

# THE DAILY GK DOSE

## CHAIRMAN KEKI MISTRY'S TERM AT HDFC BANK EXTENDED BY THREE MONTHS

- **Extension Details:** The extension is effective until September 18, 2026. This tenure will conclude on that date or upon the appointment of a regular part-time chairman, whichever occurs earlier.
- **Purpose of the Move:** This is a stopgap arrangement to ensure leadership stability while the bank continues its structured search for a permanent, full-time chairman.
- **Context of the Appointment:** Keki Mistry has been serving in this interim role since March 18, 2026, following the sudden resignation of the former non-executive chairman, Atanu Chakraborty, who stepped down citing concerns over the bank's internal practices and alignment with his personal values.

**Footnotes:** HDFC Bank's MD & CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan, HQ: 1995, Estd: Mumbai

## INDIA RISES TO 5<sup>TH</sup> SPOT IN QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2027

- **Rise to 5th Most Represented System:** India has achieved the rank of the world's fifth most represented higher education system. This milestone follows a remarkable 271% growth in representation since 2017, moving from 14 institutions to 52.
- **Broad-Based Academic Excellence:** The progress is no longer limited to elite engineering schools; 13 non-IIT institutions achieved their highest-ever rankings this year. This signifies a more systemic improvement across public and private universities throughout 19 states and union territories.

## INDIAN BANK HONOURED WITH GOLDEN PEACOCK AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN AI



- **Excellence in Artificial Intelligence:** Indian Bank received the prestigious Golden Peacock Award for Excellence in Artificial Intelligence – 2026. The honor recognizes the bank's leadership in leveraging AI-driven innovations to significantly enhance customer service and operational efficiency.
- **Industry-Leading Performance:** The bank was identified as the top performer within the Financial Sector (Banking) category for this award. This distinction reflects its commitment to building a future-ready banking framework that prioritizes digital intelligence and trust.
- **Rigorous Jury Evaluation:** The award was conferred by the Institute of Directors (IoD) following a comprehensive assessment process. A distinguished jury, chaired by former Chief Justice of India Uday U. Lalit, evaluated organizations on their strategic AI alignment and ethical implementation.

**Footnotes:** Indian Bank's MD & CEO: Binod Kumar, HQ: Chennai, Estd: 1907

## IMPORTANT FACTS

- **Karakoram Pass** – Ladakh
- **Zoji La Pass** – Ladakh–Jammu & Kashmir
- **Pir Panjal Pass** – Jammu & Kashmir
- **Baramula Pass** – Jammu & Kashmir
- **Burzil Pass** – Ladakh
- **Banihal Pass** – Jammu & Kashmir
- **Shipki La Pass** – Himachal Pradesh
- **Rohtang Pass** – Himachal Pradesh
- **Mana Pass** – Uttarakhand

## AKSHARA GUPTA SCORES TRIPLE CENTURY IN BIHAR CRICKET TOURNAMENT

- **Record-Breaking Triple Century:** Akshara scored an unbeaten 306 off just 126 balls at the Sandis Compound Ground in Bhagalpur. This extraordinary knock included 55 fours and 8 sixes, showcasing her immense power-hitting ability.
- **Dominant Match Performance:** Her explosive innings powered her team to a massive total of 450 runs in 40 overs. The opposition was subsequently bowled out for 121, resulting in a commanding 329-run victory for her side.
- **Emerging Talent from Bihar:** Her success follows the national attention garnered by Bihar's male prodigy Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, further cementing the state's growing reputation for producing top-tier cricket talent.

## DEEPTI SHARMA BECOMES JOINT-HIGHEST WICKET-TAKER FOR INDIA

- **Equalizing the National Record:** During the Women's T20 World Cup 2026 match against the Netherlands, Deepti Sharma claimed her 355th international wicket. This feat allowed her to level with iconic former pacer Jhulan Goswami as India's joint-highest wicket-taker in women's international cricket.
- **Dominance in the T20I Format:** Beyond her overall international record, Deepti is also the leading wicket-taker in Women's T20 Internationals globally. Her ability to consistently stifle opposition batters has made her the first bowler in the format to surpass 160 wickets.
- **A Landmark All-Rounder:** Deepti's achievement highlights her extraordinary longevity and impact as a world-class all-rounder. She remains a pivotal figure for India, frequently contributing with both the ball and the bat in high-pressure tournaments like the ongoing T20 World Cup.

## MEENU CHOUDHARY APPOINTED AS INSPECTOR GENERAL IN SSB

- **New Role as Inspector General:** Meenu Choudhary, a 2000-batch IPS officer of the AGMUT cadre, has been appointed as the Inspector General (IG) in the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). This high-level appointment was approved by the Competent Authority on June 18, 2026.

- **Deployment on Deputation:** She will serve in this role on a central deputation basis, transitioning from her previous responsibilities to join the SSB leadership team. The Ministry of Home Affairs has requested that she be relieved immediately to assume her new duties.
- **Strategic Administrative Move:** Her posting is part of a broader set of recent bureaucratic appointments announced by the Centre to fill existing vacancies across various central armed police forces. This move is expected to bolster the operational and administrative capabilities of the SSB, one of India's vital border-guarding organizations.

## FORMER SAIL CHAIRMAN JOINS AS CEO, HINDUSTAN ZINC LTD.



- **Appointment of CEO-Designate:** The Board of Directors of Hindustan Zinc officially approved the appointment of Amarendu Prakash as CEO-Designate, effective June 19, 2026. He steps into this role to spearhead the company's ambitious operational and strategic expansion goals.
- **Deep Industry Expertise:** Prakash brings over 30 years of experience in the metals and steel industry, including his recent tenure leading SAIL's transformation agenda. His background in operational excellence, digitalization, and

capacity expansion is expected to be pivotal for Hindustan Zinc's mining and smelting operations.

- **Leadership Succession:** He succeeds Arun Misra, who recently transitioned to a broader leadership role as the Group CEO of Vedanta Limited. The move is viewed by market analysts as a strategic effort to further institutionalize operational efficiency and strengthen the company's market competitiveness.
- ## PADMA SHRI AWARDEE & RENOWNED BUDDHIST SCHOLAR ROBERT A.F. THURMAN PASSED AWAY

- **Pioneering Scholar & Translator:** As a professor at Columbia University, Thurman held the first endowed chair in Buddhist studies in the West. He was instrumental in making complex Tibetan philosophy accessible to global audiences through his prolific writing and translations.
- **Lifelong Friend of India & Dalai Lama:** Thurman made history as the first Westerner to be ordained as a Tibetan Buddhist monk by the Dalai Lama. He served as a bridge between cultures, earning India's prestigious Padma Shri award in 2020 for his significant contributions to literature and education.
- **Advocacy & Cultural Preservation:** As the co-founder and President of Tibet House US, he spent decades advocating for human rights and the preservation of Tibetan heritage. His passing has been mourned by world leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who remembered him as a "lifelong friend of India."

## WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

19.06.2026 / FRIDAY

- **World Sickle Cell Awareness Day: 19th June**
- **2026 Theme: "Bridging the Gap: Comprehensive Care for Sickle Cell"**
- **This day serves to educate the public about the challenges faced by individuals suffering from sickle cell disease, a genetic blood disorder.**