

# THE DAILY GK DOSE

## LOKHANDE PRASHANT SITARAM APPOINTED AS NEW CHAIRMAN OF CBSE

- **Administrative Reshuffle:** The appointment was announced on June 2, 2026, by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC). Sitaram, a 2001-batch IAS officer of the AGMUT cadre, was previously serving as an Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Context of Appointment:** This change in leadership occurred amid a significant controversy surrounding the board's new On-Screen Marking (OSM) system. Following reports of technical glitches, alleged irregularities, and concerns over the transparency of the evaluation process, the government removed the former Chairperson, Rahul Singh, and Secretary, Himanshu Gupta.

**Footnotes:** CBSE's Previous Chairman: Rahul Singh, HQ: Delhi, Estd: 1962

## UNION MINISTER JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA LAUNCHES MISSION "SENEHJORI"

- **Objective and Scope:** The mission is a comprehensive, three-year (2026–2028) cluster-based initiative designed to transform Assam's Muga silk, the world's only naturally golden silk, into a globally competitive, high-value luxury textile ecosystem. It seeks to increase the income of nearly 2.6 lakh stakeholders.
- **Budget and Implementation:** The project has an estimated budget of ₹411 crore and is anchored by the Ministry of DoNER in convergence with the Government of Assam, the Ministry of Textiles, the Central Silk Board, and other organizations. It will focus on major production hubs, including

Jorhat, Sivasagar, Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Majuli, and Sualkuchi.

- **Key Interventions:** The mission aims to strengthen the entire value chain through infrastructure development, such as establishing five modernized reeling units and a dedicated Muga spun mill.

## VICE ADMIRAL SANJAY VATSAYAN TAKES CHARGE AS CNS OF WEST



- **Assumption of Charge:** Vice Admiral Vatsayan officially took over the command at a ceremonial parade held in Mumbai on May 30, 2026. He succeeded the outgoing commander, Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan.
- **Previous Role:** Prior to this prestigious appointment, he served as the 47th Vice Chief of the Naval Staff at the Naval Headquarters in New Delhi, where he was responsible for the capability development and future operational readiness of the Indian Navy.
- **Distinguished Career:** An alumnus of the National Defence Academy and commissioned into the Indian Navy on January 1, 1988, Vice Admiral Vatsayan is a specialist in Gunnery and Missile Systems. Over his three-decade career, he has commanded several frontline warships, including the guided-missile frigate INS Sahyadri, and has held critical strategic and policy-oriented staff assignments.

## IMPORTANT FACTS

- *Vatican City is the smallest country in the world*
- *NASA stands for National Aeronautics and Space Administration*
- *Sir Isaac Newton discovered the principle of gravity*
- *Mars is known as the Red Planet*
- *The national currency of Japan is the Yen*
- *The Nile River is considered the longest river in the world*
- *Rabindranath Tagore wrote the National Anthem of India*
- *The chemical symbol for gold is Au*
- *Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world*
- *Neil Armstrong was the first person to step on the Moon.*

## INDIA CONDUCTS SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT-TEST OF INDIGENOUS RUDRAM-II

- **Successful Trial:** The missile was test-fired from a Sukhoi Su-30 MKI fighter jet under extreme release conditions. During the trial, the missile followed its intended trajectory and struck the predefined target with pinpoint accuracy, validating the performance of all its critical subsystems.
- **Strategic Capability:** Developed primarily by the Research Centre Imarat (RCI) in Hyderabad, the RudraM-II is an indigenous solid-propellant air-launched missile. It is designed to enhance India's Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses (SEAD) capabilities, featuring a range of approximately 300 km and the ability to reach speeds up to Mach 5.5.

## VIPUL APPOINTED AS THE INDIA'S AMBASSADOR TO KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

- **Diplomatic Background:** A seasoned career diplomat, Vipul is currently serving as India's Ambassador to Qatar. His extensive experience in the Gulf region includes serving as the Joint Secretary (Gulf) in the Ministry of External Affairs (2020–2023) and as the Consul General of India in Dubai (2017–2020).
- **Historical Significance:** This appointment marks a notable shift in diplomatic tradition, as Vipul is the first non-Muslim envoy appointed by India to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia since 1948. This decision reflects a departure from the long-standing practice of prioritizing Muslim diplomats for the role due to their coordination responsibilities for the annual Haj pilgrimage.

## VARUN BHARDWAJ APPOINTED AS THE SECRETARY OF CBSE REPLACING HIMANSHU GUPTA

- **Professional Background:** Varun Bhardwaj is a 2008-batch Indian Information Service (IIS) officer. Prior to this appointment, he was serving as a Director in the Department of Higher Education under the Ministry of Education. He has been appointed on a deputation basis under the Central Staffing Scheme and is expected to serve in the role until September 19, 2027.
- **Context of Replacement:** He replaces Himanshu Gupta, who

has been prematurely repatriated to his parent cadre (Ministry of Home Affairs) on "administrative grounds." The government has imposed an "extended cooling-off" condition on Gupta, rendering him ineligible for another central deputation until December 12, 2030.

- **Strategic Reshuffle:** This change, occurring alongside the appointment of the new CBSE Chairperson Lokhande Prashant Sitaram, follows mounting pressure and public concern regarding technical glitches and transparency issues in the board's new On-Screen Marking (OSM) system.

## UNION MINISTER SARBANANDA SONOWAL PRESENTS 'SAGAR AANKALAN' AWARD TO DPA



- **Category of Excellence:** The DPA was honored as the "Best Performing Port" in the Handling of Container Cargo – Less than 0.5 Million TEUs category for the Financial Year 2024–25. The award was received on behalf of the port by its Deputy Chairman, Nilabhra Dasgupta, during a ceremony held in Mumbai.
- **Context of the Award:** The award was presented alongside the launch of the Logistics Port Performance Index (LPPI) for FY 2024–25. This index is a strategic initiative by the Ministry to enhance the operational efficiency, transparency, and global competitiveness of Indian ports by

benchmarking them against international standards.

- **Significance:** The recognition highlights DPA's sustained commitment to operational excellence, improved turnaround times, and infrastructure optimization. It reinforces the port's role as a vital maritime gateway on India's western coast, contributing significantly to the government's port-led development agenda and the broader growth of India's EXIM (Export-Import) trade.

## OSCAR-WINNING 'STAR WARS' EDITOR MARCIA LUCAS PASSED A WAY AT 80

- **Cause and Passing:** Marcia Lucas passed away in Rancho Mirage, California, due to complications from metastatic cancer. Her death was confirmed by her family's attorney, Deidre Von Rock, who noted that she was surrounded by loved ones at the time of her passing.
- **Cinematic Legacy:** Often described as the "unsung hero" of Star Wars, she played a critical role in shaping the rhythm and emotional stakes of the original 1977 film. Her editing work, which famously helped rescue the film's narrative flow during production, earned her an Academy Award for Best Film Editing.
- **Distinguished Career:** Beyond Star Wars, she was a prominent figure in the "New Hollywood" era of the 1970s. She contributed her editing expertise to several iconic films, including George Lucas's American Graffiti and THX 1138, as well as Martin Scorsese's classics Taxi Driver, Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore, and New York, New York.

## WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

03.06.2026 / WEDNESDAY

- **World Bicycle Day: 3<sup>rd</sup> June**
- **The theme for World Bicycle Day 2026 is "Cycling for a Greener Future."**
- **This year's focus highlights the "Cycling for a Greener Future," encouraging urban planning that integrates safe cycling infrastructure to support climate goals.**