the International Day of Yoga (IDY 2023) celebrations in Jabalpur on June 21, 2023.
- It highlights the importance of finding balance in our fast-paced, modern lives and encourages physical, mental, and spiritual harmony. Yoga fosters mindfulness, stress reduction, and overall health and vitality. In its 9th edition, this year's International Day of Yoga will be led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the UN Headquarters on June 21st. The theme selected for this year's International Day of Yoga 2023 is "**Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam,**" which represents our shared desire for "One Earth, One Family, One Future."

## 7. International Olympic Day 2023 is celebrated every year on June 23

- Olympic Day Run or International Olympic Day is celebrated on June 23 all around the world. The theme for the Olympic Day 2023 is called "**#LetsMove**" The day embraces all through pure Olympic values. Venezuela,

Belgium, Canada, Switzerland, Portugal, Greece, Austria, the United Kingdom, and Uruguay commemorated the first Olympic Day on June 23, 1948.

- The origins of Olympic Day can be traced back to 1948. In 1947, IOC members in Czechoslovakia presented Doctor Gruss with a report on commemorating Olympic Day. The study was delivered at the International Olympic Committee's 41st Session in Stockholm, which was supposed to be a day dedicated to promoting the Olympic concept.



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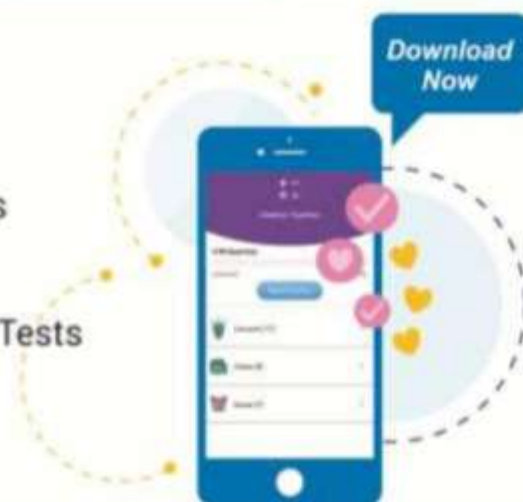
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