



# Current Affairs

28th December, 2023



## Today's Important News

Parliament passes  
'Telecommunications Bill, 2023'

### 1. Parliament passes 'Telecommunications Bill, 2023'

- The Universal Service Obligation Fund has been established under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 to provide for telecom services in underserved areas. The Indian Parliament approved the Telecom Bill 2023 on December 21, 2023.
- The bill aims to ensure widespread access to telecommunication services through satellite spectrum assignment in a liberalised and technologically neutral manner. The bill adopts a non-auction route and proposes to assign the satellite spectrum through administrative method aligning with global best practices, and emphasising global harmonisation and standardisation for satellite spectrum assignments.



### 2. PM Modi becomes World's no.1 leader in terms of Subscribers on YT

- The number of subscribers on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's personal YouTube channel crossed 20 million, with the Indian leader becoming the only world leader to have this distinction and leading his contemporaries by a long distance.
- The prime minister set up his YouTube channel in 2007 when he was



Gujarat chief minister and is considered a pioneer in Indian politics in understanding the potential of social media in public communication and is credited for harnessing it to huge success.

### 3. Vita Dani makes History as a first Indian on ITTF governing board

- Commenting on her remarkable achievement, Vita Dani expressed her excitement, stating, “It is a great feeling to be inducted into an organization that aligns perfectly with my vision for the growth of table tennis and its impact on the community.”
- Vita Dani, through her organization, Dani Foundation, has been instrumental in shaping the upward trajectory of table tennis in India. Her commitment to the sport extends beyond the international stage, with a focus on nurturing talent and creating opportunities for aspiring players within the country.



### 4. IndusInd Bank introduces ‘eSvarna’, India’s first Corporate Credit Card on RuPay network

- IndusInd Bank announced the launch of ‘IndusInd Bank eSvarna’, India’s first corporate credit card on the RuPay network. This launch positions IndusInd Bank as the first in the country to integrate UPI functionality with a corporate credit card. The card facilitates smooth transactions at merchant outlets and allows users the flexibility to make UPI payments by linking the card with UPI-enabled apps.
- IndusInd Bank eSvarna credit cardholders can look forward to a luxurious travel experience, including complimentary lounge access and fuel surcharge waiver.



#### Foot Note:

**About IndusInd Bank :**

**Headquarters :** Mumbai

**Founded :** April 1994

**MD & CEO :** Sumant Kathpalia

### 5. ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund revises symbols for 28 ETF schemes

- ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has announced changes in its exchange-traded fund(ETF) product symbols on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and National Stock Exchange (NSE). The codes will now be a combination of the name of the fund and the suffix ‘IETF’ (stands for ICICI Prudential ETF).



- The move to standardise the naming convention of schemes comes in line with the Securities Exchange Board of India's (SEBI's) master circular, which outlines the categorisation of schemes.

**Foot Note:**

**About ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund :**

**Headquarters :** Mumbai

**Founded :** 1993

**MD & CEO :** Mr. Nimesh Shah

**6. Cabinet approves the Migration and Mobility Agreement between India and Italy**

- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has given its ex-post facto approval to the proposal of Ministry of External Affairs to sign and ratify the Migration and Mobility Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Italian Republic.
- The Agreement would enhance people-to-people contacts, foster mobility of students, skilled workers, business people and young professionals and strengthen cooperation on issues related to irregular migration between the two sides.



**7. Sony Sports ropes in Kartik Aaryan as brand ambassador for football**

- Sony Sports Network (SSN) has kicked off a new era of football enthusiasm in India by appointing Bollywood heartthrob and Gen Z icon Kartik Aaryan as their official brand ambassador for the beautiful game. This strategic partnership aims to bring football closer to a wider Indian audience and ignite passion for the sport across generations.
- Aaryan, known for his electrifying performances on screen, is an admitted football fanatic. His love for the sport, rooted in his youth and fueled by unwavering support for Real Madrid, resonates deeply with millions of Indian football enthusiasts.



**8. Satish Kumar Kalra Appointed as Interim Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of North East Small Finance Bank**

- The North East Small Finance Bank (NESFB) has announced the appointment of Satish Kumar Kalra as its Interim Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. With approval of both the NESFB board



and the Reserve Bank of India, Kalra has been appointed to the top post of NESFB.

- Kalra's professional journey is marked by his tenure at Andhra Bank as the Managing Director & CEO, and Executive Director, where he drove significant growth achieving a 13 percent compound annual growth rate in credit and added over 1200 branches worldwide.

## 9. SEBI approves appointment of ex-IAS Pramod Agrawal as BSE Chairman

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has given its nod to the appointment of Pramod Agrawal, the former Chief of Coal India, as the Chairman of the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). This regulatory approval paves the way for Agrawal to assume his role on the Governing Board of BSE, effective from January 17, 2024.
- The move comes as the term of the current Chairman, SS Mundra, concludes on January 16, 2024. On December 13, 2023, the Board of BSE formally approved the appointment of Pramod Agrawal as the Chairman of the Governing Board. SS Mundra, the outgoing Chairman and former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), assumed the position in May 2022.



### Foot Note:

#### About BSE :

**Founded :** 9 July 1875

**Headquarters :** Mumbai

#### About SEBI :

**Established:** 12 April 1988

**Headquarters:** Mumbai

**Chairman:** Madhabi Puri Buch

## 10. HDFC Life and NKGSB Co-Operative Bank Form Strategic Corporate Partnership

- HDFC Life, one of India's leading insurers, and NKGSB Co-operative Bank Ltd, having a legacy of 106 years, have entered into a Corporate Agency tie-up enabling NKGSB Co-operative Bank customers to avail life insurance products of HDFC Life.
- NKGSB Co-operative Bank with a Banking legacy of 106 years is delighted to enter into a strategic and momentous alliance with HDFC Life Insurance Company to provide life insurance solutions that cater to various needs



of individuals – protection, pension, savings, investment and annuity. a bouquet of traditional, term, pensions and annuity products of HDFC Life.

**Foot Note:**

**About HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited :**

**Established :** 2000

**Headquarters ;** Mumbai

**MD & CEO :** Vibha Padalkar



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