

Weekly Current Affairs

28-03 June, 2023

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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.

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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 'Namu 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 'T' 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 Muktijodha, 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 2nd 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.

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 Kuortane 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 Sathiyan 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.

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 Sathiyan 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.

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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.

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.

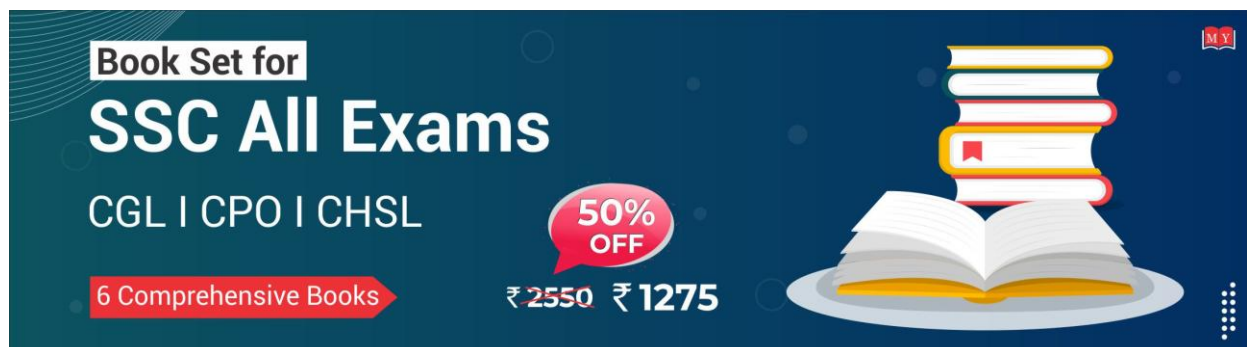
6.UPI hits record 9 billion transactions worth Rs 14 lakh crore

- 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.

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.

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.

BOOKS & 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 Vedha 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.

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.


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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.

OBITUARY

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.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is observed on 29th 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 31st 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 01st 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.

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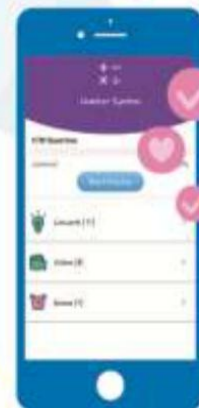


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