

## January to June current affairs 2024

### National news

#### 1. **Bharat Mobility Global Expo**

##### **Inaugurated:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Bharat Mobility Global Expo at the Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, highlighting India's advancements in the global automotive industry.

#### 2. **Jharkhand Chief Minister Change:**

- Champai Soren has taken over as the new Chief Minister of Jharkhand, succeeding Hemant Soren.

#### 3. **C-Cares Portal Launched:**

- Union Minister Pralhad Joshi launched the C-Cares portal to streamline and digitize PF pension issues for coal sector workers.

#### 4. **Maritime Digital Modules Launched:**

- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched the Maritime Single Window (MSW) and Mercantile Maritime Department (MMD) modules to enhance digital transformation in ports, shipping, and waterways.

#### 5. **Tamil Nadu's New Wildlife Sanctuary:**

- Tamil Nadu established its 18th wildlife sanctuary, Thanthi Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, spanning 80,567 hectares in Erode district.

#### 6. **UPI Payments at Eiffel Tower:**

- India launched Unified Payments Interface (UPI) at the Eiffel Tower in Paris, marking France as the first European country to adopt UPI for retail transactions.

#### 7. **Foundation Stone for CRIYN Laid:**

- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Assam Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the Central Research Institute of Yoga & Naturopathy (CRIYN) in Dibrugarh, Assam, with a ₹100 crore investment.

#### 8. **Uttarakhand's Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill:**

- Uttarakhand's Cabinet approved the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, which includes provisions to ban polygamy and child marriage.

#### 9. **Adani Group's Copper Plant:**

- Adani Group, led by Gautam Adani, is constructing the world's largest single-location copper manufacturing plant in Mundra, Gujarat, with a \$1.2 billion investment and a full-scale

production capacity of 1 million tonnes by 2029.

#### 10. Green Hydrogen Pilot Projects

##### Launched:

- The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) launched pilot projects for green hydrogen usage in the shipping and steel sectors, with a budget of ₹115 crore under the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM).

#### 11. NRLPS and BRAC International MoU:

- The National Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (NRLPS) signed an MoU with BRAC International to enhance the inclusion of the poorest under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

#### 12. Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024:

- The President has approved the bill aimed at preventing malpractices in public exams. It defines offenses related to exam fraud and prescribes penalties including imprisonment from 3 to 10 years and fines from ₹10 lakh to ₹1 crore.

#### 13. World's First Green Hydrogen Plant at Cochin Airport:

- Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) signed an MoU to set up the world's first green hydrogen plant and fueling station at the airport in Ernakulam, Kerala.

#### 14. Arunachal Pradesh Achieves 100% Har Ghar Jal Coverage:

- Arunachal Pradesh has become the first northeastern state to achieve 100% coverage under the Har Ghar Jal Scheme, providing functional household tap connections to every rural home.

#### 15. Income Tax Exemptions for Dairy Cooperatives:

- Union Minister Parshottam Rupala announced income tax exemptions for dairy cooperative societies under the Income Tax Act, 1961, to provide financial relief to these entities.

#### 16. Kerala Awarded for TB Elimination Efforts:

- Kerala received an award from the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for its outstanding tuberculosis elimination activities and effective coordination with the private health sector.

#### 17. Revised National Film Awards:

- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting revised the National Film Awards, effective from the 70th edition (2022). Changes include renaming awards, merging categories, and increasing prize money, with standardized amounts for Swarna Kamal and Rajat Kamal awards.

#### **18. Gupteswar Forest Designated as Biodiversity Heritage Site:**

- Odisha's Gupteswar Forest in Koraput district has been designated as its fourth Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS), covering 350 hectares with sacred groves and diverse flora and fauna.

#### **19. Assam Designates State Fruit:**

- Assam has officially designated Kaji Nemu (Citrus limon) as its state fruit. Known for its elongated shape, Kaji Nemu is considered the "queen of all citrus fruits."

#### **20. Digital India Future Skills Summit:**

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) will host the 'Digital India' Future Skills Summit in Guwahati. The summit will focus on future skills development and advancing the Digital India campaign.

#### **21. REC Limited and DVC Agreements:**

- REC Limited, an NBFC under the Ministry of Power, signed agreements worth ₹588 crores with Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC). These agreements, including a term loan, escrow agreement, and hypothecation deeds, aim to enhance cooperation on infrastructure and energy projects in the Damodar Valley region.

#### **22. Launch of SWATI Portal:**

- The "Science For Women-A Technology & Innovation (SWATI)" portal was launched by the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) in Delhi. Initiated by Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, the portal addresses gender disparity in STEM fields.

#### **23. Inauguration of APAAR ID National Conference:**

- Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the national conference on APAAR ID in New Delhi. The APAAR ID aims to be a universal student ID card that consolidates academic records into a single digital ID. The program is

part of India's digital public infrastructures (DPIS) initiative.

#### 24. Launch of Digiready Certification

##### Portal:

- The Quality Council of India (QCI) and Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) launched the Digiready Certification (DRC) portal. This initiative assesses and certifies the digital readiness of MSMEs, aiding their inclusion on digital commerce platforms.

#### 25. Inauguration of Saras Aajeevika Mela:

- Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo inaugurated the 2nd edition of Saras Aajeevika Mela in Jammu & Kashmir. The mela aims to empower rural women by providing a market for their products, enhancing marketing skills, and fostering cultural exchange.

#### 26. Increase in MBPY Pension Amount:

- Odisha government increased the Madhu Babu Pension Yojana (MBPY) pension amount by ₹500. This move aims to provide additional financial support to vulnerable sections of society, improving their financial security and aiding in poverty alleviation.

#### 27. Inauguration of Swastha Project by IIT

##### Guwahati:

- IIT Guwahati inaugurated the "Swastha" project, which focuses on using advanced technologies to improve healthcare in the region.

#### 28. Assam Healing (Prevention of Evil)

##### Practices Bill, 2024:

- The Assam cabinet proposed the Assam Healing (Prevention of Evil) Practices Bill, 2024, to combat fraudulent magical healing practices. The bill aims to penalize those exploiting individuals through deceptive methods.

#### 29. Inauguration of Dakshin Bharat

##### Sanskritik Kendra:

- The 'Dakshin Bharat Sanskritik Kendra' was inaugurated in Hyderabad to promote and preserve South Indian cultural heritage. The center will offer cultural events, festivals, exhibitions, and educational opportunities.

#### 30. Free Bus Travel for Transgender

##### Community in Delhi:

- Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced free bus travel for the transgender community, addressing their often neglected status and advocating for their

equal rights. The scheme is expected to be implemented soon, pending cabinet approval.

### 31. **Bharat Rang Mahotsav in Gujarat:**

- The Bharat Rang Mahotsav, India's leading theatre festival, began in Kachchh, Gujarat. The festival featured a performance of "Uttararamacharitam" by Bhavabhuti, directed by Dr. Chavan Pramod R., showcasing the talents of NSD students.

### 32. **Bapu Tower in Patna:**

- The Bapu Tower in Gardanibagh, Patna, Bihar, stands as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. At 120 feet tall with six stories, it reflects Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's vision and commitment to honoring Gandhi's legacy.

### 33. **PM Modi at World Government**

#### **Summit:**

- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to address the World Government Summit (WGS) in Dubai on February 14. This will be his second appearance at the summit, which gathers global leaders and experts to address international challenges.

### 34. **Emerge-2024 at Tannirbhavi Beach:**

- Tannirbhavi Beach in Mangalore will host "Emerge-2024" from February 16 to 18, part of the Tapasya Beach Festival (TBF). The event aims to celebrate entrepreneurship and innovation, led by Vishwas Us.

### 35. **Discovery of Mesolithic Era Rock**

#### **Paintings in Telangana:**

- Mesolithic era rock paintings were discovered in Peddapalli, Telangana, at Sitamma Loddi, Gattusingaram. Photojournalist D. Ravinder Reddy and rock art expert Dr. Muralidhar Reddy uncovered these paintings on a sandstone rock shelter.

### 36. **PM Modi Unveils Talabira Thermal**

#### **Power Project:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first phase of the NLC India Talabira Thermal Power Project in Odisha. The event was attended by Odisha Governor Raghubar Das, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, and Union Ministers Dharmendra Pradhan and Ashwini Vaishnaw.

### 37. **Karnataka Digital Detox Initiative:**

- The Karnataka government and the All India Game Developer's Forum (AIGDF) launched a digital detox

initiative targeting gaming and social media. The announcement was made during the GAFX2024 event by Minister Priyank Kharge.

### 38. Resignation of Punjab Governor

#### **Banwarilal Purohit:**

- Banwarilal Purohit resigned as Punjab Governor and Chandigarh Administrator, citing personal reasons. He submitted his resignation letter to President Droupadi Murmu.

### 39. Inauguration of Skill India Centre in Sambalpur:

- Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the first Skill India Centre in Sambalpur, Odisha. This center aims to enhance skill development in the region.

### 40. Release of Souvenir Coins by Union

#### **Minister Nirmala Sitharaman:**

- Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman released three souvenir coins during the 19th Foundation Day of the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd. The coins include designs commemorating the greater one-horned rhinoceros, Buddha's enlightenment, and the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir in Ayodhya.

### 41. Increase in Authorized Capital of Food Corporation of India (FCI):

The government has raised FCI's authorized capital from ₹10,000 crores to ₹21,000 crores. This move aims to bolster operational capacities and ensure food security, strengthening FCI's role and supporting farmers.

### 42. Surge in India's Mineral Output

**(December 2023):** India's mineral output increased by 5.1% in December 2023 compared to the previous year. Key figures include coal (929 lakh tonnes), lignite (40 lakh tonnes), iron ore (255 lakh tonnes), and limestone (372 lakh tonnes).

### 43. Highway Construction Progress for

**FY24:** Despite challenges like extended monsoons and stricter review processes, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways targets 12,000-13,000 kilometers of highway construction for FY24.

### 44. Gati Shakti Research Chair

**Collaboration:** The Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways has partnered with IIM Shillong to establish India's first 'Gati Shakti Research Chair,' focusing on multimodal logistics, particularly in the north-east region.

**45. Bharat Tex 2024:** Bharat Tex 2024, a global textile expo, will be held in New Delhi from February 26-29, 2024. The

event will highlight India's textile industry and sustainability efforts, organized by textile export promotion councils and supported by the Ministry of Textiles.

- 46. Turtle Conservation Reserve in Uttar Pradesh:** Uttar Pradesh's Gonda district will establish a turtle conservation reserve along the Sarju River, in collaboration with the Turtle Survival Alliance Foundation India. The reserve aims to protect the region's diverse turtle species.
- 47. Launch of India's Largest Remote Pilot Training Organisation (RPTO):** IIT Guwahati and Edurade have launched India's largest RPTO, incubated at the IIT Guwahati Research Park. The RPTO aims to advance drone technology and bridge the gap between industry and academia.
- 48. Inauguration of Sudarshan Setu in Gujarat:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Sudarshan Setu, India's longest cable-stayed bridge, spanning 2.32 km. This bridge connects Okha mainland with Beyt Dwarka Island and cost ₹979 crores, enhancing transportation in Gujarat.
- 49. "Purple Fest" at Rashtrapati Bhawan:** The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities will host "Purple Fest" at Amrit Udyaan, Rashtrapati Bhawan, on February 26, 2024. The event will celebrate inclusivity and focus on the

rights and well-being of persons with disabilities.

- 50. Inauguration of Ayush Institutes:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated two Ayush institutes virtually: the Central Research Institute of Yoga & Naturopathy (CRIYN) in Jhajjar, Haryana, and the National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN) in Pune, Maharashtra.
- 51. Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Bill, 2024:**
- **Introduced:** Minister Ashwani Choubey presented the bill in Rajya Sabha.
  - **Objective:** To amend the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, enhancing water pollution prevention and control measures.
  - **Impact:** Aims to strengthen environmental regulations and promote sustainable water resources.
- 52. Indus-X Summit 2024:**
- **Dates:** February 20-21, 2024, in New Delhi.
  - **Purpose:** To enhance India-US defense collaboration.
  - **Organizers:** Innovations for Defence Excellence (IDEX), U.S.-

India Business Council, and Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM).

- **Focus:** Strategic technology partnerships and defense industrial cooperation.

### 53. 9th Edition of Raisina Dialogue:

- **Inauguration:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi opened the event on February 27, 2024.
- **Chief Guest:** Greece Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis.
- **Theme:** "Chaturanga: Conflict, Contest, Cooperate, Create" explores global uncertainties and collaborative opportunities.

### 54. CEIB Launches Portal for Antecedent Verification:

- **New Portal:** Introduced by the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB).
- **Purpose:** To verify the background of prospective borrowers and non-performing assets (NPAs), aiding in the prevention of NPAs.

### 55. 'Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye' Initiative:

- **Launch:** Government's initiative to promote election awareness among higher education students.
- **Dates:** Runs until March 6, 2024.
- **Goal:** To encourage youth participation in elections.
- **Call to Action:** Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan urges students to exercise their voting rights.

### 56. General Manoj Pande at Maharashtra MSME Defence Expo 2024:

- **Visit:** Chief of Army Staff General Manoj Pande attended the expo in Pune on February 26, 2024.
- **Purpose:** To showcase innovations and capabilities in MSMEs, DRDO laboratories, and DPSUs in Maharashtra.

### 57. PM Modi's Projects in Chhattisgarh:

- **Investment:** Over ₹34,400 crore in various sectors including power, coal, roads, and railroads.
- **Highlight:** Dedication of the Lara Super Thermal Power Project Stage 1 (2x800 MW) in Raigarh district.

### 58. PM Modi's Railway Infrastructure Projects:

- **Initiatives:** Laid foundation for 2,000+ railway infrastructure projects worth around ₹41,000 crore.
- **Details:** Included redevelopment of 553 railway stations under the Amrit Bharat Scheme and 1,500 road over bridges across 24 states.

#### 59. Ayush and Women & Child Development Ministries' MoU:

- **Signed:** On February 26, 2024, for nutritional improvement in adolescent girls through Ayurveda.
- **Objective:** To combat anemia among girls (14-18 years) in five districts under Mission Utkarsh.

#### 60. Election Commission's Voter Outreach Partnership:

- **Collaboration:** With the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) and the Department of Posts (DOP).
- **Goal:** To enhance voter education and awareness using the networks of banks and postal services ahead of the Lok Sabha elections.

#### 61. Expert Committee for Uniform KYC Norms:

- **Formation:** An expert committee has been established to address and standardize Know Your Customer

(KYC) norms across various sectors.

- **Head:** Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan.
- **Objective:** To streamline and finalize KYC regulations, enhancing consistency and efficiency.

#### 62. Foundation Stone for Digital National Museum of Epigraphy:

- **Inauguration:** Union Culture Minister G. Kishan Reddy laid the foundation stone at Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad.
- **Purpose:** The museum, initiated by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), will house one lakh ancient inscriptions in multiple languages and historical periods.

#### 63. Integrated Sea Survival Training Centre Inaugurated in Goa:

- **Inauguration:** Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the new training center developed by ONGC.
- **Function:** The center will train thousands of personnel annually, focusing on sea survival skills and disaster preparedness.

#### 64. Telangana Cabinet Decisions:

- **Changes:** The cabinet, led by CM Anumula Revanth Reddy, decided to change vehicle registration

prefixes from "TS" to "TG," adopt a new state emblem, and redesign the Telangana Talli statue.

- **Official Song:** "Jaya Jaya He Telangana, Janani Jaya Ketanam" has been approved as Telangana's official song.

#### 65. **India-Thailand MOU on Ayurveda and Thai Traditional Medicine:**

- **Signatories:** National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur, India, and the Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine, Thailand.
- **Goal:** To establish academic collaboration in Ayurveda and Thai traditional medicine.
- **Occasion:** Signed during the 10th India-Thailand Joint Commission meeting at Hyderabad House, New Delhi.

#### 66. **Launch of Swayam Plus Platform:**

- **Launch Date:** February 28, 2024.
- **Initiator:** Union Minister of Education and Skill Development Dharmendra Pradhan.
- **Objective:** To boost employability and professional development through industry-collaborated courses.
- **Expansion:** Builds on the existing Swayam MOOC platform.

#### 67. **Inauguration of Swaminarayan Institute of Medical Science and Research:**

- **Inauguration:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel attended the event in Kalol, Gandhinagar.
- **Purpose:** To enhance medical education and healthcare services in the region.

#### 68. **Commencement of Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram Thermal Power Plant:**

- **Location:** Yamunanagar, Haryana.
- **Capacity:** 800 megawatts.
- **Goal:** To strengthen power infrastructure in Haryana, ensuring a reliable power supply.

#### 69. **New Delhi World Book Fair 2024:**

- **Dates:** February 10-18, 2024, at Pragati Maidan.
- **Theme:** "Multi-Lingual India, A Living Tradition."
- **Guest of Honour:** Saudi Arabia, announced by National Book Trust Director Yuvraj Malik.

#### 70. **Fiji's Deputy Prime Minister Visits Ram Temple in Ayodhya:**

- **Visitor:** Deputy Prime Minister Biman Prasad.
- **Significance:** First foreign leader to visit the temple, expressing hope for enhanced Fiji-India relations

and highlighting cultural and religious ties.

71. Prime Minister Modi Is Likely To Unveil The 125-Foot Statue Of Bir Lachit Borphukan In Jorhat. The Statue Will Be Unveiled At Lahdoigarh, Hollongapar

72. **Kiren Rijiju Assumes Additional Charge of Ministry of Food Processing Industries:**

- **Appointment:** Kiren Rijiju has been appointed to oversee the Ministry of Food Processing Industries in addition to his current role in the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- **Resignation:** Pashupati Kumar Paras, Union Minister and Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party Chief, has resigned, and his resignation has been accepted by President Droupadi Murmu.

73. **ASI Excavation in Nachne Village, Madhya Pradesh:**

- **Focus:** The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is excavating in Nachne village, Panna district, to uncover relics of one of India's oldest temples, located near the Gupta-Era Parvati Temple and the Chaumukhi Temple of the Kalachuri Dynasty.

74. **GRID-INDIA Achieves Miniratna Category-I Status:**

- **Recognition:** GRID-INDIA has been elevated to Miniratna Category-I CPSE status by the Ministry of Power.
- **Role:** Established in 2009, GRID-INDIA is crucial for the seamless operation of the Indian Power System, ensuring efficient and reliable electric power transfer.

75. **Operation Indrāvati Launched:**

- **Purpose:** India has launched Operation Indrāvati to evacuate its nationals from Haiti to the Dominican Republic.
- **Update:** External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar reported that 12 Indians were evacuated on Thursday.

76. **BhashaNet Portal Launched:**

- **Launch:** Electronics and IT Secretary S. Krishnan launched the BhashaNet portal in New Delhi.
- **Objective:** The portal aims to foster digital inclusivity and Universal Acceptance (UA) for domain names and email addresses, making the .in domain universally accepted.

77. **National Green Hydrogen Mission:**

- **Goal:** To establish green hydrogen hubs with a production capacity of 100,000 MTPA by FY 2025-26.
- **Funding:** The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) will provide INR 200 crore for setting up at least two such hubs, focusing on large-scale production and infrastructure development.

#### 78. **Completion of Nimmu-Padam-Darcha Road:**

- **Achievement:** The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has completed the 298-km road connecting Manali to Leh via Darcha and Nimmu.
- **Significance:** This road is the third axis providing crucial connectivity to Ladakh, supplementing the Manali-Leh and Srinagar-Leh routes.

#### 79. **High Commission of India Unveils Buddhist Exhibition in Colombo:**

- **Exhibition:** The High Commission of India in Colombo unveiled a Buddhist exhibition at Sri Sambodhi Maha Vihara Temple.
- **Content:** The exhibition features photographs of significant Buddhist sites and moments from the life of Buddha, coinciding with Medin Poya in Sri Lanka.

#### 80. **Rajasthan Launches Water Resources Dashboard:**

- **Purpose:** Rajasthan has launched a dashboard to forecast drought and enhance water management.
- **Impact:** This initiative aims to improve water resource management and sustainability in the state.

#### 81. **Extension of AFSPA in Nagaland:**

- **Extension:** The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) has been extended in eight districts and 21 police stations in Nagaland starting April 1, 2024.
- **Reason:** The extension follows a review of the law and order situation in the state, with certain areas declared as 'disturbed' for six months.

#### 82. **Supreme Court Forms Committee on Great Indian Bustard Conservation and Renewable Energy:**

- **Committee Formation:** A seven-member committee has been constituted by the Supreme Court to balance the conservation of the Great Indian Bustard with renewable energy generation.
- **Case Background:** The committee was formed during the ongoing hearing of the case M.K. Ranjitsinh v. Union of India, which started in 2019. The court is

ensuring effective implementation of its 2021 judgment.

### 83. Amul to Introduce Fresh Milk in the US:

- **Launch:** Amul will launch four variants of fresh milk in the US, marking its debut in this market.
- **Objective:** The move targets the Indian diaspora and Asian communities in the US. This is Amul's first introduction of fresh milk outside India.

### 84. Bharat Biotech Initiates Clinical Trials for MTBVAC Vaccine:

- **Vaccine Details:** Bharat Biotech has started clinical trials of the MTBVAC tuberculosis vaccine, which is derived from a human source. Developed by Biofabri, MTBVAC aims to be more effective and long-lasting than the current BCG vaccine.

### 85. MEITY Notifies Fact Check Unit (FCU) Under PIB:

- **New Role:** The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) has established the Fact Check Unit under the Press Information Bureau (PIB) as a statutory body to address misinformation

about the central government on social media.

### 86. Election Commission Launches Saksham App:

- **Purpose:** The Saksham App has been launched to improve voting accessibility for Persons with Disabilities (PWD) and elderly voters. It allows voters aged 85 and above and PWD with 40% disability to vote from home, with additional support available at polling stations.

### 87. Dr. S. Jaishankar's Visit to Singapore:

- **Activities:** External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar is on a three-day visit to Singapore, where he paid homage to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and INA soldiers, acknowledging the INA Marker as a symbol of patriotism.

### 88. World's First Om-Shaped Temple Inaugurated:

- **Location:** The first temple designed in the Om shape has been inaugurated in Jadan, Pali district, Rajasthan. It spans 250 acres and is expected to attract tourists due to its unique design.

**89. Tata Passenger Electric Mobility****Partners with HPCL for EV Charging Stations:**

- **Partnership:** Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) have partnered to set up 5,000 public EV charging stations across India by the end of 2024, aiming to support the transition to electric mobility.

**90. Discovery of Rare Kannada Inscription:**

- **Find:** A rare Kannada inscription from the Kalyana Chalukya dynasty, approximately 900 years old, was discovered in Gangapuram, Telangana. The inscription, found abandoned, highlights the need for better historical preservation.

**91. Garba Inscribed on UNESCO****Intangible Cultural Heritage List:**

- **Recognition:** Garba, a traditional Indian dance form, has been inscribed on the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage list. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed joy over its global recognition, celebrated with a Garba Night in Paris.

**92. Ashwini Vaishnaw Honors AIRF with Commemorative Stamp:**

- **Event:** Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw released postage stamps to celebrate the 100-year legacy of the All India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF).
- **Background:** Established on April 24, 1924, AIRF is one of India's oldest and largest trade unions for railway workers. Vaishnaw praised AIRF's resilience and achievements over the years.

**93. Union Cabinet Approves International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA):**

- **Approval:** The Union Cabinet, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the establishment of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) with its headquarters in India.
- **Funding:** A one-time budgetary support of Rs. 150 crore has been allocated for five years (2023-24 to 2027-28).
- **Purpose:** IBCA will focus on conserving various big cat species including Tigers, Lions, Leopards, Snow Leopards, Pumas, Jaguars, and Cheetahs.

**94. PM Modi Inaugurates India's First Hydrogen Fuel Cell Ferry:**

- **Inauguration:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated India's first hydrogen fuel cell ferry, built by Cochin Shipyard in Thoothukudi.

- **Significance:** The ferry represents a step towards zero-emission and energy-efficient marine transportation, aligning with India's goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.

#### 95. Fifth Cycle of Leopard Population

##### Estimation Unveiled:

- **Announcement:** Shri Bhupender Yadav, in collaboration with NTCA and the Wildlife Institute of India, unveiled the fifth cycle of leopard population estimation.
- **Findings:** India's leopard population is estimated at 13,874, showing stability. However, 70% of leopard habitats remain unsampled. Madhya Pradesh has the largest population, followed by Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.

#### 96. Fourth Edition of 'Lineman Diwas'

##### Celebrated:

- **Event:** The Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Ministry of Power, hosted the fourth edition of 'Lineman Diwas' in New Delhi.
- **Theme:** The event, under the theme 'Seva, Suraksha, Swabhiman', honored the service of linemen and ground maintenance staff in electricity distribution.

#### 97. Hyderabad Unveils 21-Foot Statue of Maharana Pratap:

- **Unveiling:** The largest statue of Maharana Pratap, standing 21 feet tall and weighing two tonnes, was unveiled at Begum Bazar Maharana Pratap Chowk in Hyderabad.
- **Significance:** The statue symbolizes the legacy of the revered Rajput warrior.

#### 98. New Marine Species Named After President Draupadi Murmu:

- **Discovery:** A new marine species, *Melanochlamys draupadi*, discovered off the coasts of West Bengal and Odisha, has been named after President Draupadi Murmu.
- **Features:** The species is distinguished by a ruby red spot on its head-shield and is classified under the genus *Melanochlamys*.

#### 99. Minister Anurag Singh Thakur Launches Four Media Portals:

- **Portals:** Minister Anurag Singh Thakur launched four new portals, including the Press Sewa Portal.
- **Purpose:** The Press Sewa Portal, developed under the PRP Act, 2023, aims to automate newspaper registration and related processes, facilitating seamless registration.

### 100. **PM Modi Lays Foundation Stone for Rangpo Railway Station:**

- **Event:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Rangpo, Sikkim's first railway station.
- **Project:** This initiative is part of broader railway infrastructure projects worth approximately Rs 41,000 crore, aimed at boosting connectivity, trade, and tourism in Sikkim.

### Set 2

#### 1. **PM Modi Inaugurates Vedic Clock in Ujjain:**

- **Event:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a Vedic Clock in Ujjain during the 'Vikramotsav' celebrations.
- **Significance:** The Vedic Clock symbolizes India's cultural heritage and scientific progress, integrating traditional knowledge with modern technology.
- **Additional Launch:** Modi also launched the Cyber Tehsil project, aimed at providing e-governance services to rural areas and promoting digital inclusion.
- **Focus Areas:** Emphasis was placed on women's development, Aatmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant

India), and the Make in India initiative.

#### 2. **Assam Government Repeals Assam Muslim Marriage and Divorce Registration Act, 1935:**

- **Decision:** The Assam cabinet decided to repeal the 1935 Act, which was used by 94 Muslim registrars for marriage and divorce registrations.
- **Future Plans:** The government plans to introduce a new law to regulate Muslim marriages and divorces.

#### 3. **BioAsia 2023 Kicks Off in Hyderabad:**

- **Event:** The 21st edition of BioAsia, Asia's premier biotechnology convention, commenced in Hyderabad.
- **Participants:** The convention attracts global scientists, researchers, politicians, and industry leaders.
- **Focus:** BioAsia provides a platform to discuss advancements and future opportunities in biotechnology and life sciences.

#### 4. **Lighthouse Photo Exhibition Promotes Tourism:**

- **Inauguration:** Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the exhibition showcasing 100

photographs of lighthouses across India's coastline.

- **Purpose:** The exhibition, held from March 3-7, 2024, aims to promote lighthouse tourism and highlight their historical significance.

#### 5. **Anant Ambani Launches "Vantara"**

##### **Program for Animal Welfare:**

- **Initiative:** Anant Ambani launched "Vantara" (star of the forests), an umbrella program for rescuing, treating, and rehabilitating injured, abused, and threatened animals.
- **Features:** The program aims to construct the world's largest animal rescue and rehabilitation center, spanning about 3,000 acres within Reliance's Jamnagar refinery complex in Gujarat.

#### 6. **Uttar Pradesh Issues 5 Crore Ayushman**

##### **Cards:**

- **Achievement:** Uttar Pradesh has issued 50,017,920 Ayushman cards under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
- **Coverage:** The scheme covers 74,382,304 individuals and includes 3,716 hospitals. A total of 3,481,252 health claims have been filed, with a settlement rate of 92.48%.

#### 7. **Sarbananda Sonowal Virtually Inaugurates Ocean Grace Tug and Medical Mobile Unit:**

- **Event:** Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the 60-ton bollard pull tug named 'Ocean Grace' and the Medical Mobile Unit (MMU) virtually.
- **Significance:** Ocean Grace is the first make-in-India ADTDS tug developed by Cochin Shipyard Limited.

#### 8. **Government Allows Export of Onions:**

- **Export:** The Indian government granted permission to export 64,400 tonnes of onions to the UAE and Bangladesh.
- **Breakdown:** 50,000 tonnes are designated for Bangladesh and 14,400 tonnes for the UAE, facilitated through the National Cooperative Exports Limited.

#### 9. **Geological Survey of India Celebrates 174th Foundation Day:**

- **Event:** The Geological Survey of India (GSI) celebrated its 174th Foundation Day on March 4, 2024, with events across its offices in Kolkata and Hyderabad.
- **Focus:** The celebration highlighted GSI's commitment to advancing geological knowledge and

preserving India's geological heritage.

## 10. National Youth Parliament Festival

### Finals:

- **Event:** The finals of the National Youth Parliament Festival will be held at the Central Hall of Parliament in New Delhi on March 6, 2024.
- **Theme:** This year's festival is centered around 'Young Voices: Engage and Empower for Nation's Transformation,' showcasing youth participation in parliamentary discussions and democratic processes.

## 11. Minister Piyush Goyal Launches 'e-Kisan Upaj Nidhi':

- **Event:** Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Minister Piyush Goyal launched the 'e-Kisan Upaj Nidhi' (Digital Gateway) in New Delhi.
- **Objective:** The initiative aims to streamline warehousing logistics for farmers using technology, ensuring fair prices for their produce.
- **Impact:** The platform simplifies the storage process at registered WDRA warehouses, promoting transparency and efficiency in the agricultural sector.

## 12. Union Steel Minister Inaugurates Green Hydrogen Plant:

- **Event:** Union Steel Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia virtually inaugurated India's first Green Hydrogen Plant at Jindal Stainless Limited, Hisar.
- **Features:** The plant is the world's first off-grid Green Hydrogen plant for the stainless steel industry and is equipped with rooftop and floating solar panels.
- **Benefit:** It is expected to reduce carbon emissions by approximately 2,700 metric tonnes per annum.

## 13. Union Petroleum Minister Announces \$67 Billion Investment:

- **Announcement:** Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Puri revealed a plan to invest \$67 billion in the natural gas sector over the next six years during the PNGRB's 12th CGD Bidding Round ceremony in New Delhi.

## 14. PM Modi Inaugurates India's First Underwater Metro Rail Service:

- **Event:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated several connectivity projects in Kolkata, including the first underwater metro rail service in India.
- **Details:** The Howrah Maidan-Esplanade section is the first transportation tunnel

beneath the River Hooghly, connecting Kolkata and Howrah.

#### 15. PM Modi Flags Off “Swarna Sindhu” Crude Oil Tanker:

- **Event:** PM Narendra Modi flagged off the first tanker, “Swarna Sindhu,” carrying crude oil from the ONGC KG-DWN-98/2 Deepwater project in the Krishna Godavari basin.
- **Impact:** The project is expected to add 7% to India’s oil and gas production at its peak.

#### 16. Arunachal Pradesh Welcomes Keyi Panyor as 26th District:

- **Event:** Chief Minister Pema Khandu inaugurated Keyi Panyor as the 26th district of Arunachal Pradesh on March 1, 2024.
- **Focus:** The district is strategically positioned for agriculture and horticultural development.

#### 17. Kerala to Launch Cspace: India’s First Government-Backed OTT Platform:

- **Launch:** Kerala is set to unveil CSpace, the first government-supported OTT platform in India.

- **Content:** CSpace will offer a mix of informative and entertaining content curated for the general audience.

#### 18. Inauguration of India’s First National Dolphin Research Center:

- **Event:** Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated India’s first National Dolphin Research Center (NDRC) on the banks of the Ganges River within the Patna University campus.
- **Objective:** The NDRC, costing Rs 30 crore, aims to facilitate research and education on freshwater dolphins, particularly the endangered Gangetic dolphin.

#### 19. National Creators Award Unveiled on International Women’s Day:

- **Event:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented the inaugural National Creators Award at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.
- **Purpose:** The award recognizes outstanding contributions in various domains such as storytelling, social change advocacy, environmental sustainability, education, and gaming.
- **Categories:** Awards were given across twenty categories, including Best Storyteller, Disruptor of the Year, and Green Champion Award.

## 20. Sahityotsav: World's Largest Literary Festival:

- **Event:** Sahityotsav, organized by Sahitya Akademi, will take place from March 11-16, 2024, to celebrate the academy's 70th anniversary.
- **Features:** The festival will feature over a hundred renowned writers and scholars, with more than 190 sessions in over 175 languages.
- **Highlight:** The Sahitya Akademi Awards 2023 presentation ceremony will be held on March 12th, with Pratibha Rai as the Chief Guest.

## 21. MoU Signed for Urban Frame Survey:

- **Event:** The Field Operations Division (FOD) of the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) and the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) under ISRO signed an MoU to facilitate the Urban Frame Survey (UFS) in a digital mode.
- **Technology:** State-of-the-art GEO ICT tools and techniques using the Bhuvan platform will be used for the survey.

## 22. Cabinet Approves Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojana (PM-KSSY):

- **Scheme Details:** Operational from FY 2023-24 to FY 2026-27 with an

estimated outlay of Rs. 6,000 crore, equally split between public and private sectors.

- **Beneficiaries:** Fishers, fish farmers, vendors, micro-enterprises, cooperatives, self-help groups, and others in the fisheries value chain.
- **Objective:** To boost formalization and support within the fisheries sector.

## 23. Prime Minister Modi Inaugurates ONGC Sea Survival Centre and India Energy Week 2024:

- **Inauguration:** PM Modi inaugurated the ONGC Sea Survival Centre in Betul village, South Goa, to enhance safety for offshore activities.
- **Launch Event:** Unveiled India Energy Week 2024, highlighting developments in the energy sector.
- **Foundation Stone:** PM Modi laid the foundation stone for projects worth over Rs 1,330 crores under the Viksit Goa 2047 program for infrastructure development.

## 24. Patna GPO to Celebrate 250th Anniversary of World's First Postage Stamp:

- **Celebration:** Patna GPO will celebrate the 250th anniversary of

the 'Copper Ticket,' the world's first postage stamp launched in Patna in March 1774.

- **Events:** Yearlong celebrations starting March 31, 2024.

## 25. Mahakumbh: India's Premier Startup

### Confluence:

- **Event:** India's largest startup event, Mahakumbh, will be held from March 18-20, 2024, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.
- **Participants:** Over 2,000 startups, 1,000+ investors, 100+ unicorns, 300+ incubators & accelerators, and 50,000+ business visitors.
- **Organizers:** ASSOCHAM, NASSCOM, Bootstrap Incubation & Advisory Foundation, TiE, and IVCA, with support from DPIIT, MSH, and Invest India.

## 26. FLNAT: Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test:

- **Assessment:** Government will conduct the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT) across 23 States as part of Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram.
- **Participants:** Approximately 37 lakh learners expected.
- **Subjects:** Reading, Writing, and Numeracy.

- **Language:** Conducted in learners' regional languages, promoting multilingualism.

## 27. Implementation of Citizenship

### Amendment Act (CAA):

- **Announcement:** The BJP-led government officially announces the implementation of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) on March 11, 2024.
- **Objective:** To offer a citizenship pathway to persecuted minority communities from neighboring countries.
- **Controversy:** Criticism and protests surrounding the exclusion of Muslims.

## 28. Amit Shah Launches Piped Natural Gas Facilities and Development Projects in Delhi:

- **Inauguration:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated Piped Natural Gas (PNG) facilities in 41 villages.
- **Initiative:** Part of the 'Dilli Gramodaya Abhiyan' with a fund of Rs 960 crore for infrastructure and development in rural Delhi.

## 29. Vadodara Municipal Corporation

### Raises ₹1 Billion Through Asia's First Certified Green Municipal Bond:

- **Bond Details:** Vadodara Municipal Corporation raised ₹1 billion (\$12.07 million) through Asia's first certified green municipal bond with a 7.90% semi-annual coupon rate.
- **Purpose:** Funds will be used for constructing and improving wastewater management infrastructure.

### 30. Railway Protection Force (RPF)

#### Highlights Women Personnel:

- **Details:** RPF, established in 1957, has the largest share of women personnel (9%) among central paramilitary forces in India.
- **Role:** Women personnel are specially trained to ensure safety and assist female passengers in distress.

### 31. Launch of 'NITI for States Platform' and 'Viksit Bharat Strategy Room' by Minister Ashwini Vaishnav:

- **Platforms:** Minister Ashwini Vaishnav inaugurated the 'Policy for States Platform' and 'Viksit Bharat Strategy Room' at NITI Aayog.
- **Features:** Includes a repository of 7,500 best practices, 5,000 policy documents, over 900 datasets,

1,400 data profiles, and 350 policy publications.

### 32. Prime Minister Modi Inaugurates Marathwada Rail Coach Factory:

- **Location:** Latur, Maharashtra.
- **Details:** The factory will manufacture Vande Bharat train sets and is established under Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL).
- **Event:** Inaugurated through a video conference from Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

### 33. PM Modi Launches 'Mahtari Vandana Yojana' Scheme in Chhattisgarh:

- **Objective:** Provides ₹1,000 per month through direct benefit transfer to eligible married women in Chhattisgarh.
- **Beneficiaries:** 70 lakh identified, with ₹655 crore transferred as the first payment installment.

### 34. Launch of PB-SHABD and Revamped PrasarBharati Websites:

- **Inauguration:** Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated PB-SHABD, a news sharing service, at the National Media Centre, New Delhi.
- **New Features:** Includes revamped DD News and Akashvani News websites and an updated News on Air mobile app.

### 35. Jammu & Kashmir Government Approves Reservation Changes:

- **Reservation:** 10% reservation for newly-included tribes like Paharis in the Schedule Tribe category, increasing overall ST reservation to 20%.
- **OBC Quota:** Increased to 8% with the inclusion of 15 new cases.

### 36. PM Modi Inaugurates PM-SURAJ National Portal:

- **Objective:** Provides credit support and empowers one lakh entrepreneurs from disadvantaged communities.
- **Event:** Launched by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

### 37. NITI Aayog Launches 'Vocal for Local' Initiative:

- **Aim:** Strengthen local economies and promote grassroots entrepreneurship.
- **Branding:** Introduction of 'Aakanksha' to consolidate indigenous products from 500 Aspirational Blocks.

### 38. Electoral Bonds Scheme: Insights into Political Funding:

- **Details:** Scheme allows anonymous donations to political parties.

- **Data:** BJP received electoral bonds worth ₹6,060.5 crore between April 12, 2019, and January 24, 2024.

### 39. Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh Inaugurates 'DBT SPEEDY SEEDS':

- **Location:** National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI), Mohali, Punjab.
- **Facility:** National Speed Breeding Crop Facility.

### 40. Government Designates September 17 as "Hyderabad Liberation Day":

- **Notification:** Issued on March 13, 2024.
- **Significance:** Marks the integration of Hyderabad into the Indian Union in 1948.

### 41. Maharashtra Cabinet Approves Renaming Ahmednagar to 'Ahilyanagar':

- **Reason:** In honor of 18th-century Maratha queen Ahilyabai Holkar.
- **Announcement:** Made by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Ahilyabai Holkar's 298th birth anniversary.

### 42. Rajasthan Government's Free Seed Distribution Program:

- **Objective:** Enhance millet production by distributing free seeds of millets and coarse grains.
- **Seeds Included:** Maize, pearl millet (bajra), mustard, moong, sorghum (jowar), and others.
- **Announcement:** Made by Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma.

#### 43. PM Modi Inaugurates India's First Integrated Oil Palm Processing Unit:

- **Location:** Roing, Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Operator:** 3F Oil Palm.
- **Objective:** Contribute to India's self-reliance in edible oils under Mission Palm Oil.

#### 44. India Forms High-Level Committee for Ayushman Bharat Implementation:

- **Chair:** Dr. V.K. Paul.
- **Focus:** Review implementation, expand beneficiary base, ensure financial viability, and evaluate implementation methods of the Ayushman Bharat scheme.

#### 45. India's E-Vehicle Manufacturing Promotion Scheme:

- **Objective:** Position India as a prominent manufacturing hub for e-vehicles and attract global investments.

- **Investment Requirement:** Minimum of ₹4,150 crore (approx. USD 500 million).
- **Timeline:** Manufacturing facilities must be established within 3 years and achieve 50% domestic value addition (DVA) within 5 years.

#### 46. PM Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)

##### Enrollment Surge:

- **Increase:** Enrollment increased by 27% in FY 2023-24.
- **Applications:** Over 57 crore farmer applications in the past eight years.
- **Claims:** More than 23 crore farmer applicants have received claims. For every ₹100 premium paid, farmers received about ₹500 in claims.

#### 47. DoT Unveils 'Chakshu' Digital

##### Intelligence Portal:

- **Objective:** Combat cybercrimes and financial frauds.
- **Features:** Advanced monitoring and analysis of digital activities to enhance cybersecurity.

#### 48. Union Education Minister Launches

##### Project ODISERV:

- **Location:** Gangadhar Meher University, Sambalpur, Odisha.

- **Objective:** Equip young graduates for employment in the financial services sector.
- **Initiative:** A skill development project by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Bajaj Finserv Ltd.

#### 49. Union Minister Arjun Munda Launches Agriculture Integrated Command and Control Centre:

- **Location:** Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
- **Objective:** Empower farmers by providing essential information, services, and facilities.

#### 50. Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal Inaugurates Digital Exhibition 'Subhash Abhinandan':

- **Event:** National Archives Foundation Day.
- **Focus:** Tribute to Subhash Chandra Bose, covering key aspects of his life through a digital exhibition.

#### 51. Jharkhand to Launch Widow Remarriage Promotion Scheme:

- **Objective:** Improve living standards and dignity of widows.
- **Incentive:** ₹2 lakh financial support for widows choosing to remarry.
- **Launch:** Scheduled by Chief Minister Champai Soren.

#### 52. Uttar Pradesh Electricity Bill Waiver for Farmers

- **Announcement:** The Uttar Pradesh government, led by CM Yogi Adityanath, will waive electricity bills for farmers with private tube wells.
- **Impact:** Effective from April 1, 2023, benefiting about 1.5 crore farmers.
- **Purpose:** To reduce the financial burden on farmers and support agriculture.

#### 53. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri's Initiatives

- **CNG Stations:** Inaugurated 201 CNG stations across India, set up by 15 city gas distribution companies.
- **LNG Unit:** Launched India's first small-scale LNG unit by GAIL at Vijaipur LPG plant.
- **Objective:** Enhance the availability of clean energy options.

#### 54. Prime Minister Modi Inaugurates Sela Tunnel

- **Significance:** Enhances all-weather connectivity and military deployment to Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Details:** The tunnel, laid in February 2019, is a major infrastructure project aimed at improving access to strategic areas.

### 55. Union Minister Arjun Munda Opens National Dairy Mela

- **Event:** Inaugurated the National Dairy Mela and Agricultural Exhibition in Chaibasa, Jharkhand.
- **Goal:** Support livestock and agriculture development in tribal areas.

### 56. Majuli Receives GI Tags

- **Recognition:** Majuli, the largest river island, received GI tags for traditional mask making and manuscript painting.
- **Usage:** Masks are used in neo-Vaishnavite theatrical performances.

### 57. Andaman & Nicobar Command's All-Women Maritime Mission

- **Event:** Marked International Women's Day with a historic all-women maritime surveillance mission.
- **Purpose:** Emphasize gender equality and the role of women in defense.

### 58. Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) Implementation

- **Date:** CAA implemented on March 11, 2024.
- **Objective:** Provides a citizenship pathway for persecuted minorities from neighboring countries.

- **Controversy:** Criticized for excluding Muslims, sparking debate on its impact.

### 59. IIT Madras Hosts All India Research Scholars' Summit 2024

- **Event:** AIRSS 2024 from March 4-7 at IIT Madras.
- **Purpose:** Facilitate collaboration and knowledge sharing among research scholars.

### 60. Uttar Pradesh Launches MYUVA Initiative

- **Scheme:** "Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan" offers interest-free loans up to Rs 5 lakh to young entrepreneurs.
- **Objective:** Foster entrepreneurship and support business growth among the youth.

### 61. Ministry of Women and Child Development's Poshan Pakhwada

- **Event:** Nationwide nutrition awareness campaign from March 9-23, 2024.
- **Goal:** Promote healthy eating habits and nutritional awareness through public participation.

### 62. cVIGIL App Reports 79,000 Complaints

- **Usage:** cVIGIL app used to report election code violations during General Elections 2024.

- **Impact:** Over 79,000 complaints received, highlighting its role in monitoring electoral integrity.

### 63. Indian Coast Guard and Hindalco Collaboration

- **Partnership:** MoU signed for manufacturing and supplying marine-grade aluminium for ship construction.
- **Objective:** Enhance coastal security and build more vessels capable of shallow water operations. 67 ships in the Coast Guard fleet use aluminium hulls.

### 64. New Inter-Services Organisations Act

- **Notification:** The Defence Ministry has notified the Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Act.
- **Purpose:** Improve command, control, and discipline within Inter-Services Organisations (ISOs). Empowers commanders to manage service personnel effectively.

### 65. DRDO and IIT Bhubaneswar Strategic Alliance

- **Collaboration:** DRDO and IIT Bhubaneswar partner on research in electronics warfare, AI surveillance, power systems, and radar.

- **Funding:** ₹18 crore allocated for nine projects, with seven more awaiting approval.

### 66. Kohima Peace Memorial and Eco Park Inaugurated

- **Event:** Kohima Peace Memorial and Eco Park opened, symbolizing collaboration between Japan and Nagaland.
- **Significance:** Represents peace and reconciliation, acknowledging the impact of the Battle of Kohima during WWII.

### 67. India to Operate Shahid Beheshti Terminal

- **Agreement:** India and Iran signed a 10-year agreement for India to operate the Shahid Beheshti terminal at Chabahar Port.
- **Importance:** Long-term operational control to enhance India's access to Afghanistan and Central Asia, replacing previous short-term contracts.

### 68. UNESCO Recognition for Indian Texts

- **Honored:** Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahrdayaloka-Locana added to UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register.

- **Purpose:** Recognize the global importance of preserving these significant literary works.

#### 69. Mahindra & Mahindra 'Drone Didi' Pilot Project

- **Partnership:** Mahindra & Mahindra and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) launch 'Drone Didi' projects in Noida and Hyderabad.
- **Objective:** Train rural women to operate drones for agricultural purposes.

#### 70. AIIMS New Delhi and University of Bolton Collaboration

- **Agreement:** MoU signed for collaboration in medical research and education, including staff and student exchanges and joint degree programs.

#### 71. Centre Issues First Citizenship Certificates Under CAA

- **Event:** Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla distributed the first citizenship certificates under the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).
- **Eligibility:** Certificates issued to individuals from Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi, and Christian communities from Pakistan, Bangladesh,

and Afghanistan who entered India before December 31, 2014.

#### 72. Bharat Pavilion at Cannes Film Festival

- **Event:** The Bharat Pavilion was unveiled at the 77th Cannes Film Festival, showcasing India's storytelling tradition and global collaborations. The festival took place from May 14 to 25, 2024.

#### 73. India's Debut Pavilion at World Hydrogen Summit

- **Inauguration:** India's inaugural pavilion at the World Hydrogen Summit 2024 was inaugurated by Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, Secretary of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, in May 2024.

#### 74. ISRO Launches IRoC-U 2024 Robotics Challenge

- **Program:** ISRO introduced the "ISRO Robotics Challenge-U R Rao Satellite Centre 2024 (IRoC-U 2024)" with a prize of ₹5 lakh for designing and building wheeled/legged rovers.

#### 75. Asian Development Bank's \$2.6 Billion Sovereign Lending to India

- **Funding:** ADB allocated \$2.6 billion in sovereign loans to India in 2023 to support

various development projects, including infrastructure and urban services.

#### 76. **Satyadeep Gupta Climbs Everest and Lhotse**

- **Achievement:** Satyadeep Gupta became the first person to climb Mount Everest and Mount Lhotse twice in a single season, achieving this on May 21 and 22, 2024.

#### 77. **IIT Kanpur and DRDO's Centre of Excellence**

- **Establishment:** IIT Kanpur and DRDO inaugurated the DRDO-Industry-Academia Centre of Excellence (DIA COE) for advanced research in defence technologies. Sanjay Tandon was appointed as the center's director.

#### 78. **NSDC and ILO MoU on Skill Development**

- **Agreement:** The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) signed an MoU with the International Labour Organization (ILO) to enhance skill development and lifelong learning globally.

#### 79. **GAIL's Green Hydrogen Plant Inauguration**

- **Event:** GAIL's first green hydrogen plant, a 10 MW facility using a proton exchange membrane electrolyser, was inaugurated in Vijaipur, Madhya Pradesh.

#### 80. **Sanchar Saathi Initiative Against Fake SMS**

- **Action:** The Department of Telecommunication and Ministry of Home Affairs launched the Sanchar Saathi Initiative to combat fraudulent SMS, blocking eight cybercriminal headers.

#### 81. **National Health Claim Exchange Portal**

- **Launch:** The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) will launch the National Health Claim Exchange (NHCX) portal to streamline health insurance claims and improve sector efficiency.

#### 82. **Indian Oil's Green Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus**

- **Handing Over:** Indian Oil presented a green hydrogen fuel cell bus to the Indian Army at the National War Memorial, enhancing sustainable transportation in the military.

#### 83. **Jyoti Ratre's Everest Achievement:**

- Jyoti Ratre, a fitness enthusiast from Madhya Pradesh, has become the oldest Indian woman to conquer Mount Everest.
- Her achievement comes six years after Sangeeta Bahl, who was previously the oldest Indian woman to summit Everest.

#### 84. PRAGATI-2024 Launch:

- The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) will launch PRAGATI-2024 to explore research opportunities and collaboration with the Ayurveda drug industry.
- The initiative aims to use research outcomes and technologies developed by CCRAS for drug standardization and quality control.

#### 85. Great Indian Bustard Census:

- The 2024 census in Jaisalmer's National Desert Park shows an increase in the Great Indian Bustard population, with 64 birds counted compared to 42 in 2022.
- The absence of a 2023 census due to rainfall affected data collection.

#### 86. Cyclone Remal:

- Cyclone Remal, developed from a low depression in the Bay of Bengal, is expected to bring heavy rain and strong

winds to parts of West Bengal and Bangladesh.

- It is the first cyclone of the season, with a wind speed of 100-120 km/h.

#### 87. IGNCA and Prasar Bharati

##### Collaboration:

- IGNCA and Prasar Bharati will broadcast IGNCA's cultural programs on DD Bharati every Sunday.
- The aim is to showcase and preserve India's rich cultural heritage.

#### 88. MHA Forms Committee to Combat

##### Cybercrimes:

- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has formed a committee to tackle organized cybercrimes from Southeast Asian countries.
- The committee will include representatives from various financial and security sectors.

#### 89. Karnataka's Reservation Policy:

- Karnataka has mandated a 33% reservation for women in government contract jobs.
- This policy applies to jobs lasting more than 45 days and involving over 20 employees.

#### 90. AI Anchors on DD Kisan:

- DD Kisan will introduce AI anchors Krish and Bhoomi, which will broadcast agricultural updates, weather information, and research findings.
- These AI anchors will be able to speak in 50 languages and operate 24/7.

#### 91. **First EMRS in Karnataka:**

- Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari inaugurated the Emergency Medical Response System (EMRS) at Command Hospital Air Force in Bengaluru.
- The EMRS will provide a 24/7 telephonic medical helpline for IAF personnel and their families.

#### 92. **Gangetic Dolphin Conservation Success:**

- There are now over 4000 Gangetic dolphins in the Gangetic River basin, with more than 2000 in Uttar Pradesh's Chambal River.
- This increase reflects reduced pollution levels and successful conservation efforts.

#### 93. **Cabinet Approves Over Rs 10,300 Crore for IndiaAI Mission:**

- The Indian Cabinet has approved over Rs 10,300 crore for the IndiaAI Mission to enhance India's AI ecosystem.

- The mission focuses on expanding AI infrastructure, supporting startups, and promoting ethical AI.

#### 94. **Buddha Purnima Celebrations Across India:**

- Buddha Purnima, celebrating the birth of Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha), is observed in South, Southeast, and East Asia.
- Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya extended wishes for the occasion, emphasizing Buddha's teachings.

#### 95. **DAHD & UNDP Join Forces for Digitalisation of Animal Vaccine Cold Chain Management:**

- The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) and UNDP India signed an MoU to digitize animal vaccine cold chain management.
- The agreement was signed by Alka Upadhyay and Caitlin Wiesen.

#### 96. **Saga Dawa Festival in Sikkim:**

- Saga Dawa festival celebrates the birth, enlightenment, and death (Mahaparinirvana) of Buddha Shakyamuni.
- Observed on the 15th day of the fourth month of the Northern Buddhist Calendar.

**97. AIC Partners with CSC to Expand “Sampoorna Pashudhan Kawach” in Rural India:**

- Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) partners with CSC e-Governance Services to extend its cattle insurance product.
- The product will be distributed through CSC’s network of 6 lakh centres in rural India.

**98. 3AI Holding & SML Launch India’s GenAI Platform ‘Hanooman’:**

- The GenAI platform ‘Hanooman AI’ was launched in Abu Dhabi by 3AI Holding and Seetha Mahalaxmi Healthcare.
- It supports 98 global languages and targets sectors like healthcare, governance, financial services, and education.

**99. National Council for Cement and Building Materials Incubation Centre Inaugurated:**

- The National Council for Cement and Building Materials-Incubation Centre (NCB-IC) was inaugurated by DPIIT Joint Secretary Sanjiv.
- It will mentor startups in cement and building materials for market-ready product development.

**100. IIT Delhi Abu Dhabi to Commence Its First Academic Session:**

- IIT Delhi’s Abu Dhabi campus will start its first academic session in the 2024-25 year.
- It will offer undergraduate programs and is part of India's strategy to internationalize education.

**Set 3**

**1. Deepika Padukone Featured on Deadline’s Global Disruptors 2024 List:**

- Deepika Padukone is the only Indian star on Deadline’s Global Disruptors 2024 list.
- Recognized for her significant contributions to the entertainment industry.

**2. Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Receives Commemorative Stamp for Indian Origin Tamils in Sri Lanka:**

- Sri Sri Ravi Shankar received a stamp commemorating 200 years of Indian Origin Tamils in Sri Lanka.
- The stamp was presented by Governor Senthil Thondaman.

**3. Significant Growth in SC Student Enrollment in Higher Education:**

- Enrollment of Scheduled Caste (SC) students in higher education increased by 44% from 2014 to 2022.
- Scheduled Tribe (ST) enrollment grew by 65.2%, with notable increases in female enrollment.
- Minority and OBC female student enrollments also saw significant rises.

#### 4. **Indian Coast Guard and Jindal Steel & Power Forge MoU to Boost Indigenous Shipbuilding:**

- An MoU was signed on May 8, 2024, between the Indian Coast Guard and Jindal Steel & Power to enhance indigenous content in shipbuilding through the supply of marine-grade steel.
- The partnership aims to address security challenges and promote indigenization.
- The MoU was signed by ICG Deputy Director General IG HK Sharma and JSP Chief Marketing Officer SK Pradhan.

#### 5. **CDS General Anil Chauhan Chairs 'Parivartan Chintan-2' Tri-Service Conference:**

- Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan will chair the 'Parivartan Chintan-2' conference focusing on jointness and integration of the Armed Forces.

- The conference aims to generate reformative ideas and review progress in various domains.

#### 6. **India Grants \$1 Million Humanitarian Assistance to Flood-hit Kenya:**

- India has pledged \$1 million in aid to Kenya, addressing the impact of recent floods.
- The Indian Air Force has dispatched 22 tons of humanitarian relief items and 18 tons of medical aid.

#### 7. **IndiaSkills 2024: Nation's Premier Skill Competition:**

- IndiaSkills 2024, the largest skill competition in the country, began on May 15, 2024, in New Delhi.
- The event, organized by the National Skill Development Corporation, features competitions in 61 categories and aims to showcase youth talents.

#### 8. **Special Commemorative Coin Released on MDL Shipyard's 250th Anniversary:**

- A commemorative Rs 250 coin was released to mark the 250th anniversary of Mazagaon Dock Limited (MDL).
- MDL, established in 1774, is a major naval shipyard under the Union Ministry of Defence.

**9. Google Arts & Culture Presents  
“Millets: Seeds of Change” Exhibition:**

- A digital exhibition titled “Millets: Seeds of Change” was launched by Google Arts & Culture in collaboration with India’s Ministry of Agriculture.
- The exhibition highlights the historical importance and modern relevance of millets.

**10. India Contributes \$500,000 to UN  
Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund:**

- India has contributed \$500,000 to the UN Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund, demonstrating its commitment to global anti-terrorism efforts.
- The contribution was handed over by India’s Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj.

**11. India Surpasses Japan as 3rd Largest  
Solar Power Generator in 2023:**

- India has overtaken Japan to become the third-largest solar power generator globally.
- In 2023, solar energy produced 5.8% of India’s electricity, a significant increase from 0.5% in 2015.

**12. Indian Armed Forces to Deploy  
Predator Drones Along China Border in  
Uttar Pradesh:**

- The Indian Air Force and Army plan to deploy MQ-9B Predator drones at Gorakhpur and Sarsawa airbases in Uttar Pradesh for surveillance along the China border.

**13. Forest Fire Prevention Campaign in  
Uttarakhand:**

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami launched a campaign in Rudraprayag district on May 8, 2024, to prevent forest fires.
- The fires have caused significant damage, including loss of life, destruction of vegetation, and air pollution.

**14. India’s First Indigenous  
Microcontroller Chip: Secure IoT by  
Mindgrove Technologies:**

- Mindgrove Technologies, in collaboration with IIT Madras, launched India’s first commercial high-performance System on Chip (SoC) named Secure IoT.
- This RISC-V-based chip provides a cost-effective solution for domestic electronics manufacturers, reducing costs by 30% compared to market alternatives.

- It supports the Make-in-India initiative by integrating Indian SoCs into devices.

#### **15. 26th ASEAN-India Senior Officials' Meeting in New Delhi:**

- The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary (East) Jaideep Mazumdar and Permanent Secretary Albert Chua of Singapore.
- Singapore, as the Country Coordinator for ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations, facilitated discussions on political-security, economic, and socio-cultural pillars of ASEAN-India relations.

#### **16. India Unveils First Indigenous Bomber UAV in Bengaluru:**

- Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace Technologies introduced the FWD-200B, India's first indigenous unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV).
- The FWD-200B is a medium-altitude, long-endurance UAV with a payload capacity of 100 kg, designed for surveillance and precision strikes.
- This marks a significant step in India's efforts to produce combat UAVs domestically.

#### **17. Manipur Governor Inaugurates 'School On Wheels':**

- Governor Sushri Anusuiya Uikey launched the 'School On Wheels' initiative in Imphal to support students in relief camps.
- The initiative, implemented by Vidya Bharati Shiksha Vikash Samiti, involves a school bus equipped with educational and recreational materials.

#### **18. IFFCO's Nano Zinc and Nano Copper Liquid Fertilizers Receive FCO Approval:**

- IFFCO has received Fertilizer Control Order (FCO) approval for its nano zinc and nano copper liquid fertilizers.
- These nano-formulations aim to address zinc and copper deficiencies in crops, enhancing production and quality.

#### **19. 7th India-Indonesia Joint Defence Cooperation Committee Meeting:**

- The meeting was held in New Delhi on May 4, 2024, co-chaired by Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane and Air Marshal Donny Ermawan Taufanto of Indonesia.
- Discussions focused on expanding defense cooperation, maritime security, and multilateral collaboration.

#### **20. India Extends Duty-Free Import of Yellow Peas Until October 2024:**

- The duty-free import of yellow peas has been extended until October 2024.
- This extension aims to stabilize prices in the pulse basket, with yellow peas imports playing a crucial role.

#### **21. CAG and Nepal's Auditor General Sign MoU to Enhance Cooperation:**

- Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) Girish Chandra Murmu signed an MoU with Nepal's Auditor General Toyam Raya in Kathmandu.
- The MoU aims to strengthen auditing cooperation, enhance professional capacity, and facilitate knowledge sharing between the two Supreme Audit Institutions.

#### **22. India's 1st Vande Metro: Revolutionizing Urban Transit:**

- The first Vande Bharat Metro, a short-distance variant of the Vande Bharat Express trains, was rolled out from the Rail Coach Factory in Kapurthala, Punjab.
- Designed for short distances, the Vande Metro will operate at speeds of 130 km/h, connecting 124 cities within a range of 100-250 km.
- Trial runs for this new-age metro are expected to begin in July 2024, offering a

shuttle-like experience for both inter-city and intra-city travel.

#### **23. Indian Army and Punit Balan Group Collaborate to Inaugurate India's First Constitution Park:**

- The Indian Army, in partnership with the Punit Balan Group, has inaugurated the Constitution Park in Pune.
- Lt. Gen. Ajai Kumar Singh emphasized the importance of understanding and fulfilling the Constitution's Fundamental Duties as part of a broader vision for a developed India by 2047.

#### **24. DRDO Successfully Tests SMART Missile System for Indian Navy:**

- The DRDO tested the SMART (Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo) system successfully on May 1, 2024, from Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island, off the coast of Odisha.
- The test validated advanced mechanisms such as symmetric separation, ejection, and velocity control. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and DRDO chief Dr. Samir V Kamat praised the SMART team's efforts.

#### **25. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs Observes Swachhata Pakhwada:**

- The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs conducted Swachhata Pakhwada from April 16 to 30, 2024, focusing on cleanliness and administrative efficiency.
- Activities included administering the 'Swachhata Pledge,' conducting cleanliness drives, and reviewing old files.

## 26. Government Proposes New Explosives

### Law:

- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) seeks feedback on the proposed Explosives Bill 2024, which aims to replace the outdated Explosives Act of 1884.
- The new bill proposes increased fines, streamlined licensing processes, and empowers the Central Government to designate authorities for granting licenses.

## 27. DARPG and Bangladesh Ministry

### Renew MoU for Capacity Building:

- The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and the Ministry of Public Administration of Bangladesh renewed their MoU for capacity building programs from 2025 to 2030.
- Discussions and bilateral meetings were held to enhance cooperation in

administrative reforms and public grievances.

## 28. NHPC Partners with Norwegian Firm for Floating Solar Energy Technology:

- NHPC Limited signed an MoU with M/s Ocean Sun to explore floating solar energy technology in India.
- The collaboration aims to demonstrate Ocean Sun's hydro-elastic photovoltaic technology and contribute to sustainable development and renewable energy capacity in India.

## 29. UN Proclaims 25th May as World

### Football Day:

- The United Nations General Assembly has designated May 25th annually as World Football Day, a resolution passed by consensus in May 2024.
- Introduced by Libyan Ambassador Taher El-Sonni and co-sponsored by over 160 UN members, the resolution aims to celebrate football's global significance and promote unity through sport.

## 30. Pench Tiger Reserve Embraces AI for Enhanced Forest Fire Protection:

- The Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra has introduced an advanced AI system for early forest fire detection.

- This initiative combines cutting-edge technology with traditional wildlife management practices to improve forest fire protection and conservation efforts.

### **31. Central Railway Has Installed a Floating Solar Plant:**

- Central Railway has installed a 10 MWp floating solar plant in Igatpuri Lake, a first-of-its-kind initiative by Indian Railways.
- This installation is part of Central Railway's efforts to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2030, including the commissioning of 12.05 MWp solar plants on railway station rooftops and buildings.

### **32. Launch of Automated Portal for Interest Subvention Claims Under AIF:**

- Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan introduced a web portal to automate interest subvention claims under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF).
- Developed by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (DA&FW) and NABARD, the portal aims to ensure claim settlement within a day and enhance transparency.

### **33. Launch of Advanced Geoportals by Dr. Jitendra Singh:**

- Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology, launched two advanced Geoportals: 'Bhuvan Panchayat (Version 4.0)' and 'National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM Version 5.0).'
- Developed by ISRO, these geospatial tools will provide high-resolution satellite imagery for rural land records and disaster management, supporting decentralized planning and disaster risk reduction.

### **34. MoSPI Launches eSankhyiki Portal for Enhanced Data Access:**

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) launched the eSankhyiki portal to centralize and streamline access to national statistical data.
- The portal consolidates over 2,291 datasets, including National Accounts Statistics and Consumer Price Index, with detailed metadata and visualization tools.

### **35. India Becomes First Nation To Prepare Full List of Fauna:**

- India has launched the 'Fauna of India Checklist Portal,' the first comprehensive checklist of its entire fauna, covering 104,561 species.

- The portal was unveiled on the 109th Foundation Day of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) in Kolkata. Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav highlighted India's commitment to biodiversity conservation.

### **36. Air India to Set Up South Asia's Largest Flight Training School in Amravati:**

- Air India is establishing South Asia's largest flight training school in Amravati, Maharashtra, with an investment of over ₹200 crore.
- Scheduled to open in the first quarter of the next financial year, the school aims to meet the airline's demand for 500-700 pilots annually.

### **37. NITI Aayog Launches Sampoonata Abhiyan Three-Month Campaign:**

- NITI Aayog has launched the Sampoonata Abhiyan, a three-month campaign to achieve saturation of six key indicators in Aspirational Districts and Blocks across India.
- The campaign will focus on indicators such as antenatal care registration, supplementary nutrition, child immunization, soil health cards, and functional school electricity.

### **38. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw Inaugurates Global India AI Summit:**

- Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated the Global India AI Summit in New Delhi and emphasized democratizing AI technology.
- The India AI Mission, worth ₹10,000 crore, will invest in AI computing infrastructure through a public-private partnership.

### **39. Launch of "Noble Initiative for Rewarding Mains Aspirants of National Civil Services Examination (NIRMAN)":**

- Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy launched the NIRMAN web portal to provide financial support of ₹1 lakh to eligible UPSC Mains aspirants.
- This initiative aligns with the "Mission Karmayogi" vision led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

### **40. Pench Tiger Reserve Embraces AI for Forest Fire Protection**

- The Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra has implemented an advanced AI system for early forest fire detection, marking a significant advancement in wildlife conservation and management.

#### 41. Central Railway's Floating Solar Plant

- Central Railway has launched a 10 MWp floating solar plant in Igatpuri Lake, Western Ghats. This initiative is part of their goal to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2030, complementing their other solar and wind power projects.

#### 42. Automated Portal for AIF Interest Subvention Claims

- Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan introduced a web portal to automate and expedite interest subvention claims under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), ensuring faster and transparent claim settlements.

#### 43. Advanced Geoportals Launched

- Dr. Jitendra Singh launched two advanced Geoportals, 'Bhuvan Panchayat (Version 4.0)' and 'National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM Version 5.0)', developed by ISRO for rural land records and disaster management.

#### 44. MoSPI's eSankhyiki Portal

- The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) launched the eSankhyiki portal to enhance data accessibility and centralize national

statistical data, benefiting planners and researchers.

#### 45. India's Fauna Checklist Portal

- India became the first country to create a comprehensive checklist of its fauna, covering 104,561 species. This initiative was launched by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav.

#### 46. Air India's Flight Training School

- Air India will establish South Asia's largest flight training school in Amravati, Maharashtra, with an investment of over ₹200 crore, aiming to meet its growing pilot demand.

#### 47. NITI Aayog's Sampoonata Abhiyan Campaign

- NITI Aayog launched the Sampoonata Abhiyan to achieve saturation in key indicators across Aspirational Districts and Blocks, focusing on health, education, and infrastructure improvements.

#### 48. Global India AI Summit

- Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated the Global India AI Summit, announcing the India AI Mission with a significant investment in AI infrastructure and aiming to democratize technology.

#### 49. **NIRMAN Web Portal for UPSC Aspirants**

- Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy launched the NIRMAN web portal to provide financial support to UPSC Mains aspirants, aligning with the Mission Karmayogi vision.

#### 50. **Highest Growth in Defence Production**

- India recorded the highest-ever growth in the value of defence production for 2023-24, reaching approximately ₹1.27 lakh crore, driven by the Make in India initiative.

#### 51. **New Ship Building and Repair Policy**

- India plans to launch a Ship Building and Ship Repair Policy aiming to become a top 10 global player by 2030, with a market opportunity of over ₹20 lakh crore by 2047.

#### 52. **46th UNESCO World Heritage Committee Session**

- India will host the 46th UNESCO World Heritage Committee Session in New Delhi, bringing together global delegates to discuss and decide on heritage matters.

#### 53. **Mandatory ISI Mark for Utensils**

- The government has mandated the ISI mark for stainless steel and aluminium utensils to ensure quality and safety, with penalties for non-compliance.

#### 54. **IGNOU Launches MA in Bhagavad Gita Studies**

- IGNOU will offer a new MA programme in Bhagavad Gita Studies starting July 2024, available through open and distance learning.

#### 55. **Indigenous Chip-Based 4G Base Station**

- The Indian Army inducted the first indigenous chip-based 4G mobile base station, enhancing security and technological self-reliance.

#### 56. **Tata Power's 'Ghar Ghar Solar' Initiative**

- Tata Power Solar launched the 'Ghar Ghar Solar' initiative in Uttar Pradesh, aiming to provide rooftop solar solutions to homes with significant financial and environmental benefits.

- 57. **28th Malabar Naval Exercise** India will host the 28th Malabar naval exercise with the US, Japan, and Australia in the Bay of Bengal, focusing on anti-submarine warfare and military interoperability.

**Historical Evolution:** Started in 1992 as India-US bilateral exercise, now includes Japan and Australia.

**58. G. Kishan Reddy at Indian Pharmaceutical Congress:**

- **Economic Goals:** India aims to become a \$5 trillion economy and the third-largest economy by 2027.
- **Pharma Exports:** Pharmaceuticals are India's fifth-largest export commodity, valued at ₹1.83 lakh crore last year.
- **Global Recognition:** Indian pharmaceutical products are celebrated for their quality, including global COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

**59. President Droupadi Murmu's Visit:**

- **Historic Site:** Visited Udayagiri caves in Bhubaneswar, known for the Hathigumpha inscription.
- **Activities:** Interacted with students and inaugurated the Divine Retreat Centre while launching the 'Lifestyle for Sustainability' campaign.

**60. High Seas Treaty for Marine Conservation:**

- **Agreement:** India has approved signing the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement for marine conservation.

- **Implementation:** Led by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) to enhance marine protection and strategic presence.

**61. FSSAI Nutritional Labeling:**

- **New Regulations:** Nutritional information must now be displayed in bold letters on packaged food to improve consumer understanding.
- **Implementation:** Food Business Operators (FBOs) must update packaging by September 1, 2024.

**62. Tata Asset Management's Tourism Index Fund:**

- **Launch:** Tata Nifty India Tourism Index Fund, India's first tourism index fund, opened for subscription from July 8 to July 19, 2024.
- **Objective:** To track returns of the Tata Nifty India Tourism Total Return Index (TRI).

**63. Rajasthan's Road Safety Plan:**

- **Action Plan:** Rajasthan adopts a 10-year plan aiming to reduce road accidents by 50% by 2030.
- **World Bank Support:** Assistance in preparing and implementing the plan.

#### 64. India-Taiwan MRA for Organic

##### Products:

- **Agreement:** Mutual Recognition Agreement for Organic Products effective July 8, 2024.
- **Impact:** Expected to boost trade in organic products between India and Taiwan.

#### 65. DEPwD MoUs for Disabilities:

- **Signatories:** MoUs signed with Enable Me Access Association (EMA) and Indian Sign Language Research and Training Center (ISLRTC) to promote inclusivity for persons with disabilities.

#### 66. DD-Robocon India 2024:

- **Event:** IIT Delhi and Prasar Bharati host DD-Robocon India 2024 to select the national robotics champion.
- **Participants:** Over 750 students from 45+ colleges competing for a spot in the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union Robocon 2024 in Vietnam.

#### 67. Uttar Pradesh Mango Festival

- **Exports:** Uttar Pradesh is exporting 40 tonnes of mangoes to Japan and Malaysia. For the first time, Dussehri mangoes from Lucknow are being exported to the U.S.

- **Market Prices:** Dussehri mangoes are priced at ₹900 per kilogram in the U.S., compared to ₹60-100 per kilogram in India.
- **Production:** Uttar Pradesh contributes about 30% of India's mango production, growing 58 lakh metric tonnes on 3,15,000 hectares.

#### 68. AgriSURE Fund Launch

- **Objective:** The Government of India has introduced the Agri Fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises (AgriSURE) with a ₹750 crore fund to support innovation and sustainability in agriculture.
- **Event:** Announced at NABARD Headquarters, with key figures including Shri Ajeet Kumar Sahu and Shri Shaji K.V.

#### 69. India's Retail Digital Payments

- **Projection:** India's retail digital payments are expected to double to \$7 trillion by 2030, growing from \$3.6 trillion in 2023-24.
- **Growth Factors:** UPI transactions grew by 138% from FY 2018 to 2024, and India accounted for 46% of global digital payment volumes in 2022.

#### 70. Nirma University Wins DD-Robocon India 2024

- **Result:** Nirma University won the DD-Robocon India 2024 and will represent India at the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union Robocon 2024 in Vietnam.
- **Runners-Up:** Pimpri-Chinchwad College of Engineering and MIT World Peace University were the first and second runners-up.

#### 71. 'Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman' Campaign

- **Event:** The second regional event of this campaign, celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Indian Constitution, will take place in Prayagraj on July 16.
- **Objective:** To promote understanding of the Constitution and legal rights.

#### 72. 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Campaign

- **Launch:** Amit Shah launched a campaign in Indore aiming to plant 11 lakh trees in a day to enhance environmental responsibility and sustainability.

#### 73. REC Limited Secures Green Loan

- **Details:** REC Limited obtained a JPY 31.96 billion green loan from Deutsche Bank AG to finance sustainable projects in India, promoting renewable energy and reducing carbon emissions.

#### 74. India Signs MoU with Marshall Islands

- **Purpose:** The MoU includes four community development projects focusing on climate change, natural disasters, poverty alleviation, and healthcare.

#### 75. Asia's 1st Pre-Clinical Network Facility

- **Inauguration:** Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated Asia's first health research-related pre-clinical network facility at THSTI, Faridabad.

#### 76. THINQ2024 Quiz Competition

- **Theme:** 'Viksit Bharat' aligns with India's goal to become a developed nation by 2047.
- **Participants:** Open to students from Class 9 to 12, with the competition conducted in hybrid mode across four stages.

#### 77. India Launches First National Toll-Free Anti-Narcotics Helpline:

- **Service Name:** MANAS (Madak Padarth Nisedh Asuchna Kendra).
- **Helpline Number:** 1933.
- **Purpose:** To provide a platform for reporting drug-related crimes and seeking assistance.
- **Operational Details:** Reports can be made via phone, email, or website. The initiative

is part of a zero-tolerance policy against drug trafficking.

#### 78. Haryana Government Announces Reservation and Age Relaxation for Agniveers:

- **Reservation:** 10% horizontal reservation for Agniveers in police, mining, and jail departments.
- **Positions:** Includes constable, mining guard, forest guard, jail warden, and SPO.
- **Age Relaxation:** 3 years for Group D recruitment and 5 years for the first batch, with additional reservation in Group C and B posts.

#### 79. UGC's ASMITA Project: 22,000 Indian Language Books:

- **Objective:** To develop 22,000 books in Indian languages for higher education over five years.
- **Collaborators:** Ministry of Education, UGC, Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti.
- **Launch:** Announced by Sanjay Murthy, Secretary of Higher Education.

#### 80. Sawan Begins With Harela Festival in Uttarakhand:

- **Date:** July 16.
- **Significance:** Harela is a traditional festival symbolizing peace, prosperity, and

celebration of nature, marking the beginning of Sawan.

#### 81. India Sets Electronics Manufacturing Target of \$500 Billion by 2030:

- **Target:** \$500 billion in electronics manufacturing by 2030.
- **Breakdown:** \$350 billion from finished goods and \$150 billion from components.
- **Report:** Launched by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Suman Bery.

#### 82. Girish Chandra Murmu Inaugurates 'International Centre For Audit Of Local Governance' in Rajkot:

- **Purpose:** To enhance transparency and accountability in local governance and build capacity for local government auditors.

#### 83. Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Launches NATS Portal 2.0:

- **Portal:** National Apprenticeship and Training Scheme 2.0.
- **Funding:** Disbursed 100 crore rupees in stipends through DBT mode.
- **Objective:** To democratize apprenticeship and improve youth employability.

**84. 4th Anniversary of NEP 2020****Celebrated at Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam 2024:**

- **Location:** Manekshaw Centre Auditorium, New Delhi.
- **Key Initiatives:** Launch of TV channels for learning Indian languages, 10 Bagless Days Guidelines, career guidance library, and more.

**85. Department Of Atomic Energy****Inaugurates ‘One DAE One Subscription’:**

- **Purpose:** To provide unified access to national and international research papers and scientific journals.
- **Future Plan:** To merge with the national initiative One Nation One Subscription (ONOS).

**86. BIS & GBPUAT Sign MoU to Develop Standardised Agriculture Demonstration Farm**

- **Objective:** Establish India’s first ‘Standardised Agriculture Demonstration Farm’ (SADF) at GBPUAT to integrate Indian Standards and enhance agricultural practices.
- **Function:** SADF will test and implement various agricultural practices and

technologies according to Indian standards.

**87. India’s First Sunken Museum at Humayun’s Tomb Set for Grand Inauguration**

- **Date:** July 29, 2024
- **Location:** Humayun’s Tomb complex, Delhi
- **Purpose:** Offer a unique perspective on Mughal history and architecture using modern technology.
- **Key Figures:** Union Culture and Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Prince Rahim Aga Khan.

**88. Nita Ambani Unveils India House at Paris 2024 Olympics**

- **Date:** July 27, 2024
- **Significance:** Marks India’s first-ever country house at the Olympics, symbolizing India’s Olympic aspirations and aiming to be a milestone for future Games hosting.

**89. President Murmu Appoints Governors in 9 States & LG of Puducherry**

- **Newly Appointed Governors:**
  - Jishnu Dev Varma – Telangana
  - Om Prakash Mathur – Sikkim

- Santosh Kumar Gangwar – Jharkhand
- Ramen Deka – Chhattisgarh
- C H Vijayashankar – Meghalaya
- Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde – Rajasthan
- C.P. Radhakrishnan – Maharashtra
- Gulab Chand Kataria – Punjab and Administrator of Chandigarh
- Lakshman Prasad Acharya – Assam and additional charge of Manipur
- K. Kailashnathan – Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry

#### 90. Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme (EMPS) 2024 Extension

- **Extension:** Till September 30, 2024
- **Enhanced Outlay:** Rs. 778 crores
- **Eligibility:** Includes electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers, and L5 category vehicles.

#### 91. India's First Integrated Agri-Export Facility at Jawaharlal Nehru Port

- **Project Value:** Rs. 284.19 crore
- **Purpose:** Streamline logistics, reduce multiple handling, and extend the shelf life of agricultural products.

#### 92. Moidams of Assam Added as 43rd UNESCO Heritage Site

- **Date:** July 26, 2024
- **Description:** The Moidams, a mound-burial system of the Ahom Dynasty, recognized for their cultural significance.

#### 93. Centenary Commemorative Stamp Released in Honour of Mukesh Chand Mathur

- **Date:** July 24, 2024
- **Location:** Akashwani Rang Bhawan, New Delhi
- **Denomination:** Rs 30
- **Symbolizes:** Mukesh's remarkable career and voice.

#### 94. Mankind Pharma Acquires Bharat Serums and Vaccines for Rs 13,600 Crore

- **Strategic Move:** Enhance portfolio in women's health and critical care.
- **Market Impact:** Mankind Pharma's shares rose 1.81% to Rs 2143.90.

#### 95. Ministry Of Steel Launches 'Steel Import Monitoring System' 2.0 Portal

- **Overview:** Upgraded version of SIMS providing detailed steel import data.
- **Enhanced Features:** Includes API integration with government portals for improved quality control and processes.

**96. Renaming of Rashtrapati Bhavan's Halls:**

- **Ganatantra Mandap** (formerly Durbar Hall) and **Ashok Mandap** (formerly Ashok Hall) were renamed to reflect Indian values, with "Ganatantra" symbolizing republican ideals and "Ashok" representing unity and peace.

**97. India's Nuclear Power Capacity Expansion:**

- India plans to triple its nuclear power capacity from 8,180 MW to 22,480 MW by 2031-32. The aim is to achieve 100,000 MW by 2047, supporting net-zero emissions by 2070.

**98. Project Swasthya Nagaram:**

- Telangana launched this project to create TB-free municipalities with the collaboration of various stakeholders, focusing on innovative TB eradication strategies.

**99. MoU for Economic and Financial Security:**

- Rashtriya Raksha University, NSE IX, and NSEICC signed an MoU to enhance economic and financial security through joint training and research in various

fields, including cybercrimes and forensic accounting.

**100. NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam's Green Charcoal Plant:**

- Two green charcoal plants are set to be established in Haryana by NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd. to convert waste into charcoal, with each plant costing ₹500 crore.

**Set 4**

**1. IRCTC Upgraded to 'Schedule A' CPSE:**

Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) was upgraded to 'Schedule A' CPSE, reflecting its strong performance and growth over the years.

**2. 8th India Mobile Congress Theme Unveiled:**

The theme "The Future is Now" was announced for the 8th India Mobile Congress, scheduled for October 15-18, 2024. Awards for telecom excellence will also be presented.

**3. National Jal Jeevan Mission Milestone:** The mission has provided tap water connections to 15 crore rural households, significantly increasing coverage from three crore in 2019. Eight states and three UTs have achieved 100% coverage.

**4. AIM and WIPO Partnership:** The Atal Innovation Mission and the World Intellectual

Property Organization partnered to promote innovation in the Global South and enhance understanding of intellectual property rights.

**5. PM Modi's Grant to UNESCO:** India announced a \$1 million contribution to UNESCO for global heritage conservation, focusing on the Global South.

**6. MoUs for Empowering Persons with Disabilities:** The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities signed 72 MoUs with private institutions and start-ups to support social, educational, and economic empowerment of people with disabilities.

**7. PM Vishwakarma Scheme Enrollment:** Over 2.28 crore artisans have been enrolled under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, with more than 13.94 lakh successfully registered and over 5.42 lakh being women. Karnataka leads in certification.

**8. Shiksha Saptah:**

- **Dates:** July 22-28, 2024
- **Objective:** Promote National Education Policy 2020 reforms and enhance collaboration among students, educators, and stakeholders.
- **Activities:** Includes Teaching-Learning Material Day, Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Day, Sports Day, and Cultural Day.

**9. CBDT Awards Taxnet 2.0 to Bharti Airtel:**

- **Project:** Taxnet 2.0
- **Awarded To:** Bharti Airtel
- **Purpose:** Provide advanced network connectivity, facility management, and video conferencing services for the Income Tax Department.
- **Significance:** Enhances ITD's digital infrastructure with improved security and reliability over the previous Taxnet 1.0 system.

**10. OVL Increases Stake in Azerbaijani Oilfield:**

- **Investment:** \$60 million
- **Company:** ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL)
- **New Stake:** Increased to 2.95% in the Azeri Chirag Gunashli oil field and 3.097% in the Baku Tbilisi Ceyhan pipeline.
- **Details:** OVL acquired these stakes from Norwegian firm Equinor, enhancing its presence in Azerbaijan's oil sector.

**11. National Communications Academy (NCA) Launch:**

- **Entities Merged:** NTIPRIT, NICF, WMTDC
- **New Entity:** National Communications Academy (NCA)

- **Function:** Centralizes training, budgeting, and administrative functions for the Department of Telecommunications.
- **Locations:** Ghaziabad, Ghitorni (two campuses).

## 12. National Landslide Forecasting Centre (NLFC) and Bhusanket Web Portal:

- **Inauguration:** July 2024 by Union Minister Gangapuram Kishan Reddy
- **Location:** Geological Survey of India, Kolkata
- **Objective:** Mitigate landslide hazards with advanced forecasting and early warning systems.
- **Tools:** Bhusanket Web Portal and Bhooskhalan Mobile App for real-time data, forecasting, and stakeholder updates.

## International news

1. **Bangladesh's PM Sheikh Hasina** has been re-elected for a fifth term, with her Awami League party securing a majority in the parliamentary elections.
2. The **World Health Organization** declared **Cape Verde** (Cabo Verde) a malaria-free country.
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- The youth population, representing 27% of the total in 2021, is projected to decrease to 23% by 2036.
- The report was released by **V. Anantha Nageswaran**, Chief Economic Advisor of India.

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- The resolution, sponsored by the US and co-sponsored by 123

countries, was adopted unanimously.

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##### **Mahavihar:**

- The new building of Shree Jestha Varna Mahavihar in Lalitpur, Nepal, was inaugurated by **Dhan Bahadur Budha** and **Naveen Srivastava**.
- Funded by India's post-earthquake reconstruction grant, the project aims to rebuild infrastructure damaged in the 2015 Gorkha earthquake.

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- The Zimbabwe Stock Exchange (ZSE) and Zimswitch are

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- Initiatives include establishing an International Sanskrit Conference and creating a Sanskrit Study Center to research and publish manuscripts.

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- Italian Prime Minister **Georgia Meloni** has invited Indian PM **Narendra Modi** to the G7 Outreach session in Italy from June 13 to 15, 2024.

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- Dubai plans to develop Al Maktoum International Airport into the world's largest capacity airport.
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- The 26th World Energy Congress, held in Rotterdam, focused on 'Redesigning energy for people and planet.'
- **Pradip Kumar Das**, MD of IREDA, represented India in discussions on global energy transitions and interdependencies.
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#### International news

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### **Economy news**

#### 1) **India Skips Economic Survey for 2024: Interim Budget Instead Amid Election Sensitivity**

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will present an interim budget (vote-on-account) on February 1, 2024.
- The Economic Survey is omitted to avoid politicization due to the election context.
- Election year concerns about potential government changes may disrupt the regular budgeting process.

#### 2) **UN-DESA's World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) 2024 Report**

- Projects India's economic growth at 6.2% for 2024, slightly below the 6.3% estimate for 2023.
- Forecasts a rise to 6.6% in GDP growth by 2025.

### 3) IMF Raises India's Growth Forecast to 6.7% for FY24

- IMF revises India's GDP growth forecast upward to 6.7% for the fiscal year 2023-24.
- Improved domestic demand resilience contributes to this revision from the earlier 6.3% forecast in October 2023.

### 4) FICCI Commends Interim Budget 2024-25

- FICCI praises the interim budget for strong growth momentum and fiscal discipline.
- Fiscal deficit projection for FY24-25 set at 5.1%, reflecting commitment to fiscal discipline.
- FICCI: President Subhrakant Panda, Founded: 1927, Founder: Ghanshyam Das Birla, Headquarters: New Delhi.

### 5) Government Introduces 'Bharat' Brand Rice to Mitigate Price Escalation

- Launch of 'Bharat' brand rice at ₹29/kg to counter rising prices.
- The Essential Commodities Act invoked to monitor rice stocks and curb hoarding.
- Traders required to declare rice stocks every Friday starting February 9.

### 6) Fitch Ratings on Interim Budget 2024-25

- Fitch Ratings notes that the interim budget does not alter India's sovereign credit profile.
- Projects India's fiscal deficit for FY25 to be 5.4%, exceeding the budgeted 5.1%.

### 7) India Liberalizes Space Sector for 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

- Policy amendment allows 100% FDI in the space sector.
- Expected to enhance ease of doing business and attract increased FDI inflows.

### 8) Bhutan Tops Recipients: Indian Government Allocates ₹6,541.79 Crore in Grants and Loans

- Bhutan receives the largest share of Indian government grants and loans.
- Allocation surpasses the previous year's budget estimates.

### 9) Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir's Interim Budget 2024-25

- Interim budget estimates ₹1.18 lakh crore for FY24-25.
- Includes revenue receipts of ₹97,861 crore and capital receipts of ₹20,867 crore.

### 10) CRISIL's Economic Growth Forecast

- Forecasts an average annual growth rate of 6.7% for the Indian economy between FY24 and FY31.
- Slightly higher than the pre-pandemic decadal average of 6.6%.

#### 11) EPFO Sets Interest Rate of 8.25% for FY 2023-24

- EPFO fixes an interest rate of 8.25% on provident fund deposits for FY 2023-24.
- Decision made at the 235th meeting of the EPFO Central Board of Trustees.

#### 12) Inaugural Session of 16th Finance Commission

- Convened under Arvind Panagariya's leadership to deliberate on terms of reference (TOR).
- Aims to analyze fiscal federal relations with input from research institutions.

#### 13) Ministry of Defence Achieves ₹1 Lakh Crore Procurement Milestone

- Ministry of Defence reaches ₹1 lakh crore procurement milestone on the GEM portal.
- Over 5.47 lakh orders executed through GEM since 2016.

#### 14) India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI) Moderation

- WPI falls to 0.27% in January, a three-month low.
- Moderation due to reduced prices in food articles and manufacturing products.

#### 15) NSSO Household Consumption Expenditure Survey Findings

- Reveals significant increase in per capita monthly household consumption expenditure from 2011-12 to 2022-23.
- Rural spending increased to ₹3,773 and urban spending to ₹6,459.

#### 16) Extension of India's Budget Session for "White Paper"

- Budget session extended by a day to table a white paper on alleged economic mismanagement under the previous Congress-led UPA government.
- White paper to be presented on February 10, 2024, comparing economic management between NDA and UPA.

#### 17) Global Economic Outlook (March 2024):

- S&P Global Market Intelligence revises India's GDP forecast to 6.8% for FY 2024-25 from 6.5%, reflecting strong growth momentum and improving global prospects. The FY 2024 growth forecast is revised to 7.3% from 6.9%.

**18) JSW MG Motor India Pvt Ltd Joint****Venture:**

- SAIC Motor and JSW Group launch a joint venture, JSW MG Motor India Pvt Ltd. The JV aims to sell 1 million electric vehicles by 2030 and invest USD 750 million to produce 300,000 units annually.

**19) CRISIL's India Outlook 2024:**

- CRISIL projects India's real GDP growth to moderate to 6.8% in FY 2025, following a 7.6% expansion in FY 2024.

**20) Fitch Ratings Growth Forecast:**

- Fitch Ratings raises India's FY25 growth forecast to 7% from 6.5%, driven by robust domestic demand and business confidence, following an 8.4% expansion in Q3 FY24.

**21) Gross Direct Tax Collection Surge:**

- India's gross direct tax collection rises by 18.74% to over ₹22.27 lakh crore for the current fiscal year. Corporation Tax and Personal Income Tax collections contribute significantly.

**22) Moody's Upgrades Growth Forecast:**

Moody's revises India's GDP growth forecast for 2024 to 6.8%, with a projected 6.4% growth for

2025. The upgrade reflects India's strong economic performance and policy continuity.

**23) India's GDP Growth in Q3 FY24:** India's GDP grows by 8.4% in Q3 FY24, driven by the construction and manufacturing sectors, showing resilience amid global challenges.

**24) FDI Inflows Decline:** FDI inflows to India decrease by 13% to USD 32.03 billion in April-December 2023, with reduced investment in certain sectors, though inflows from countries like Mauritius, the Netherlands, Japan, and Germany increase.

**25) World Bank Loan for Assam:** The World Bank approves a USD 452 million loan to enhance connectivity in Assam, benefiting 1.8 million rural residents through the Assam Resilient Rural Bridges Program.

**26) GST Collection Increase:** India's GST collection rises by 12.5% year-on-year to Rs 1.68 lakh crore in February, indicating strong tax revenue growth.

**27) UBS GDP Growth Forecast:** UBS forecasts India's GDP growth to moderate to 7% in FY 2025 and 6.8% in FY 2026, highlighting ongoing growth momentum in FY 2024.

**28) Fiscal Deficit Widening:** India's fiscal deficit widens to Rs 15.01 lakh crore in April 2023-

February 2024, representing 86.5% of the revised estimate of Rs 17.35 lakh crore.

**29) Forex Reserves Record High:** India's forex reserves reach a new record high of \$642.63 billion, according to RBI data, with a \$139 million increase for the week ending March 22.

### 30) Indian Financial Markets FY24

#### Performance:

- **Equity Indices:** Nifty50 and Sensex ended FY24 on a strong note, marking their best performance in three fiscal years.
- **Top Performers:** Bajaj Auto, Tata Motors, and Coal India Limited were the leading performers in the market.

### 31) IREDA Record Loan Sanctions:

- **Achievements:** Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) reported its highest-ever annual loan sanctions and disbursements in FY 2023-24.
- **Figures:** IREDA sanctioned Rs. 37,354 crores and disbursed Rs. 25,089 crores, resulting in a 26.71% increase in the loan book to Rs. 59,650 crores.

### 32) World Bank Economic Growth Forecast:

- **Revised Forecast:** The World Bank increased India's growth forecast to 6.6% for FY 2024-25, up from 6.4% previously.
- **Reason:** The revision is attributed to increased public investment in India.

### 33) States Projected to Surpass \$1 Trillion Economy:

- **Predictions:** India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) forecasts that eight Indian states will exceed a \$1 trillion economy by FY47, with Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Gujarat expected to achieve this by FY39.
- **Current Classification:** Goa and Sikkim are in the upper middle-income bracket, while states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are in the low-income group.

### 34) E-commerce Market Growth:

- **Forecast:** Invest India projects India's e-commerce market to reach \$325 billion by 2030, making it the world's third-largest.
- **Drivers:** Growth is supported by increasing internet access and a growing base of online shoppers,

expected to reach 500 million by 2030.

### 35) Goldman Sachs Services Exports Forecast:

- **Projection:** Goldman Sachs forecasts India's services exports to grow to \$800 billion by 2030, up from \$340 billion in 2023.
- **Impact:** This growth is expected to enhance India's external sector resilience and reduce rupee volatility. The target for service exports, set by India's foreign trade policy, is \$1 trillion by 2030.

### 36) Indian Financial Markets FY24

**Performance: Equity Indices:** Nifty50 and Sensex closed FY24 on a high, marking their strongest performance in three years. **Top**

**Performers:** Bajaj Auto, Tata Motors, and Coal India Limited led the market in FY24.

### 37) IREDA Record Achievements: Loan

**Sanctions and Disbursements:** IREDA achieved record highs in FY 2023-24 with Rs. 37,354 crores in sanctioned loans and Rs. 25,089 crores in disbursed loans. **Growth:** The loan book grew by 26.71% to Rs. 59,650 crores.

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**Economy:**

- **Predictions:** Eight states, including Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Gujarat, are expected to surpass a \$1 trillion economy by FY47, with the milestone anticipated by FY39 for some.
- **Current Status:** Goa and Sikkim are in the upper middle-income bracket, while states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are in the low-income group.

### 40) E-commerce Market Growth:

- **Forecast:** India's e-commerce market is projected to reach \$325 billion by 2030, becoming the world's third-largest.
- **Drivers:** Growth is driven by increasing internet access and a rising base of online shoppers, expected to reach 500 million by 2030.

### 41) Goldman Sachs Services Exports Forecast:

- **Projection:** Services exports are expected to grow to \$800 billion by 2030, up from \$340 billion in 2023.
- **Impact:** This growth will strengthen India's external sector and reduce rupee volatility. The target set by India's foreign trade policy is \$1 trillion in service exports by 2030.

**42) RXIL's TReDS Platform Milestone:** RXIL's Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) has surpassed INR 1 trillion in financing, supporting over 50 lakh invoices. This milestone highlights the platform's role in addressing the financing needs of India's MSME sector, which faces a credit gap of approximately INR 28.2 lakh crores.

**43) NSO GDP Growth Forecast:** The National Statistical Office (NSO) projected a 7.6% GDP growth for FY24, with an estimated 5.9% growth in Q4. The economy grew by 8.2%, 8.1%, and 8.4% in the first three quarters of FY24.

**44) NCAER Economic Outlook:** The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) forecasts a growth rate of over 7% for FY25. The optimistic outlook is supported by global growth projections, increased trade, and an expected above-normal monsoon.

**45) Record GST Collections:** April 2024 saw record GST collections of ₹2.10 lakh crore, a

12.4% increase year-on-year. May 2024 also witnessed a 10% growth in GST revenue, totaling ₹1.73 trillion.

**46) OECD and IMF Growth Forecasts:** The OECD raised India's 2024-25 growth forecast to 6.6%, while the IMF revised its forecast to 6.8%, up from earlier projections.

**47) India's Consumer Market Growth:** UBS predicts that India will become the third-largest consumer market by 2026, surpassing Germany and Japan. The growth is driven by a rising high-income group.

**48) Ind-Ra's FY25 GDP Growth Estimate:** India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) has revised India's FY25 GDP growth estimate to 7.1%, up from 6.5%, driven by strong government and private investments.

**49) FDI Trends in India:** Singapore was the largest investor in India for FY24. However, FDI equity inflows decreased by 3.5%, reflecting global economic uncertainties.

**50) CRISIL's Bank Credit Growth Forecast:** CRISIL forecasts a 14% growth in bank credit for FY25, down from 16% in FY24, due to high base effects and revised risk weights.

**51) Morgan Stanley's Economic Outlook:** Morgan Stanley predicts a 6.8% growth for India in 2024, with inflation expected to remain within

the RBI's comfort zone. The growth is driven by global offshoring, digitalization, and energy transition.

**52)Remittance Trends:** The World Bank expects India to receive \$124 billion in remittances in 2024, maintaining its position as the largest recipient globally.

**53)Mindspace REIT's Sustainability-Linked Bond:** Mindspace REIT secured a ₹650 crore Sustainability-Linked Bond from IFC, becoming the first Indian REIT to issue such bonds.

**54)NCAER's FY25 Growth Forecast:** NCAER's report suggests India's real GDP growth could reach around 7.2% in FY25, up from earlier estimates of 7%.

**55)S&P's FY25 GDP Growth Estimate:** S&P retains India's FY25 GDP growth estimate at 6.8%, with future projections of 6.9% for FY26 and 7% for FY27.

**56)BharatPe and Invest India Partnership:** BharatPe has partnered with Invest India to enhance digital financial inclusion and literacy for One District One Product (ODOP) producers.

**57)UNCTAD's FDI Report:** UNCTAD's report highlights a significant decline in India's FDI inflows in 2023, affecting its global ranking. However, India's FDI outflows improved.

**58)Fitch Ratings' Growth Forecast:** Fitch Ratings raised India's growth forecast for the current fiscal year to 7.2%, citing improved consumer spending and investment.

**59)IFC Investment in Brookfield's Solar Project:** IFC will invest \$105 million in Brookfield's Bikaner Solar Power project, marking a significant commitment to renewable energy.

**60)Textile Exports Growth:** India's textile exports grew by 9.59% in May 2024, despite challenges in major markets.

**61)Finance Ministry Arbitration Cap:** The Finance Ministry has capped arbitration for government disputes under ₹10 crore to reduce costs and streamline processes.

**62)Forex Reserves Record:** India's forex reserves reached a new all-time high of \$655.817 billion as of June 7, 2024.

**63) UN Upgrades India's 2024 Economic Growth Forecast to 6.9%**

**Overview:**

- **The United Nations** has revised India's economic growth forecast for 2024 to **6.9%**, up from its previous estimate of **6.2%**.

- This upgrade is driven by strong public investment and resilient private consumption.

**Key Factors:**

- **Public Investment:** Government-led initiatives in infrastructure and long-term asset creation are major contributors to the growth.
- **Private Consumption:** Resilient consumer spending supports economic stability.

**Forecasts from Various Agencies (as of May 2024):**

Agency	GDP Growth Forecast for 2023-24	GDP Forecast for 2024-25	GDP Forecast for 2025-26
Reserve Bank of India	8%	7%	-
World Bank	7.5%	6.6%	6.5%
International Monetary Fund	6.7%	6.5%	6.5%
Asian Development Bank	7.6%	7%	7.2%

<b>Moody's</b>	6.8% (January to December 2024)	6.4% (January to December 2025)	-
<b>Morgan Stanley</b>	7.9%	6.8%	-
<b>S&amp;P Global</b>	7.4%	6.8%	7%
<b>United Nations</b>	6.9% (January to December 2024)	6.6% (January to December 2025)	-
<b>OECD</b>	6.3%	6.2%	6.5%
<b>Fitch Rating</b>	7.8%	7.0%	-
<b>CRISIL</b>	7.6%	6.8%	-
<b>Citi Bank</b>	-	6.8%	-
<b>Standard Chartered Bank</b>	7.0%	-	-

**Banking news**

1) The State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced the **Green Rupee Term Deposit for tenors** of 1,111 days, 1,777 days, and 2,222 days. Open to resident individuals, non individuals, and NRI customers, common customers investing for 1,111 and 1,777 days will receive an interest rate of 6.65% per annum, while those investing for 2,222 days will receive 6.40% interest. Senior

citizens will be eligible for additional interest on these deposits.

**2)LIC has emerged as the most valuable PSU**, with its share price reaching ₹900 for the first time since its listing in May 2022. Surpassing the State Bank of India, LIC's market capitalization has crossed ₹5.66 lakh crore, while SBI's market cap stands at Rs 5.63 lakh crore.

**3)"Rana Talwar: Pioneer as the First Asian Head of a Global Bank, Standard Chartered"** has passed away Historic Achievement: Rana Talwar, starting his career with Citibank India in 1969, made history by becoming the first person from Asia to head a global bank, taking the helm at Standard Chartered in 1997.

#### **4)Canara HSBC Life's 'iSelect Guaranteed Future Plus' Insurance Plan**

- **Type:** Non-Linked, Non-Participating Individual Savings Life Insurance Plan.
- **Options:**
  - Endowment
  - Regular Income
  - Early Income
  - Long Term Income with Return of Premium
- **Eligibility:**
  - Minimum Entry Age: NIL
  - Maximum Entry Age: 65 years
  - Minimum Maturity Age: 18 years
  - Maximum Maturity Age: 99 years
- **Features:**

- Provides life insurance with a Guaranteed Maturity Benefit.
- Includes additional guarantees in the last five years of the policy term.

5)The RBI extended the deadline for implementing penal charges in loan accounts by three months, shifting from January 1, 2024, to April 1, 2024, to uphold fair lending practices. Regulated Entities (RES) are mandated to apply the new penal charges instructions to fresh loans starting April 1, 2024. Existing loans must transition to the new regime by their next review or renewal date on or after April 1, 2024, ensuring compliance no later than June 30, 2024.

6)Bank of India (BOI), a Public Sector Bank (PSB), has launched a Super Special Fixed Deposit (FD) scheme with a specified maturity period of 175 days, commencing from January 1st, 2024.

7)LEO1 (formerly known as Financepeer), an Edu-fintech startup, in collaboration with NSDL Payments Bank Limited (NPBL), the wholly-owned subsidiary of National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL), has launched 'LEO 1 Card' which is India's first numberless Prepaid ID card with MasterCard as a network partner

8)Tata Group's digital payments arm, Tata Communications Payment Solutions Limited (Tata Pay), has received approval from the

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to act as a Payment Aggregator (PA).

9) REC Limited (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bank of Baroda (BOB) to jointly offer loans for power, infrastructure and logistics projects for a duration of three

10) the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) increased the minimum capital requirement for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) from Rs 100 crore to Rs 200 crore, and permitted Payments Banks to upgrade as SFBS

11) IndusInd Bank, in collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has introduced the 'IndusInd Bank Samman RuPay Credit Card,' featuring Unified Payments Interface (UPI) capabilities, specifically designed for government sector employees.

12) the Board of Directors of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) approved the proposal to acquire up to 10% equity stake in a company promoted by the National Housing Bank (NHB).

13) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has got the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s approval to raise its stake up to 9.99% in the Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) Bank

14) New Delhi (Delhi) based Zomato Payments Private Limited (ZPPL) has been granted a certificate of authorisation from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as an 'Online Payment

Aggregator (PA)' with effect from 24th January 2024.

15) The Dagger Division of the Indian Army inaugurated the 'India Selfie Point' near the Line of Control in Uri, Jammu and Kashmir, offering a unique initiative with a maximum bid amount of Rs 5 Lakh and allowing each employee to be eligible for equity shares up to Rs 2 Lakh.

16) ICRA Limited forecasts a deceleration in India's GDP growth to below 6% in the third quarter of FY 2024 (October to December 2023), compared to 7.6% in the preceding second quarter.

17) State Bank of India (SBI) is raising around USD 300 million through medium-term notes to garner resources for lending international customers

18) The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) and State Bank of India (SBI) have inked an MoU to extend loans to rural Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Additionally, SBI introduced 'Svyam Siddha,' a specialized financial product catering exclusively to women SHGs, offering financial assistance of up to Rs 5 lakh to empower women entrepreneurs

19) Indian Bank, in collaboration with FPL Technologies Private Limited, Visa, and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has introduced the 'Indian Bank One co-branded credit card.' This initiative aims to provide customized features to cater to the preferences of Indian consumers

20) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed monetary penalties of about Rs.2.49 crore on three banks namely Dhanlaxmi Bank Limited (Rs.1.20 crores), Punjab & Sind Bank (Rs.1 crore) and ESAF Small Finance Bank Limited (Rs.29.55 Lakh) for contravention of regulatory norms.

21) DLabs at the Indian School of Business (ISB) in Hyderabad, Telangana, unveiled "Build for Billions," a startup accelerator program, in partnership with the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) and Union Bank of India (UBI).

22) Bank of Baroda (BOB), one of India's leading public sector banks launched a special retail short-term deposit scheme named Bob 360 Term Deposit Scheme

23) India Overtakes China As HSBC'S Third-Largest Profit Hub • In 2023, india surpassed china to become hsbc's third-largest profit hub, exhibiting a notable surge in profitability. • India's profits soared by 25% in the fiscal year ending december 2023, reaching an impressive \$1.5 billion.

#### **24) Asian Development Bank (ADB) Allocates \$23 Million Loan For Fintech Development In Gujarat's GIFT CITY**

- The asian development bank (ADB) sanctions a usd 23 million loan to enhance fintech education, research, and innovation within gujarat international finance tec-city (GIFT) in india.
- Gift, a state-owned enterprise, aims to nurture fintech ecosystems and financial

services as india's premier international financial services centre.

- The loan is intended to establish an international fintech institute within gift, focusing on comprehensive, sustainable, and climate-resilient fintech development.

**25) Mswipe Technologies**, a top player in India's digital payments sector, has secured a Payment Aggregator (PA) license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This license will enable Mswipe to broaden its payment technology solutions and enhance its offerings across various channels.

26) The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) and DBS Bank have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in New Delhi to boost investor awareness. DBS Bank will support IEPFA's initiatives by disseminating safety messages across its digital platforms and extensive branch network in 19 Indian states. DBS Bank, headquartered in Singapore, was founded on July 16, 1968, as the Development Bank of Singapore Limited.

27) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has partnered with Nepal Rastra Bank to integrate India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with Nepal's National Payments Interface (NPI). This formal agreement aims to facilitate seamless cross-border transactions by linking these fast payment systems, enhancing the efficiency of cross-border remittances.

28) Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has launched the AIIMS-SBI Smart Payment Card,

designed to streamline payments at AIIMS hospitals. Initially available at AIIMS, New Delhi, the card will eventually be rolled out across all AIIMS in India. The card, valid for 5 years, aims to enhance convenience and efficiency. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SBI and AIIMS supports the card's implementation under the "One AIIMS, One Card" initiative.

29) In February, the RBI announced two key measures:

1. **Increase in Remuneration Ceiling:** The RBI has raised the remuneration ceiling for non-executive directors (NEDs) of banks from ₹20 lakh to ₹30 lakh per annum, effective immediately. This change aligns with Section 35B of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
2. **Expansion in GIFT-IFSC:** The RBI is expanding operations in the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT-IFSC), a financial centre and special economic zone established in April 2015, covering 106 hectares.

30) The Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Punjab & Sind Bank (PSB) to improve financing access for farmers and traders. The collaboration aims to enhance awareness and accessibility of

low-interest loans secured by electronic negotiable warehouse receipts (E-NWRS), facilitating agricultural pledge finance across India. WDRA, a statutory authority under the Department of Food and Public Distribution, is headquartered in New Delhi.

31) Fintech startup Laremmit and Yes Bank have teamed up to launch a cross-border platform specifically for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). This platform will support 32) international transactions in major currencies such as US dollars and euros, thereby boosting the global trade capabilities of MSMEs.

32) India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed a \$200 million loan agreement for the Brahmaputra River Flood Management project. The agreement was signed by Ms. Juhi Mukherjee from the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, and Mr. Hoe Yun Jeong, Deputy Country Director of ADB's India Resident Mission. The project aims to enhance climate resilience and manage flood and riverbank erosion risks along the 650 km stretch of the Brahmaputra River in Assam.

33) Paytm E-Commerce has been rebranded as Pai Platforms following the acquisition of Bitsila, a prominent seller platform under ONDC. The company officially became Pai Platforms Private Limited on February 8, 2024, after receiving approval from the Registrar of Companies. This rebranding marks the evolution of Paytm E-Commerce into Pai Platforms.

34) State Bank of India (SBI) achieved a significant milestone as its market capitalization surpassed ₹6 lakh crore, following a 3.80% surge that pushed its share price to an all-time high of ₹675. SBI is now the second public sector undertaking (PSU) company, after Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), to reach this valuation milestone.

35) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted final approval to Juspay Technologies Private Limited, Decfin Tech Private Limited, and Zoho Payment Technologies Private Limited to operate as payment aggregators. This approval acknowledges the role of these fintech startups and SaaS providers in facilitating payment processing services within the Indian financial sector.

36) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced offline functionality for e-Rupee transactions to address connectivity issues. This new feature, integrated into CBDC-R (retail), will allow transactions in areas with limited internet access. The RBI plans to test various offline solutions across different geographic locations to ensure effective implementation.

37) Federal Bank has become one of the first private sector banks to launch NCMC-integrated debit cards, enhancing convenience for travel payments. The NCMC feature on RuPay contactless debit cards allows for quick, offline payments at NCMC-enabled terminals, such as

metro stations and buses, by simply tapping the card.

38) The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has allocated ₹9,013.72 crore to the Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) following the bank's invocation of Government of India (GOI) guarantees on decade-old loans extended to several African countries. These loans had been classified as "doubtful debts" in the financial year 2023-24.

39) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) will require health insurance policies to include coverage for AYUSH treatments—Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa, and Homeopathy—effective April 1, 2024. This mandate aligns with Section 14(2)(b) of the IRDA Act, 1999, and aims to broaden healthcare coverage. The Ministry of AYUSH (MOA) established a 'Core Group of Experts for the Insurance Sector' in 2023 to aid in guideline formulation, promoting the integration of traditional AYUSH treatments into mainstream health insurance.

40) Bank of Baroda has forecasted India's GDP growth for fiscal year 2024-25 to be around 6.75-6.8%, with an estimated growth rate of 6.8% for FY24. Along with this GDP forecast, the bank also offers insights into sectoral performance and other economic indicators.

41) Paymart, a fintech startup, has teamed up with five major Indian banks, including IDBI Bank,

Indian Bank, Jammu & Kashmir Bank, and Karur Vysya Bank, to launch a Virtual ATM service.

This innovative service allows cardless and hardware-less cash withdrawals, converting local shops into convenient banking hubs. After a successful six-month pilot with IDBI Bank, the service is now being rolled out nationwide. The initiative aims to empower local shopkeepers and improve banking accessibility, particularly in remote or underserved areas.

42) HDFC Bank has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to divest a 90% stake in its education loan subsidiary, HDFC Credila. This move follows the RBI's directive for HDFC Bank to reduce its stake in Credila to below 10% within two years after the HDFC Bank merger in April 2023.

43) Goa is set to become the first Indian state to access the World Bank Climate Fund. The World Bank delegation is currently in Goa to discuss how the funds will be utilized for climate action and sustainable development projects. The focus is on enhancing climate resilience, disaster management, and sustainable water management. The Climate Fund is designed to support states in implementing projects that aid in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

44) The Bihar government has partnered with SIDBI to strengthen the startup ecosystem in the state. Through a Memorandum of Understanding, the collaboration aims to create a supportive environment for startups, positioning Bihar as a

prominent startup hub. As part of this initiative, the Bihar Startup Fund Trust (BSFT) will be established to manage the ₹50-crore Bihar Startup Scale-Up Financing Fund.

45) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed penalties totaling ₹3 crore on several institutions:

- **SBI Bank** (Mumbai): Fined ₹2 crore for contravening certain norms.
- **Canara Bank** (Bengaluru): Penalized ₹32.30 lakh for non-compliance with specific directions.
- **City Union Bank (CUB)** (Kumbakonam): Fined ₹66 lakh for non-compliance with certain regulations.

46) Amazon Pay (India) Private Limited, based in Bengaluru, has received final authorization from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as an online payment aggregator. Formerly known as Amazon Online Distribution Services Private Limited, Amazon Pay had received in-principle approval from the RBI to act as a payment aggregator in 2023. This license enables Amazon Pay to offer online merchant payment services to its clients.

47) ICICI Bank has increased its stake in ICICI Lombard General Insurance by 1.4% through open market purchases. This move underscores ICICI Bank's ongoing investment in its subsidiary, ICICI Lombard, and reinforces its position in the insurance sector.

48) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revoked the license of Jai Prakash Narayan Nagari Sahakari Bank, located in Basmathnagar, Maharashtra. The RBI has directed the Commissioner for Cooperation and Registrar of Cooperative Societies to begin winding-up procedures and appoint a liquidator, citing concerns over the bank's financial health and management.

49) In its bi-monthly monetary policy announcement, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has kept the repo rate unchanged at 6.5%. This decision was made with a 5:1 majority vote from the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). The RBI's move to maintain the rate is due to ongoing inflation exceeding its target of 4%.

50) HDFC Bank Limited has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to acquire up to 9.5% stakes in six banks: Axis Bank, Suryoday Small Finance Bank, ICICI Bank, Bandhan Bank, Yes Bank, and IndusInd Bank. This approval follows HDFC Bank's applications submitted to the RBI on December 18, 2023.

51) On March 27, 2024, Axis Bank introduced the digital opening of US dollar fixed deposits (FDs) for Non-Resident Indian (NRI) customers at its International Financial Services Center (IFSC) banking unit in GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat. This makes Axis Bank the first bank to offer digitization for deposits at GIFT City. NRI customers can now open US dollar fixed deposits

through the bank's mobile banking application, "Open by Axis Bank."

52) PayU Payments Private Limited has introduced an industry-first down payment EMI (Equated Monthly Instalment) solution for online retail in India. This innovative solution allows users to make a partial payment upfront, with the remaining amount converted into easy EMIs.

PayU's new offering enables merchant partners to provide flexible down payment options to their customers, using a no-code solution that features no-cost EMI with a pre-decided down payment amount.

53) Star Housing Limited (STAR HFL) has entered into a co-lending partnership with Tata Capital Housing Finance Limited (TCHFL) to offer loans to economically weaker sections (EWS) and low-income groups (LIG) at more affordable rates. This collaboration aims to extend services across various geographies, leveraging diverse origination capacities and franchise levels to better serve the borrower base.

54) Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has launched two new gold loan products:

1. **IOB Gold Powered Card:** This card offers borrowers instant access to funds linked directly to their jewel loan overdraft accounts.
2. **Jewel Loan Suvidha:** Designed to meet the needs of housing loan borrowers, this product is available not only to IOB

customers but also to those from other financial institutions.

55) On March [date], the Modi government allocated ₹6,212.03 crore to Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) under a recapitalization scheme.

Established in 1975 and owned by the Indian government, RRBs operate at the regional level across various states, providing essential banking and financial services to rural areas. Their primary objective is to support small and marginal farmers, agricultural laborers, artisans, and small entrepreneurs, thereby promoting financial inclusion and rural development.

56) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has instructed the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) to suspend inflows into overseas exchange-traded funds (ETFs) starting April 1. This decision follows the existing cap of USD 1 billion imposed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on investments in international markets.

- SEBI's directive, effective January 2022, had previously restricted mutual funds (MFs) from making new subscriptions in overseas stocks due to market volatility. However, it later relaxed some restrictions with a cap of USD 7 billion for the industry.
- Currently, 13 international mutual fund schemes manage ₹7,743 crore in passive

funds, with numerous others investing in international ETFs. Despite India's foreign exchange reserves having doubled since the limits were set in 2007-08, the cap remains unchanged.

57) Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited (ABHFL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Limited, has launched a new unified digital lending platform called "ABHFL-FINVERSE." This platform aims to streamline and digitize the entire lending process, from initial prospecting to the final loan disbursement.

Key features of the ABHFL-FINVERSE platform include:

- **Seamless Experience:** The platform offers a smooth user experience for home loan customers.
- **Quick Turnaround:** It ensures faster processing of loan applications.
- **Real-Time Updates:** Customers receive real-time updates on their loan status.
- **Greater Transparency:** Provides enhanced transparency throughout the loan process.

58) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced an Omnibus Framework to recognize Self-Regulatory Organizations (SROs) for its Regulated Entities (REs). This framework will provide a structured approach for the self-

regulation of various sectors within the financial industry, including fintech companies.

Key Highlights of the Omnibus Framework:

- **Sector-Specific SROs:** Each sector of REs, such as fintechs, will have dedicated SROs under this framework.
- **Purpose:** The framework aims to set industry standards for self-regulation, addressing the growth and complexity of REs, the adoption of new technologies, and improved customer engagement.
- **Parameters:** It includes comprehensive guidelines on objectives, responsibilities, eligibility criteria, governance standards, application procedures, and basic conditions for recognizing SROs.

59) DBS Bank India has pledged a significant lending commitment of USD 250 million to support new-age start-ups, emphasizing its dedication to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship in India.

Key Points of the Initiative:

- **Commitment:** USD 250 million lending commitment by DBS Bank India.
- **Objective:** To address the challenge of access to capital for start-ups in India's dynamic business environment.
- **Context:** India boasts over 90,000 start-ups and more than 100 unicorns as of

2024, highlighting the sector's critical role in the country's development goals.

60) SBI Card, India's largest credit card issuer, has teamed up with Titan Company Ltd to introduce the 'Titan SBI Card'. This collaboration aims to cater to consumers' aspirational spending needs with a host of exclusive benefits.

Key Features of the Titan SBI Card:

- **Exclusive Benefits:** Offers cashbacks, Titan gift vouchers, and Reward Points, with benefits valued at over ₹2,00,000 annually.
- **Cashback Offers:**
  - **5% Cashback:** On purchases made at Mia, Caratlane, and Zoya stores, both online and offline.
  - **3% Titan Gift Vouchers:** For shopping at Tanishq, providing additional value to cardholders.

61) Federal Bank has partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to launch the "Rupay Smart Key Chain-Flashpay", a contactless payment solution.

Key Features of Rupay Smart Key Chain-Flashpay:

- **Contactless Payments:** Enables payments at metro stations and Point of Sale (POS)

terminals using the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) system.

- **Transaction Limits:**
  - **Up to ₹5,000:** Payments can be made without a Personal Identification Number (PIN).
  - **Above ₹5,000:** Requires PIN authentication.
  - **Daily Limit:** ₹1,00,000 at any POS terminal.

62) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed penalties on **DCB Bank** and **Tamilnad Mercantile Bank** for non-compliance with directives related to the '**interest rate on advances**'.

Details:

- **DCB Bank:** Fined ₹63.6 lakh.
- **Tamilnad Mercantile Bank:** Fined ₹1.31 crore.

63) **Airtel Payments Bank** has entered the smartwatch market in India with its first smartwatch, developed in collaboration with **Noise** and **MasterCard**.

- **Features:**
  - Equipped with Near Field Communication (NFC) technology.
  - Enables contactless 'Tap and Pay' transactions up to ₹25,000 per day.

- Aims to provide enhanced convenience and connectivity for users.

64) **Kotak Mahindra Bank** has acquired **Sonata Finance Private Limited** in a deal valued at approximately ₹537 crore.

- **Impact:**

- Kotak Mahindra Bank now fully owns Sonata Finance.
- The bank's stock price increased by 1.15% to ₹1796 following the acquisition announcement.

65) The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has taken decisive action by revoking the registration of **Karvy Investor Services Ltd (KISL)** as a merchant banker.

- **Reasons for Revocation:**

- An inspection conducted from March 15-17, 2023, revealed that KISL did not meet the required eligibility criteria.
- KISL was found lacking operational functionality at both its registered and correspondence addresses.

66) **Bank of Maharashtra** has seen its shares rise by **5.68%** to **₹62.55** following the central government's approval of **Nidhu Saxena** as the

new Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the bank.

- **Nidhu Saxena's Background:**
  - Previously served as the Executive Director at Union Bank of India.
  - Brings extensive experience to his new role at Bank of Maharashtra.

**67) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** has reaffirmed the designation of three major insurers as Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs):

- **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)**
- **General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re)**
- **New India Assurance Company**

**Key Points:**

- **Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs)** are entities considered 'too big or too important to fail' (TBTF) due to their substantial size, market significance, and interconnectedness. Their potential failure could cause significant disruptions in the financial system.
- **LIC** is the largest life insurance company in India.
- **New India Assurance** is the largest general insurance company in India.

- **GIC Re** is the sole Indian reinsurer, playing a critical role in the reinsurance sector.

**68) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has revised its regulations to facilitate the establishment of Small and Medium Real Estate Investment Trusts (SM REITs). The updates are part of the SEBI (REIT) (Amendment) Regulations, 2024.

**Key Highlights:**

- **Objective:** The new guidelines aim to regulate fractional ownership of real estate, covering both commercial and residential properties, while protecting investor interests.
- **Listing Process:** SM REITs will follow a listing process similar to an IPO but with a notable difference. Unlike larger REITs, which require 80% of assets to be fully developed and revenue-generating, SM REITs must have at least 95% of their assets fully developed and generating revenue. This ensures a higher level of asset maturity.

**69) L&T Finance Holdings Ltd (LTFH)** has entered into a financing agreement with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for \$125 million.

**Key Points:**

- **Purpose:** The funds will be used to enhance rural and peri-urban lending, with a focus on supporting women borrowers in rural areas.
- **Disbursement:** The agreement includes a loan facility from JICA, which will be distributed in three tranches.

### 70) Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB)

has introduced the 'Vikas Spoorty' loan scheme.

#### Key Features:

- **Objective:** To enhance rural credit delivery and encourage small-scale income-generating activities.
- **Loan Terms:** The scheme offers hassle-free loans without collateral or surety, addressing the genuine credit needs of small entrepreneurs.
- **Repayment Link:** Loan repayments are linked to small daily contributions made through the bank's 'Daily Deposit' scheme (pigmy account), facilitating easier access to financial resources for rural entrepreneurs.

71) As of December 2023, the share of private sector banks in total deposits has risen to 34%, up from 25% at the end of the financial year 2017-18.

#### Key Points:

- **Growth Drivers:** This increase is attributed to competitive interest rates and enhanced customer relationship management strategies by private banks.
- **Public Sector Banks:** In contrast, the share of public sector banks has decreased to 59% from 66% over the same period, based on data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

72) Bank of Baroda has launched the BOB Earth Green Term Deposit Scheme.

#### Key Features:

- **Interest Rates:** Offers up to 7.15% per annum on deposits ranging from Rs. 5,000 to below Rs. 2 Crore.
- **Purpose:** The scheme aims to mobilize deposits to fund environment-friendly projects and support India's transition to a sustainable economy.

73) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed monetary penalties on two banks:

- **Bank of India** has been fined ₹1.40 crore for non-compliance with RBI directives.
- **Bandhan Bank** faces a penalty of ₹29.55 lakh for failing to adhere to specific directions related to interest rates on deposits.

74) **Arya.ag** has teamed up with **Shivalik Small Finance Bank** to provide financial assistance to farmers, agro-processors, and micro-enterprises.

- **Objective:** The partnership aims to facilitate over ₹200 crores in warehouse receipt financing in the current fiscal year, promoting financial inclusion in agriculture.
- **Role:** Arya.ag will act as a business correspondent for Shivalik Small Finance Bank, empowering underserved farmers and MSMEs through formal banking services.

75) **YES Bank** has become the Official Banking Partner for **Team India** at the Paris Olympics 2024.

#### Highlights:

- **Campaign:** YES Bank launches the 'Milkar Jitayengey' campaign and introduces the 'YES Glory Debit Card' for Indian Olympic athletes.
- **Savings Account:** The 'YES Glory' savings account offers benefits such as a complimentary Taj voucher, free orthopedic consultations, and zero cross-currency mark-up on international spends for athletes and their immediate family members.

76) ADB's \$200 Million Loan for Brahmaputra River Flood and Erosion Risk Management in Assam

**The Government of India** and the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** have signed a \$200 million loan agreement for managing flood and erosion risks along the Brahmaputra River in Assam.

#### Key Objectives:

- **Project Scope:** Strengthen flood and riverbank erosion risk management along 650 km of the Brahmaputra River.
- **Interventions:** Includes stabilizing 60 km of riverbanks, installing 32 km of siltation measures, and building 4 km of climate-resilient flood embankments in high-priority districts.
- **Focus Areas:** Disaster resilience, livelihood support, employment generation, and enhancing river navigability.

77) **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved the merger of **Fincare Small Finance Bank Ltd.** with **AU Small Finance Bank**, effective from April 1.

#### Key Details:

- **Merger Authorization:** The merger is sanctioned under Section 44A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- **Post-Merger Operations:** All branches of Fincare Small Finance Bank will operate as branches of AU Small Finance Bank after the merger.
- **Regulatory Confirmation:** The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has confirmed that AU will be the surviving entity in the merger.

**78) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed an immediate ban on **IIFL Finance** regarding the approval and disbursement of gold loans.

**Reasons:**

- **Inspection Findings:** A detailed inspection of IIFL Finance's financial position as of March 31 revealed significant supervisory concerns.
- **Issues Identified:**
  - Deviations in the assaying and certification of gold purity and net weight during loan sanction and auction proceedings.
  - Breaches in the Loan-to-Value (LTV) ratio, indicating potential regulatory violations and risks in the company's gold loan practices.

**79) On March 4, 2024,** the RBI approved **NPCI Bharat Bill Pay Ltd (NBBL)** to launch an interoperable payment system for internet banking.

**Key Points:**

- **Objective:** The new system will facilitate quicker fund transfers for merchants.
- **Launch Timeline:** Scheduled for the calendar year 2024.
- **Approval Amount:** The RBI has sanctioned USD 530 million for this initiative.

**80) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has revised the regulatory framework for **Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)**.

**Revised Framework:**

- **Implementation Date:** The revised directions, known as RBI (BBPS) Directions 2024, will come into effect from April 1, 2024.
- **Objectives:**
  - Streamline the bill payment process.
  - Enable greater participation.
  - Enhance customer protection.
- **Regulatory Basis:** Issued under Section 18 read with Section 10(2) of the Payment and Settlement Systems (PSS) Act, 2007.

**81) The RBI's UDGAM portal** has seen significant progress in facilitating the search for unclaimed deposits.

**Details:**

- **Current Status:** As of March 4, 2024, 30 banks are onboarded.
- **Coverage:** The portal covers approximately 90% of unclaimed deposits in value terms.
- **Future Plans:** Ongoing onboarding of remaining banks to ensure comprehensive coverage.

82) According to the Eco Wrap report by the State Bank of India (SBI) released on March 1, 2024, the GDP growth for the financial year 2023-24 is expected to be close to 8%. Key highlights from the report include:

- The Indian economy grew by 8.4% in Q3FY24.
- There has been a significant buoyancy in indirect tax collections, with a year-on-year growth of 32%.
- The gap between Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross Value Added (GVA) growth has widened.

83) On March 1, 2024, Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation Limited

(NUCFDC) in New Delhi. Key aspects of NUCFDC include:

- **Objective:** The NUCFDC aims to modernize and strengthen the urban cooperative banking sector to benefit both banks and customers.
- **Initiative:** It promotes the "one town, one urban cooperative bank" initiative, with the goal of establishing an urban cooperative bank in every town.
- **Certification:** The NUCFDC has been certified by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a non-banking finance company (NBFC) and a self-regulatory organization (SRO).

84) The Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) has imposed a penalty of ₹5.49 crore on Paytm Payments Bank Ltd for violations of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). Here are the details:

- **Reason for Penalty:** The penalty was imposed following a review initiated due to specific information from law enforcement agencies regarding illegal activities. The issues included facilitating illegal activities such as online gambling and mishandling funds generated from such operations.

85) During Financial Literacy Week (FLW) 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced a Financial Literacy Ideathon for postgraduate students. Here are the details:

- **Event:** Financial Literacy Ideathon
- **Target Audience:** Postgraduate students currently enrolled in recognized educational institutions.
- **Date:** Part of FLW 2024, observed from 26 February to 1 March 2024.
- **Theme:** “Make a Right to Become Financially Smart”

About Financial Literacy Week (FLW):

- **Initiated:** Annually observed since 2016 by RBI.
- **Objective:** To promote financial literacy by raising awareness about the importance of financial discipline from an early age. Key topics include saving, budgeting, and the power of compounding.

86) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Bank Indonesia have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance the use of local currencies in bilateral transactions. Here are the key points:

- **Objective:** The MoU aims to establish a framework for promoting the use of local currencies, specifically the Indian Rupee

(INR) and the Indonesian Rupiah (IDR), for cross-border transactions.

- **Scope:** The MoU encompasses all current account transactions, permissible capital account transactions, and any other economic and financial transactions as mutually agreed upon by both countries.
- **Signatories:** The MoU was signed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das and Bank Indonesia Governor Perry Warjiyo.

87) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has amended the rules governing credit and debit cards to enhance consumer choice and competition among card networks. Here are the key details:

- **Amendment:** The RBI has updated the "Master Direction - Credit Card and Debit Card - Issuance and Conduct Directions, 2022," which will come into effect from March 7, 2024.
- **Key Provision:** Card issuers are now prohibited from entering into exclusive agreements with card networks that prevent them from offering services from multiple networks. This change ensures that issuers cannot restrict their customers to a single card network.
- **Benefit:** Customers will have the freedom to choose from multiple card networks, potentially leading to more competitive offers and better services.

- **Compliance:** Card issuers are given a timeline of six months to comply with the new regulations.

**88) NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) and Fonepay Payment Service Ltd have partnered to facilitate cross-border Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions between India and Nepal. Here are the key points:**

- **Partnership:** NIPL and Fonepay are collaborating to enable UPI transactions across borders, allowing users in both countries to perform financial transactions seamlessly.
- **Objective:** The initiative aims to improve the payment experience for Indian tourists in Nepal, who make up about 30% of the country's total tourist influx.
- **Benefits:** The introduction of cross-border UPI transactions is expected to streamline financial interactions, offering a convenient and efficient payment system for travelers.
- **Economic Impact:** This partnership is set to strengthen economic ties between India and Nepal and enhance financial connectivity between the two nations.

**89) Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Ease My Trip have launched a co-branded travel credit card, the “PNB EMT Credit Card.” Here are the key details:**

- **Partnership:** PNB, a major Indian public sector bank, has teamed up with Ease My Trip, a leading online travel tech platform, to introduce this new card.
- **Card Features:**
  - **Target Audience:** The card caters to both mass and premium customers.
  - **Rewards:** It offers a variety of rewards specifically designed for Indian travelers.
  - **Annual Fee:** The card comes with an annual membership fee of ₹2,000.
  - **Global Usability:** It can be used across 100 countries worldwide.

**90) Bank of Baroda (BOB) has introduced the “BoB LITE Saving Account,” offering several attractive features:**

- **Lifetime Zero Balance:** The account comes with a lifetime zero balance feature, meaning no minimum balance is required.
- **Free Rupay Platinum Debit Card:** Customers who maintain a nominal Quarterly Average Balance (QAB) are eligible for a lifetime free Rupay Platinum Debit Card.
- **Eligibility:**
  - Open to all resident individuals.

- Minors aged 10 years and above who can read and write are also eligible.
- **QAB Requirements:**
  - **Metro/Urban Branches:** ₹3,000
  - **Semi-Urban Branches:** ₹2,000
  - **Rural Branches:** ₹1,000
- **Interest Rates:**
  - **Savings Account:** Up to 7.5% per annum
  - **Fixed Deposits:** Up to 8.10%
- **Additional Benefits:**
  - Vouchers worth ₹1,500 for premier brands
  - Comprehensive cyber insurance cover
  - Accident and travel insurance up to ₹1 crore
  - Other premium banking services

**91) The RBI has barred Mumbai (Maharashtra) based JM Financial Products Ltd (JMFPL) from financing against shares and debentures including sanction and disbursement of loans against initial public offering (IPO) of shares with immediate effect RBI imposed the ban in the exercise of its powers under section 45L (1)(b) of the Reserve Bank of India Act 1934**

**92) The Government of India has updated the list of banks authorized by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the import of gold and silver**

**for the financial year 2024-2025.** Here are the details:

- **Authorization Period:** Effective from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025.
- **Banks Authorized for Both Gold and Silver Import:**
  - Axis Bank Limited
  - Federal Bank Limited
  - HDFC Bank Limited
  - Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited
  - ICICI Bank Limited
  - IndusInd Bank Limited
  - Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited
  - Karur Vysya Bank Limited (KVB)
  - RBL Bank Limited
  - State Bank of India (SBI)
  - Yes Bank Limited
- **Banks Authorized for Gold Import Only:**
  - Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)
  - Punjab National Bank (PNB)
  - Union Bank of India (UBI)

**Context:**

- **Gold Imports:** India imported USD 35.8 billion worth of gold in 2022, making it the 5th largest gold importer globally.
- **Silver Imports:** India imported USD 1.32 billion worth of silver in 2022, ranking as the 8th largest silver importer worldwide

**93) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has introduced a beta version of the T+0 (trade date plus zero) settlement cycle in the equity cash market. This move will run alongside the existing T+1 (trade date plus one) cycle.

**Key Points:**

- **Implementation:** Beta version of T+0 settlement cycle.
- **Scope:** Initially applied to 25 selected scrips and a limited number of brokers.
- **Participation:** All investors can engage in T+0 settlement provided they comply with prescribed timelines, processes, and risk requirements.
- **Surveillance:** The same surveillance measures used for T+1 settlement will also apply to the T+0 settlement cycle to maintain market integrity.

This initiative aims to enhance market efficiency by reducing the settlement time for transactions.

**94) The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** has introduced a new mandate requiring 2-Factor Aadhaar Authentication for accessing the Central Recordkeeping Agency (CRA) system related to the National Pension System (NPS).

**Key Details:**

- **Mandate:** 2-Factor Aadhaar Authentication is now required.
- **Purpose:** Enhances security for accessing the CRA system, which manages recordkeeping, administration, and customer service for NPS subscribers.
- **Change:** Previously, Nodal Offices under Central and State Governments used password-based login for NPS transactions, which will now be replaced by Aadhaar Authentication.
- **CRAs:** There are three licensed CRAs in India that handle NPS operations.

**95) As of February 2024, India has surpassed 100 million credit cards in circulation, according to data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This milestone reflects a growth trend in credit card issuance, with an addition of 1.1 million cards in February 2024 alone.**

**Key Figures:**

- **Total Credit Cards Issued:** 100.60 million as of February 2024.
- **Annual Increase:** Up from 99.5 million in February 2023.

This increase highlights the expanding use of credit cards in India, indicative of growing consumer confidence and financial inclusion in the country.

96) Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited (ABHFL), a subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Limited, has launched a new digital lending platform named **ABHFL-FINVERSE**. This platform aims to enhance the home loan process by offering a fully digital experience.

Key Features of ABHFL-FINVERSE:

- **End-to-End Digital Process:** The platform digitizes the entire lending process, from prospecting to disbursement.
- **Seamless Customer Experience:** Provides a quick turnaround for loan applications, real-time updates, and greater transparency regarding loan status.
- **Collaboration:** Developed in partnership with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).

The launch of this platform reflects ABHFL's commitment to modernizing home loan services and improving customer experience through digital innovation.

97) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is establishing the **Digital India Trust Agency (DIGITA)** to address the growing issue of illegal lending apps.

Objectives of DIGITA:

- **Combat Illegal Lending Apps:** Serve as a checkpoint to identify and address unverified and unauthorized lending apps.

- **Compliance Verification:** Vet digital lending apps for adherence to regulatory standards and ensure they operate legally.
- **Public Register:** Maintain a public list of verified digital lending apps to enhance transparency and consumer protection.

Recent Developments:

- **RBI and Google:** The RBI provided Google with a list of 442 digital lending apps for whitelisting, which led to the removal of over 2,200 unauthorized apps from the Google Play Store.

98) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has launched **SCORES 2.0**, an upgraded version of its investor complaint redressal system. This enhanced platform aims to streamline and improve the process of handling investor grievances in the securities market.

Key Features of SCORES 2.0:

- **Auto-Routing and Auto-Escalation:** Complaints are automatically directed to the relevant authorities and escalated if necessary, ensuring timely handling.
- **Standardized Resolution Timeline:** The platform sets a standardized timeline of 21 calendar days for resolving complaints from the date of receipt.
- **Integration with KYC Registration Agency (KRA) Database:** Simplifies

investor registration by integrating with the KYC database, making it easier to manage and verify investor information.

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved Axis Bank Limited's acquisition of a 16.22% equity stake in Max Life Insurance Company. This move allows Axis Bank to deepen its involvement in the insurance sector, aiming to strengthen Max Life Insurance's solvency margins and overall capital position.

**99) According to the Worldline India Digital Payments Report, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions experienced substantial growth in the second half (H2) of 2023:**

- **Transaction Volume:** Increased by 56%, reaching 65.77 billion transactions compared to 42.09 billion in H2 2022.
- **Transaction Value:** Rose by 44%, climbing from Rs 69.36 lakh crore to Rs 99.68 lakh crore.

**100) Canara Bank has launched several new products and services to enhance financial inclusivity and address various needs:**

1. **Canara Heal:** A healthcare loan product designed to support medical expenses.
2. **Canara Angel:** A savings scheme tailored for women, aimed at encouraging savings and financial independence.

3. **Canara Ready Cash:** Pre-approved personal loans for quick access to funds.
4. **Canara MyMoney:** An online facility to get a loan against term deposits, simplifying access to credit.
5. **Canara UPI 123PAY ASI:** A user-friendly payment interface for easy and convenient transactions.
6. **Canara HRMS Mobile App for Staff:** A mobile application to streamline HR processes, improving efficiency in human resource management.

**101) PhonePe has teamed up with Star Health Insurance to offer health insurance plans directly through its app. The key features of this partnership include:**

- **Health Insurance Options:** Users can choose from various plans, including the "Star Comprehensive Insurance Policy," which provides coverage up to ₹1 crore.
- **Payment Flexibility:** Health insurance plans can be paid for either monthly or annually, providing convenience and accessibility.
- **Seamless Integration:** Customers can purchase and manage their health insurance policies directly through the PhonePe app, enhancing ease of access to comprehensive healthcare coverage.

**102) RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has decided to keep the repo rate unchanged at 6.5%, marking the seventh consecutive time this rate has been maintained.**

- **Economic Growth:** The RBI forecasts a growth rate of 7% for the Indian economy in FY 2025.
- **Inflation:** The Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation is projected to be at 4.5%, indicating that inflation is under control.
- **Policy Stance:** With inflation managed, the RBI aims to support economic growth through an accommodative policy stance.

#### **Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) Meetings:**

- The first bi-monthly MPC meeting for FY 2024-25 was held from April 3 to 5, 2024.
- The next MPC meeting is scheduled for June 5 to 7, 2024.

**103) J&K Bank has teamed up with Paymart India Pvt Ltd to launch a Virtual ATM (VATM) facility.**

- **Objective:** The initiative aims to enhance banking convenience, particularly in the J&K and Ladakh regions.
- **Functionality:** The Virtual ATM allows for cardless cash withdrawals. Customers can use their smartphones as a Virtual Card and local retailers' smartphones as a Virtual ATM.

- **Benefits:** This service aims to simplify access to cash and improve banking services in areas where physical ATMs might be limited.

**104) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) projects a Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rate of 4.5% for the fiscal year 2024-25.**

- **Quarterly Breakdown:**
  - **Q1:** 4.9%
  - **Q2:** 3.8%
  - **Q3:** 4.6%
  - **Q4:** 4.5%
- **Risks:** Risks are evenly distributed, suggesting a balanced inflation outlook throughout the year.

**105) RBI Imposes Penalties for Non-Compliance**

- **IDFC First Bank:**
  - **Penalty:** ₹1 crore
  - **Reason:** Non-compliance with loan and advance regulations; issued term loans to a public sector undertaking for infrastructure projects without adequate due diligence.
- **LIC Housing Finance:**
  - **Penalty:** ₹49.7 lakh
  - **Reason:** Non-compliance with regulatory norms; specific details

of the non-compliance were not specified.

#### 106) RBI's Monetary Policy and Economic Forecast for FY25

- **GDP Growth:**
  - **Projection:** 7% for FY25
  - **Details:** The first bi-monthly monetary policy for FY25 maintains the real GDP growth forecast at 7%, with quarterly projections to support this growth.
- **Policy Stance:**
  - **Objective:** To withdraw accommodation to align inflation with the target while supporting economic growth.
- **Foreign Exchange Reserves:**
  - **New High:** USD 645.58 billion as of March 29, 2024
  - **Significance:** Marks the third consecutive week of reaching a new peak.

#### 107) RBI Cancels Registration of Four NBFCs

**Decision:** Cancellation of Certificate of Registration (CoR) for four Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).

- **Affected NBFCs:**

- **Kundles Motor Finance Pvt. Ltd.** (Uttar Pradesh) - CoR cancelled on March 12, 2024.
- **Nithya Finance Ltd.** (Tamil Nadu) - CoR cancelled on March 14, 2024.
- **Bhatia Hire Purchase Pvt. Ltd.** (Punjab) - CoR cancelled on March 19, 2024.
- **Jiwanjyoti Deposits and Advances Ltd.** (Himachal Pradesh) - CoR cancelled on March 21, 2024.

#### 108) SIDBI Partners with Onionlife for Gig Worker Micro-Loans

- **Partnership:** Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and Onionlife
- **Objective:** Provide micro-loans to gig workers in India
- **Platform:** KarmaLife, developed by Onionlife
- **Focus:** Enhance financial inclusion for freelancers and independent contractors
- **Significance:** KarmaLife is India's largest earned wage access platform, offering convenient fund access for gig workers

109) State Bank of India (SBI) and Standard Chartered Bank India completed the first Credit Default Swap (CDS) trade since the Reserve Bank

of India (RBI) updated its CDS guidelines in 2022.

**Trade Details:**

- **Value:** ₹25 crore
- **Type:** 1-year rupee CDS
- **Reference Entity:** Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)

**Significance:**

- Marks a key development in credit risk management in India.
- Demonstrates the evolution and sophistication of financial instruments in the Indian market.

**Purpose of CDS:**

- A credit derivative used to protect against default risks.
- Facilitates the management and transfer of credit risk.

110) **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed Small Finance Banks (SFBs) to apply for Universal Bank licenses under new on-tap licensing norms.**

**Eligibility Criteria:**

- **Track Record:** At least five years of satisfactory performance.
- **Listing:** Shares must be listed.
- **Net Worth:** Minimum of ₹1,000 crore.

- **Capital Adequacy:** Must meet prescribed Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR).
- **Profitability:** Profitability in the last two years.
- **Asset Quality:** Low non-performing assets (NPAs).

□ **On-Tap Licensing:** This approach allows eligible entities to apply for banking licenses at any time, moving away from the previous “Stop and Go” model where applications were only accepted during specific periods.

□ **Background:** The concept of Small Finance Banks was introduced by the “High-Level Committee on Financial Sector Reforms,” chaired by Raghuram Rajan in 2008, to enhance financial inclusion.

**111) SEBI has introduced a new framework for Category I and Category II Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) focused on infrastructure.**

- These AIFs are now permitted to raise debt by pledging the equity of investee companies.

**Regulatory Amendments:**

- Amendments to SEBI (AIF) Regulations, 2012 are now codified as SEBI (AIF) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2024.

- This amendment is made under Section 11(1) of the SEBI Act, 1992.

**BSE Regulatory Fees:** SEBI has mandated that the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) pay regulatory fees based on the notional value of options contracts, rather than the premium value. BSE is required to pay any differential fees for past periods along with interest at 15% per annum for delays.

#### 112) ADB Commits USD 23.6 Billion for Sustainable Development

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) pledges USD 23.6 billion in 2023 for sustainable development projects in Asia and the Pacific.

- **Climate Action Funding:**
  - Of the total commitment, USD 9.8 billion is allocated specifically for climate action initiatives.
- **Funding Mechanisms:**
  - ADB will utilize a range of financial instruments, including loans, grants, equity investments, guarantees, and technical support, to fund these projects.
- **Additional Co-Financing:**
  - ADB secures an extra USD 16.4 billion in co-financing through partnerships, boosting the overall impact of its sustainable

development and climate action efforts.

#### 113) RBI Maintains FPI Investment Cap and Announces Key Updates

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) maintains the Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) investment limit in Government Securities (G-Sec) at 6% of outstanding security stocks for Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25).

- Investment limits for state government securities (SGSs) and corporate bonds remain unchanged at 2% and 15%, respectively.
- **Fully Accessible Route (FAR):**
  - All investments in 'specified securities' by eligible investors are included under the Fully Accessible Route (FAR).
- **Incremental Changes:**
  - Incremental changes in the G-Sec limit are divided into two sub-categories—General and Long Term—retained at a 50:50 ratio.

#### 114) Ashok Leyland and South Indian Bank Partner for Dealer Financing

- **Partnership Details:**
  - Ashok Leyland and South Indian Bank have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to

provide financial services to Ashok Leyland dealers.

- **Objective:**
  - The partnership aims to offer competitive financing options to dealers, enhancing convenience and providing comprehensive financing solutions.

115) SBI Card MILES: New Travel Credit Cards: **SBI launches SBI Card MILES with three variants: ELITE, PRIME, and MILES, catering to various travel preferences.**

- **Fees and Benefits:**
  - Annual fees range from Rs 1,499 to Rs 4,999. Cardholders earn travel credits on spending, which can be converted into air miles or used for bookings.

116) Groww Mutual Fund Launches India's First Nifty Non-Cyclical Consumer Index Fund

**Groww Mutual Fund introduces the Nifty Non-Cyclical Consumer Index Fund**, India's first fund of its kind, tracking the Nifty Non-Cyclical Consumer Index-TRI.

- **Objective:**
  - The fund aims for long-term capital growth by investing in companies involved in or benefiting from non-cyclical consumer consumption.

117) RBI Unveils FEMA Regulations for Direct Listing on International Exchanges

RBI introduces new regulations under FEMA to facilitate the direct listing of Indian companies on international stock exchanges.

- **Benefits:**
  - Enhances flexibility in fund utilization, simplifies foreign exchange transactions, and improves access to international capital markets.
- **Impact:**
  - Aims to boost visibility for Indian companies and encourage market development.

118) IndusInd Bank Executes RBI's Programmable CBDC Pilot

IndusInd Bank successfully implements RBI's programmable Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) pilot, focusing on carbon credit generation for farmers.

- **Implementation:**
  - The pilot involves disbursing programmable CBDC to farmers in Maharashtra, with plans to expand.

### 119) NABARD Launches Climate Strategy 2030

NABARD unveils Climate Strategy 2030 to mobilize green financing for rural and agricultural sectors, aiming to meet India's climate goals.

- **Challenge:**
  - Addresses the need for approximately \$170 billion annually to meet climate targets by 2030.

### 120) RBI Bans Kotak Mahindra from Onboarding New Customers Online

- **Ban Details:**
  - RBI instructs Kotak Mahindra Bank to halt online and mobile onboarding of new customers and cease issuing new credit cards due to IT platform deficiencies.
- **Issues Identified:**
  - Concerns include deficiencies in IT inventory management, data security, and other technological aspects.

### 121) Indian Bank & Tata Solar Power Partner for Rooftop Solar Scheme

- **Partnership Details:**
  - Indian Bank and Tata Power Solar Systems have teamed up to finance

rooftop solar installations under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.

- The scheme, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 13, 2024, offers free electricity to one crore households in India. Eligible households can receive 300 units of free electricity per month by installing rooftop solar systems.

- **Funding:**

- The government has allocated Rs 75,021 crore for the implementation of the scheme.

### 123) PayU Receives RBI's In-Principle Approval as Payment Aggregator

- **Approval Details:**

- PayU secures in-principle approval from the RBI to operate as a Payment Aggregator under the Payment Settlements Act, 2007.
- This approval marks a significant milestone for PayU's expansion in India, following a year-long process.

### 124) RBI Guidelines for SFBs Seeking Universal Bank Licence

- **Guidelines:**

- Small Finance Banks (SFBs) must maintain profitability and a gross non-performing assets (NPA) ratio below 3% for at least two financial years before applying for a universal bank licence.
- A minimum net worth of ₹1,000 crore and a capital adequacy ratio of 15% are required.
- SFBs must demonstrate satisfactory performance for a minimum of five years.

#### 125) Airtel Payments Bank Launches NCMC-enabled Cards

Airtel Payments Bank introduces NCMC-enabled debit and prepaid cards, powered by RuPay, supporting the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) initiative.

- These cards are available for both savings account holders and wallet users and are made from eco-friendly e-PVC material.

#### 126) RuPay Launches 'Link it, Forget it' Campaign at IPL 2024

RuPay, in collaboration with NPCI, introduces the 'Link it, Forget it' campaign during IPL 2024 to promote RuPay credit cards integrated with UPI, highlighting the convenience of digital payments.

#### 127) SBI Report: Surge in Senior Citizen Deposits

Senior citizen deposits increased by 143% to Rs 34.367 lakh crore by December 2023 from Rs 13.724 lakh crore in 2018.

- Term deposit accounts for senior citizens grew by 81% to approximately 7.4 crore in December 2023.
- Interest earned on senior citizen deposits totaled approximately Rs 2.7 lakh crore in FY24.

#### 128) Bank of India Partners with IMGIC for Mortgage Guarantee-backed Home Loans

Bank of India collaborates with India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation (IMGIC) to offer mortgage guarantee-backed home loans for the affordable housing segment.

- IMGIC's guarantee aims to reduce default risks, allowing Bank of India to offer more favorable loan terms.

#### 129) SBI Life Insurance Launches 'IdeationX' Initiative

**SBI Life Insurance introduces 'IdeationX'**, a platform aimed at fostering innovation in the

insurance sector by engaging future leaders from B-schools.

- The initiative seeks to develop unconventional life insurance solutions, aligned with the IRDAI's vision of 'Insurance for All by 2047'.

- **Objective:**

- To explore innovative solutions addressing India's growing insurance demands and contribute to reshaping the industry.

### 130) RBI Halts Bank of Baroda World App Onboarding Amid Cyber Fraud Concerns

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has suspended Bank of Baroda's customer onboarding on its 'BoB World' mobile app due to a surge in cyber fraud incidents, including a significant scam.

- This suspension, enacted in October 2023, reflects the RBI's commitment to protecting consumers and the financial system from cyber threats.

- **RBI Directive:**

- Under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the RBI requires Bank of Baroda to address observed deficiencies and

strengthen processes before resuming customer onboarding.

- **Finance Ministry Proposal:**

- The Finance Ministry is advocating for stricter measures to combat fraud, focusing on enhancing cybersecurity and improving the due diligence practices of financial institutions.

### 131) Revolut Receives In-Principle Approval from RBI for Prepaid Payment Instruments License

Revolut India has obtained in-principle authorization from the RBI to issue Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI), including prepaid cards and wallets.

- This approval allows Revolut to operate in the Indian market and expands its offerings to include both international and domestic payment solutions.

- **Revolut:**

- **Headquarters:** London
- **Existing Licenses:** Category-II Authorised Money Exchange Dealer (AD II) for multi-currency forex cards and cross-border remittance services
- **Preparation:** Revolut has been working with the RBI for the past

two years in anticipation of this entry.

### 132) PhonePe Partners with e-Sewa and Hotel Association of Nepal for UPI Promotion

PhonePe is collaborating with e-Sewa and the Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN) Pokhara to promote Unified Payments Interface (UPI) during the Fewa New Year Festival in Nepal.

- The festival, taking place from April 11th to 14th, is popular among Nepali citizens and Indian tourists, featuring cultural events and traditional performances.

- **Objectives:**

- PhonePe aims to boost digital payments through UPI and will conduct various on-ground activations to educate local merchants and customers about the benefits of digital transactions.

### 133) HDFC Bank Becomes First Private Bank to Open Branch in Lakshadweep

HDFC Bank has inaugurated its first branch in Lakshadweep, located at Kavaratti Island.

- The branch will focus on upgrading banking infrastructure and providing a range of services,

including personal and digital banking.

- **HDFC Bank's Initiative:**

- The branch will offer customized digital solutions, such as QR-based transactions for retailers, to cater to the local population's banking needs.

### 134) IPPB Introduces Aadhaar ATM Service for Customers

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has launched the Aadhaar ATM service based on the Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS) principle introduced by NPCI.

- Customers can now withdraw cash via postmen or gramin dak sevaks at their doorstep, making banking more accessible for those in remote areas.

- **Transaction Limits:**

- NPCI has set a maximum transaction limit of Rs. 10,000 for a single AePS financial transaction.
- IPPB imposes no restrictions on AePS transactions for clients of other banks.

135) SINE, IIT Bombay and Canara Bank Forge Partnership for Startup Financing

Canara Bank and the Society for Innovation & Entrepreneurship (SINE) at IIT Bombay signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on April 3rd.

- The MoU aims to provide financial assistance to startups through Canara Bank's Start-Up Scheme, supporting the establishment, promotion, and modernization of industrial units across India.
- **Objective:**
  - The collaboration is designed to bolster the startup ecosystem by offering crucial financial support to emerging businesses.

### **136) IREDA Incorporates "IREDA Global Green Energy Finance IFSC Limited" in GIFT City, Gujarat**

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) has established a wholly owned subsidiary named "IREDA Global Green Energy Finance IFSC Limited" in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at GIFT City, Gujarat.

- **Regulatory Approval:**
  - The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) granted a No Objection letter in

February 2024 for the establishment of this finance company in IFSC GIFT City.

### **137) Thomas Cook India Launches TCPay: Revolutionizing International Money Transfers**

- **Service Launch:**
  - Thomas Cook India has introduced TCPay, a new platform for international money transfers, offering a user-friendly and efficient solution.
- **Key Features:**
  - TCPay provides 24x7 remittance capabilities, simplifying and enhancing the process of sending money abroad compared to traditional methods.

### **138) SEBI Approves CARE ESG Ratings Limited**

**CARE ESG Ratings Limited (CareEdge ESG), a subsidiary of CARE Ratings Limited,** has received approval from the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** to operate as a **Category I Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Ratings Provider (ERP).**

- **Registration:**
  - CareEdge-ESG, formerly known as CARE Advisory Research & Training Limited, was registered

under SEBI (Credit Rating Agencies) Regulations, 1999 on May 2, 2024.

- **Purpose:**
  - The approval enables CareEdge-ESG to offer ESG ratings, assisting issuers in enhancing their sustainability performance by providing insights into environmental, social, and governance factors.

### **139) SBI Becomes First Indian Bank to Act as Trading-cum-Clearing Member at IIBX**

State Bank of India (SBI) has become the first Indian bank to serve as a Trading-cum-Clearing Member at the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) in GIFT City, Gandhinagar.

- **Regulatory Approval:**
  - The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) granted permission in February 2024 for Indian bank branches in GIFT-IFSC to operate as Trading Members (TM) or Trading and Clearing Members (TCM) of IIBX, allowing them to import gold or silver as Special Category Clients (SCCs).

140) Bank of India Partners with Indian Coast Guard for "BOI Rakshak Salary/Pension Savings Scheme"

Bank of India (BOI) has teamed up with the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) to launch the "BOI Rakshak Salary/Pension Savings Scheme," which offers a zero-balance requirement.

- **Benefits:**
  - The scheme provides comprehensive insurance coverage including Personal Accident, Air Accident, Permanent Total Disability, and Partial Disability covers for all ranks of ICG, veterans, recruits, and ex-servicemen.
- **MoU Signing:**
  - The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed at ICG Headquarters in New Delhi, with key figures including Narendra Singh (DIG and Principal Director, Administration, ICG) and Sharda Bhushan Rai (CGM, BOI) in attendance.

### 141) PhonePe Launches UPI Payments in Sri Lanka in Collaboration with LankaPay

PhonePe has partnered with LankaPay to introduce UPI payments in Sri Lanka, facilitating seamless transactions for PhonePe users.

- **Impact:**
  - This initiative aims to enhance the payment experience for Indian tourists and business travelers in Sri Lanka, offering a convenient and cost-effective solution by eliminating the need for cash and currency conversions.

### 142) TATA AIG Debuts India's First Satellite Liability Insurance

TATA AIG has introduced India's first satellite in-orbit third-party liability insurance policy, designed to meet the specific needs of satellite manufacturers and operators.

- **Coverage:**
  - The policy covers third-party injuries and property damage resulting from satellite operations, adhering to global standards and practices.
- **Company Information:**

- TATA AIG General Insurance Company Limited is a joint venture between the TATA Group and American International Group (AIG).

### 143) IFC Supports HDFC Bank with \$500 Million for Women's Microfinance

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has provided a \$500 million loan to HDFC Bank to finance microloans for women borrowers.

- **Fund Allocation:**
  - HDFC Bank plans to use these funds for women's self-help groups (SHGs) and joint liability groups (JLGs) involved in sustainable livelihood initiatives.

### 144) SBI General Unveils 'Surety Bond Bima' for Infrastructure Projects

SBI General Insurance has launched 'Surety Bond Bima,' a product designed to support infrastructure development by providing a security arrangement for infrastructure projects.

- **Coverage:** The product offers protection against breaches by contractors during both the bidding and performance stages of projects. It includes bid bonds, advance payment bonds, performance bonds, and retention money bonds.

- **Purpose:** This product aligns with the government's vision to upscale infrastructure and provides coverage for a diverse range of contractors in today's volatile environment.

**145) Bank of India (BOI) Partners with Indian**

**Coast Guard (ICG):** BOI has launched the "BOI Rakshak Salary/Pension Savings Scheme," which offers a zero-balance requirement and comprehensive insurance coverage for all ranks of ICG, including veterans and ex-servicemen. The MoU was signed at ICG Headquarters in Delhi.

**146) PhonePe Launches UPI Payments in Sri**

**Lanka:** In collaboration with LankaPay, PhonePe has introduced UPI payments in Sri Lanka, enabling seamless transactions and reducing the need for cash and currency conversions.

**147) TATA AIG Introduces Satellite Liability**

**Insurance:** TATA AIG has launched India's first satellite in-orbit third-party liability insurance policy, designed to cover third-party injuries and property damage related to satellite operations.

**148) IFC Supports HDFC Bank with \$500**

**Million for Women's Microfinance:** The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has provided HDFC Bank with a \$500 million loan to support microloans for women, focusing on self-help groups (SHGs) and joint liability groups

(JLGs) involved in sustainable livelihood initiatives.

**149) SBI General Launches 'Surety Bond**

**Bima':** SBI General Insurance has introduced 'Surety Bond Bima,' offering security for infrastructure projects. This product includes various types of bonds to protect against contractor breaches during project stages.

**150) CMS Infosystems Reports ATM Cash**

**Withdrawals Rise:** CMS Infosystems reports a 5.51% increase in monthly average cash withdrawals from ATMs, reaching Rs 1.43 crore in FY24, highlighting ongoing demand for cash despite digital payment growth.

**151) NABARD Studies Impact of GI Certified**

**Products:** NABARD has commissioned a study to evaluate the impact of Geographical Indication (GI) products, analyzing benefits for artisans and producers from GI tags.

**152) RBI Cancels Acemoney's NBFC Licence:**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has canceled the NBFC licence of Acemoney (India) due to irregularities in lending practices, including non-compliance with guidelines on risk management and customer confidentiality.

**153) Worldline ePayments India Approved as**

**Payment Aggregator:** Worldline ePayments India has received RBI approval to operate as a

payment aggregator, ensuring compliance and expanding its presence in the Indian market.

**154) RBI Announces 8% Interest Rate on Floating Rate Bond 2034:** RBI has set an 8% interest rate for the Government of India Floating Rate Bond 2034 (GOI FRB 2034) for the period from April 30, 2024, to October 29, 2024, based on the average Weighted Average Yield of recent T-Bill auctions.

**155) Neobanking Startup Fi Secures NBFC Licence:** Fi, a neobanking startup, has obtained an NBFC licence from RBI, allowing it to offer loans directly and expand its lending operations.

**156) NPCI Partners with Bank of Namibia for UPI-like System:** NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) is collaborating with the Bank of Namibia to develop an instant payment system similar to India's UPI, aimed at improving digital payments in Namibia.

**157) Yes Bank and ANQ Introduce Pi and Phi Credit Cards:** Yes Bank has teamed up with DeFi fintech ANQ to launch Pi and Phi co-branded credit cards, incorporating DeFi features and offering seamless credit on UPI transactions.

**158) SEBI Mandates PMS Distributor Registration with APMI:** SEBI has mandated that Portfolio Management Services (PMS) distributors must register with the Association of

Portfolio Managers of India (APMI) starting January 1, 2025, to enhance oversight.

**159) REC Ltd Granted NOC for Subsidiary in GIFT City:** REC Ltd has received a no-objection certificate (NOC) from RBI to establish a subsidiary in Gujarat International Finance Tech City (GIFT), expanding its financial activities.

**160) GetVantage Secures RBI NBFC License:**

- **Overview:** GetVantage, known for its revenue-based financing, has received an RBI license to operate as a non-banking financial company (NBFC). The company plans to assist over 1,000 SMEs in India across various sectors including cleantech, D2C, EV, and infrastructure.
- **Founder & CEO:** Bhavik Vasa
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra

**161) India and Ghana to Implement UPI on GHIPSS:**

- **Overview:** India and Ghana have set a timeline to integrate India's Unified Payment Interface (UPI) with Ghana's Payment and Settlement Systems (GHIPSS) within six months. This collaboration aims to enhance digital payment systems and strengthen economic relations.

- **Ghana:** Capital: Accra, Currency: Ghanaian Cedi, President: Nana Akufo-Addo

**162) YES BANK and EBANX Partnership:**

YES BANK has partnered with global fintech EBANX to offer scalable payment solutions to merchants, improving cross-border payment processing and global commerce opportunities for Indian merchants.

**163) ICICI Bank Enables UPI for NRIs:**

ICICI Bank has introduced UPI functionality for NRIs using their international mobile numbers, simplifying transactions and enhancing convenience.

**164) Setu Launches Sesame:**

Setu, part of Pine Labs Group, has launched Sesame, India's first large language model (LLM) for the BFSI sector. Sesame, developed with Sarvam AI, aims to enhance credit decision-making and provide personalized financial services.

**165) HDFC Bank Introduces Pixel Play:**

HDFC Bank has launched Pixel Play, India's first virtual credit card in partnership with Visa. It offers features like personalized benefits, seamless digital management, and minimal documentation.

**166) Maldives to Introduce RuPay Service:**

The Maldives is set to introduce India's RuPay payment system, aiming to strengthen its financial stability. RuPay is already accepted in several

countries and is India's leading card payment network.

**167) RBI Penalty on Hero FinCorp:** The RBI has imposed a Rs 3.1 lakh penalty on Hero FinCorp for non-compliance with the fair practices code. This penalty pertains to regulatory compliance deficiencies but does not affect the validity of existing transactions or agreements.

**168) SBI Raises ₹10,000 Crore through Infrastructure Bonds:**

- **Details:** State Bank of India (SBI) issued 15-year infrastructure bonds with a 7.36% coupon rate, raising ₹10,000 crore. The issuance was oversubscribed nearly four times the base size of ₹5,000 crore.
- **Purpose:** The proceeds will enhance SBI's infrastructure loan portfolio, targeting sectors like power, ports, roads, and telecom.

**169) Urban-Rural Consumption Expenditure Differential Falls:**

- **Survey Findings:** According to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), the consumption expenditure in rural India was 71% lower than in urban India from August 2022 to July 2023. The average monthly per capita consumption expenditure in rural areas was ₹3,773.

### 170) ICICI Bank Market Capitalization Crosses \$100 Billion:

- **Details:** ICICI Bank's market capitalization surpassed \$100 billion, making it the sixth Indian company to achieve this milestone. The bank's shares closed at ₹1,199, up 2.5%, valuing the bank at ₹8.44 trillion (\$100 billion).
- **Performance:** ICICI Bank's share price rose nearly 29% over the past year, and the bank reported a standalone net profit increase of 17.4% year-on-year for Q4FY24.

### 171) Partnership Between INSILLION, Royal Sundaram, and IRCTC:

- **Overview:** INSILLION has partnered with Royal Sundaram General Insurance and IRCTC to offer embedded Group Personal Accident (GPA) insurance policies with e-ticket purchases. This partnership utilizes INSILLION's API platform and AWS Cloud to provide a scalable insurance solution.

### 172) SBI and BoM Dividend Payments to Indian Government:

- **SBI Dividend:** SBI distributed ₹6,959 crore as a dividend to the Indian government for FY 2023-24, reflecting its strong financial health.

- **BoM Dividend:** The Bank of Maharashtra presented ₹857 crore in dividends to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

### 173) ICICI Bank Launches 'SmartLock'

#### Feature:

- **Details:** ICICI Bank has introduced the 'SmartLock' feature on its iMobile Pay app, allowing customers to lock or unlock various banking services instantly. This feature includes controls for internet banking, UPI, credit/debit cards, and more to prevent fraud.

### 174) RBI Partners with APIX for HaRBInger 2024 Hackathon:

- **Overview:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has partnered with APIX to host the HaRBInger 2024 hackathon, focusing on financial innovation. The hackathon will address themes such as zero financial frauds and solutions for better accessibility for the disabled.

### 175) RBI Grants Payment Aggregator License to SabPaisa:

- **Details:** SabPaisa (SRS Live Technologies Private Limited) has received final approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a Payment Aggregator

(PA). This license allows SabPaisa to offer payment aggregation services across India.

- **Background:** SabPaisa has been providing payment gateway solutions since its establishment in 2016, including services like Payouts and Subscriptions.

#### 176) RBI June 2024 Bulletin Highlights:

- **GDP Growth:** India's GDP is projected to grow by 7.3% in Q1 FY25 (April-June 2024), aligning with the RBI's projection. For FY24 (2023-24), GDP growth was 8.2%.
- **Current Account Deficit (CAD):** Expected to be lower than 1% of GDP for FY24, indicating a strong external balance.
- **Global Context:** Global growth remains stable with many central banks adopting less restrictive monetary policies due to reduced inflation pressures.
- **State of the Economy:** The article discusses stable global growth and easing monetary policies by central banks.

#### 177) Federal Bank Launches Federal RuPay Wave Credit Card:

- **Features:**
  - Application via FedMobile app.
  - No annual maintenance charge (AMC) or joining fees.

- 10% cashback on the first five UPI transactions.
- 1000 bonus reward points for spending ₹50,000 per quarter.
- 1 reward point for every ₹200 spent.

- **Integration:** Links with UPI apps for secure and convenient transactions.

#### 178) IPPB Partners with Ria Money Transfer:

- **Details:** India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has partnered with Ria Money Transfer to offer international inward money transfers at post offices.
- **Impact:** The service will initially be available at over 25,000 locations, with plans to expand to over 100,000 locations. This partnership aims to enhance financial inclusion by providing accessible doorstep financial services.

#### 179) RBI Imposes ₹1.45 Crore Penalty on Central Bank of India:

- **Reason:** The penalty was imposed for non-compliance with RBI directives on loans, advances, and customer protection related to unauthorized electronic banking transactions.
- **Issues:** Central Bank of India (CBI) failed to credit amounts involved in unauthorized transactions to customers' accounts

promptly and did not resolve complaints within the prescribed timelines.

### 180) MEA and SBI MoU on Digital Payments for Migrant Workers

- **Date:** June 2024
- **Purpose:** To enhance digital payment services for Indian migrant workers through the eMigrate portal.
- **Key Points:**
  - SBI will integrate its payment gateway, SBIPay, with the eMigrate portal.
  - Enables transactions via UPI, credit/debit cards, and NEFT.
  - Aims to streamline and secure emigration-related payments.
- **Signatories:** Bramha Kumar (MEA) and Neelesh Dwivedi (SBI).

### 181) Karnataka Bank Launches KBL WISE Senior Citizen Savings Account

- **Location:** Bengaluru, Karnataka
- **Features:**
  - Two variants: KBL WISE Signature and KBL WISE Advantage.
  - Benefits include free health insurance, MediBuddy healthcare, HospiCash, and more.

- **Collaborations:** Care Health Insurance Co Limited and MediBuddy.
- **Significance:** Addresses senior citizens' banking and wellness needs.

### 182) NEC Corporation India Private Limited Selected as System Integrator by PFRDA

- **Project:** PFRDA-TRACE (Tracking, Reporting, Analytics, and Compliance e-Platform)
- **Purpose:** To facilitate regulatory compliance reporting and enhance transparency.
- **Significance:** Streamlines reporting and improves compliance monitoring.

### 183) SBI Launches SME Digital Business Loans

- **Features:**
  - Quick loan sanctioning within 45 minutes.
  - Simplified process leveraging data from ITR, GST returns, and bank statements.
- **Significance:** Enhances accessibility and convenience for SMEs.

### 184) RBI Introduces New Regulations for Offshore Investments

- **Changes:** Allows investments in offshore funds regulated through fund managers.

- **Significance:** Amends previous rules, broadening investment options.

#### 188) **Bank of India Acquires Stake in CCIL IFSC**

- **Investment:** 6.125% stake in Clearing Corporation of India Limited.
- **Significance:** Supports growth and development of GIFT City IFSC.

#### 189) **RBI Forms Committee to Explore Digital Payments Intelligence Platform**

- **Chair:** Abhaya Prasad Hota
- **Purpose:** To develop a digital public infrastructure for mitigating payment fraud risks.
- **Deadline:** Recommendations due within two months.

#### 190) **India Exim Bank Opens Nairobi Office**

- **Purpose:** To boost trade and investment in East Africa.
- **Significance:** Enhances India's business footprint in the region.

#### 191) **SEBI Receives 'Best Conduct of Business Regulator' Award**

- **Awarded by:** The Asian Banker
- **Received by:** Kamlesh Chandra Varshney
- **Significance:** Recognizes SEBI's excellence in regulatory conduct.

192) On June 7, 2024, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that it is keeping the Repo Rate unchanged at 6.5%** for the eighth consecutive time. **Here are the key rates and ratios following the 2nd Bi-monthly Monetary Policy for 2024-25:**

- **Policy Repo Rate:** 6.5%
- **Fixed Reverse Repo Rate:** 3.35%
- **Bank Rate:** 6.5%
- **Standing Deposit Facility (SDF):** 6.25%
- **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF):** 6.75%
- **Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR):** 4.50%
- **Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR):** 18%

### **Award news**

1. **Professor B.R. Kamboj, Vice Chancellor of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University**, has been honored with the **M.S. Swaminathan Award**. This prestigious award recognizes his contributions as a scientist and extension expert in agricultural sciences. Instituted in 2004, the M.S. Swaminathan Award was first presented to Nobel Peace Laureate Dr. Norman E. Borlaug on March 15, 2005, by then President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.

2. **Actress-producer Alia Bhatt** achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first Indian woman to be honored at the Joy Awards 2024 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. On January 20, 2024, she was bestowed with the Honorary Entertainment Makers Award during the ceremony.
3. **The 60 Parachute Field Hospital of Uttar Pradesh** has been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award-2024 in recognition of its excellence in disaster management and response.
4. Kuchipudi dancer Pendyala Lakshmi Priya was honored with the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar by President Droupadi Murmu. She received the award for her outstanding achievements in Kuchipudi dance, having been trained under the tutelage of renowned dancer Sudhir Rao of Warangal.
5. **Argentine superstar Lionel Messi** won the **Best FIFA Men's Player 2023** award, further cementing his status as one of football's greatest players.
6. **Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma** has announced that former Chief Justice of India (CJI) and Rajya Sabha MP Ranjan Gogoi will be honored with the 'Assam Vaibhav' award for his contributions to the judiciary and public life.
7. **Classical dancer and choreographer Vasanthalakshmi Narasimhachari** was honored with the Nritya Kalanidhi Award at the 17th Dance Festival of the Music Academy in Chennai for her contributions to classical dance.
8. **Dr. Amritpal Singh** has been awarded **'Knighthood'** by the UK government for his distinguished medical services, recognizing his contributions to healthcare.
9. **Rupika Grover, a 55-year-old model and actress from Jammu**, made history by becoming the oldest winner of Mrs. India One in a Million 2023.
10. **Former Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur** will be posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award, recognizing his significant contributions to Indian politics and social reform.
11. **President Droupadi Murmu presented the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2022** to Savita Kanswal posthumously for her outstanding achievements in Land Adventure.
12. **Burhanpur district in Madhya Pradesh has been awarded the 'One District One Product' award for banana processing.** The award was presented at the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Utsav 2024' in New Delhi.

13. **The 81st Golden Globe Awards will be held on January 7 in Beverly Hills, California, USA.** Christopher Nolan, director of the acclaimed film 'Oppenheimer,' was awarded the Best Director Motion Picture Award at the Golden Globes 2024.
14. **The Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award-2023** was given to Chirag Chandrasekhar Shetty and Rankireddy Satwik Sai Raj for their achievements in badminton.
15. **The Indian documentary film 'To Kill a Tiger,' directed by Delhi-born Nisha Pahuja,** has been nominated in the Best Documentary Feature Film category for the 96th Academy Awards.
16. **Union Minister Jitendra Singh awarded the "Indian of the Year Award"** for 2023 in the 'Outstanding Achievement' category to ISRO. ISRO Chairman S. Somanath and Chandrayaan 3 Project Director P. Veeramuthuvel received the accolade.
17. **President Droupadi Murmu awarded the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2024** to 19 exceptional children for their remarkable achievements.
18. **The Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2023 recognized:**
  - Odisha Mining Corporation Limited for its encouragement of sports through corporate social responsibility.
  - Jain Deemed-to-be University in Bengaluru for its identification and nurturing of budding and young talent.
19. **Ajit Mishra, an India-born lawyer in the UK, was honored** with the "Freedom of the City" Award by the City of London for his contributions to strengthening business ties between the City of London and India.
20. **Christopher Nolan's film 'Oppenheimer' led the 96th Academy Awards nominations** with 13. Other major contenders include 'Poor Things,' 'Barbie,' and 'Killers of the Flower Moon.'
21. **At the 81st Golden Globe Awards, held on January 8, 2024, at the Beverly Hilton** in Beverly Hills, California, USA, Christopher Nolan's film 'Oppenheimer' won five prestigious awards in key categories.
22. **President Droupadi Murmu has approved the conferment of 132 Padma Awards** for 2024, including 5 Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan, and 110 Padma Shri awards, with 2 duo cases included in the list.
23. **President Droupadi Murmu awarded the Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023** at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Surat

(Gujarat) and Indore (Madhya Pradesh) were recognized as the cleanest cities in India among those with a population exceeding 1 lakh, with Indore securing the top rank for the 6th consecutive time.

**24. The 69th Filmfare Awards were held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.**

The award for Best Film went to *12th Fail*. Vidhu Vinod Chopra was recognized as Best Director for *12th Fail*. Ranbir Kapoor won Best Actor in a Leading Role, and Alia Bhatt was honored with Best Actress in a Leading Role for her performance in *Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahaani*.

**25. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Announces Bharat Ratna for L.K. Advani:**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared that veteran BJP leader L.K. Advani will be honored with the prestigious Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award. The announcement was made on Saturday, with PM Modi personally congratulating Advani, describing him as "one of the most respected statesmen." Advani is recognized for his monumental contribution to India's development, making him a deserving recipient of the Bharat Ratna.

**26. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Honors Dr. Bina Modi as 'Outstanding Business Woman of the Year - 2023':** Union

Minister of Defence Rajnath Singh presented the "Outstanding Business Woman of the Year - 2023" award to Dr. Bina Modi, Chairperson of Modi Enterprises, KK Modi Group. The recognition acknowledges Dr. Modi's significant contributions to the industry and took place during the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) conference held in New Delhi.

**27. Prof. Aditi Sen De Achieves G.D. Birla Award:**

Prof. Aditi Sen De has achieved a significant milestone by becoming the first woman scientist to be honored with the prestigious G.D. Birla Award. The award recognizes her outstanding contributions to scientific research, particularly in her field of expertise.

**28. Ministry of Home Affairs Introduces 'Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak':**

The Ministry of Home Affairs established the 'Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak' on February 1, 2024, by merging four existing medals. The new award recognizes excellence in security operations, including counter-terrorism, border action, arms control, left-wing extremism, prevention of narcotics smuggling, and rescue operations. Eligibility extends to personnel from CBIC, Ministry of Finance, under the

"prevention of narcotics smuggling" category.

29. **Shankar Mahadevan and Zakir**

**Hussain's Fusion Band 'Shakti' Wins**

**Grammy:** Fusion band Shakti, led by Shankar Mahadevan and Zakir Hussain, won the Grammy for Best Global Music Album with "This Moment." The album features contributions from renowned artists such as John McLaughlin, V Selvaganesh, and Ganesh Rajagopalan. Zakir Hussain also earned another Grammy for Best Global Music Performance for his work on "Pashto" with Bela Fleck and Edgar Meyer, featuring Rakesh Chaurasia, who clinched dual Grammys for his album "As We Speak" in Best Contemporary Instrumental and Best Global Music Performance categories.

30. **REC Limited Honored with Best Green**

**Bond - Corporate Award:** REC Limited, a Maharatna PSU under the Ministry of Power, received the Best Green Bond - Corporate Award at the Asset Triple A Awards for Sustainable Finance 2024. This recognition follows REC's issuance of \$750 million USD green bonds in April 2023, marking a milestone for India post-assuming G20 presidency and showcasing India's commitment to sustainable finance.

31. **PT Usha Honored with Lifetime**

**Achievement Award:** PT Usha, the

legendary sprinter and President of the Indian Olympic Association, was honored with the 'Lifetime Achievement' award by SJFI and DSJA. The recognition celebrates Usha's remarkable contributions to Indian athletics and her outstanding sporting career. Often hailed as the "Queen of Indian Track and Field," Usha received a medallion, citation, and memento symbolizing her revered status in sports.

32. **India Confers Bharat Ratna on PV Narasimha Rao, Chaudhary Charan**

**Singh, and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan:**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the Bharat Ratna for PV Narasimha Rao, Chaudhary Charan Singh, and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan. PV Narasimha Rao, former Prime Minister, is credited with economic reforms and liberalization in the 1990s. Chaudhary Charan Singh, also a former Prime Minister, was a champion of farmers' rights and rural development. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, renowned agricultural scientist, is hailed as the "Father of the Green Revolution in India" for his contributions to agriculture and food security.

33. **Nima Sarikhani Wins 2023 Wildlife Photographer of the Year People's**

**Choice Award:** Nima Sarikhani from the UK won the 2023 Wildlife Photographer of the Year People's Choice Award for his

image of a polar bear resting on a small iceberg. The award, organized annually by the Natural History Museum, London, was established in 1965. Sarikhani's photo, titled 'Ice Bed,' garnered 75,000 votes in an online poll featuring the top 25 images from over 50,000 entries worldwide.

**34. Noida Authority Honored with Water**

**Warrior Award:** The Noida Authority has been honored with the Water Warrior Award for its commendable efforts in implementing sewage treatment plants (STPs) and water conservation measures.

**35. Introduction of National Creator's**

**Award:** The government launched the 'National Creators Award' to honor the contributions of new-age influencers and creators in India's digital realm. The initiative by the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) aims to recognize individuals fostering innovation, creativity, and positive social change, spanning over 20 categories including storytelling, social change advocacy, environmental sustainability, education, and gaming.

**36. Havildar Varinder Singh Honored with**

**Vishisht Seva Medal:** Havildar Varinder Singh from the Sikh Regiment of the Indian Army was awarded the prestigious Vishisht Seva Medal. President Droupadi Murmu conferred the accolade in recognition of Singh's remarkable

contribution to military technology. Singh developed the multipurpose octocopter, showcasing innovation in drone technology.

**37. South Indian Bank Receives Best**

**Technology Bank of the Year Award:**

South Indian Bank was honored with the Best Technology Bank of the Year Award at the 19th IBA Annual Banking Technology Conference, Expo, & Citations.

**38. Kerala Awarded for Tuberculosis**

**Elimination Activities:** Kerala has been awarded by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for its exceptional tuberculosis elimination activities. The award recognizes Kerala's effective coordination of the National TB Elimination Programme's activities within the private health sector.

**39. Constable Shashikant Kumar Awarded**

**Jeevan Raksha Padak:** President of India conferred the Jeevan Raksha Padak upon Constable Shashikant Kumar during the Republic Day 2024 ceremony. The Jeevan Raksha Padak, part of the Ashoka Chakra series of gallantry awards, was established in 1961 and recognizes acts of humanity in saving lives during emergencies like drowning, accidents, fires, and electrocution.

40. **Shashi Tharoor Awarded 'Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur'**: Shashi Tharoor, diplomat, author, and politician, was awarded the prestigious 'Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur' (Knight of the Legion of Honour), France's highest civilian honor.

41. **Suresh Wadkar Receives the Gansamragini Lata Mangeshkar Award**: Veteran playback singer Suresh Wadkar was honored with the prestigious Gansamragini Lata Mangeshkar Award. The award ceremony took place in Mumbai, where Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis presented Wadkar with special mementoes. The award recognizes Wadkar's significant contributions to the Indian music industry and his exceptional vocal talent.

42. **External Affairs Minister to Confer 'Global Jain Peace Ambassador' Title on Acharya Lokesh Muni**: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will bestow the title of 'Global Jain Peace Ambassador' upon Acharya Lokesh Muni. The ceremony, to be held in Karnataka at the Jain pilgrim center Navagraha Tirtha Kshetra in Hubli Varur, honors Acharya Lokesh Muni's contributions to peace and non-violence. Acharya Lokesh Muni, founder of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti and the

World Peace Center, is recognized for his efforts in promoting ahimsa (non-violence) and interfaith dialogue.

43. **Pankaj Kumar Chatterjee Wins Romain Rolland Book Prize**: Pankaj Kumar Chatterjee received the Romain Rolland Book Prize for translating Jean-Daniel Baltassat's "Le Divan de Staline" into Bengali as "Staliner Divan." His translation, published by New Bharat Sahitya Kutir, Kolkata, is recognized for its linguistic excellence and faithfulness to the original text. This is the second time a Bengali translation has been awarded this prestigious prize, highlighting the growing recognition of Bengali literature on the global stage.

44. **Miss World 2024 Returns to India**: The 71st edition of Miss World will take place in India from February 18 to March 9, marking the pageant's return to India after nearly three decades. The event will kick off with "The Opening Ceremony" and "India Welcomes the World Gala" in New Delhi on February 20, organized by the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC).

45. **58th Edition of Jnanpith Award 2023**  
**Recipients**: The 58th Jnanpith Award was conferred upon Gulzar, the celebrated Urdu poet and Bollywood personality, and Jagadguru Rambhadracharya, the

distinguished Sanskrit scholar and spiritual leader.

**46. LIC Named World's Strongest Insurance Brand**

According to the 'Brand Finance Insurance 100 2024' report, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has been recognized as the world's strongest insurance brand.

**47. PM Modi Receives Bhutan's Highest Civilian Award**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been honored with Bhutan's highest civilian award, the Order of the Druk Gyalpo, recognizing his contributions to strengthening India-Bhutan relations.

**48. Bina Agarwal and James Boyce Win Global Inequality Research Award**

Bina Agarwal and James Boyce have been awarded the inaugural Global Inequality Research Award for their significant contributions to understanding social and environmental inequalities.

**49. ISRO Wins Aviation Week Laureates Award**

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has been awarded the prestigious Aviation Week Laureates Award for its achievements in the Chandrayaan-3 mission. Sripriya Ranganathan accepted the award on behalf of ISRO.

**50. IndiGo Receives 'Airline of the Year' Award**

IndiGo, India's leading budget carrier, has been named 'Airline of the Year' at the Air Transport Awards 2024 in Athens, Greece. This follows its achievement of operating 2,000 daily flights and carrying 100 million passengers in a year.

**51. Michel Talagrand Honored with Abel Prize**

Michel Talagrand, recognized for his research at CNRS, has been awarded the Abel Prize for 2024 by The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters for his significant contributions to mathematics.

**52. Ratan Tata Receives PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Award**

Ratan Tata has been awarded the PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Award for his outstanding contributions to philanthropy, with the award ceremony held in Mumbai.

**53. Delhi Airport Wins 'Best Airport' Award**

Delhi Airport has retained its title as the 'Best Airport' in the Asia-Pacific region for the sixth consecutive year, awarded by the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) program.

**54. India Receives 'Measles and Rubella Champion' Award**

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of India has been awarded the Measles and Rubella Champion Award for

its efforts in combating these diseases.

Sripriya Ranganathan accepted the award on behalf of the Ministry.

**55. Krystyna Pyszková Crowned Miss World 2024**

Krystyna Pyszková from the Czech Republic has been crowned Miss World 2024 at a ceremony in Mumbai, India. She succeeds Karolina Bielawska from Poland.

**56. Indian Youths Uday Bhatia and Manasi Gupta Receive Diana Memorial Award**

Uday Bhatia and Manasi Gupta from India have been honored with the Diana Memorial Award for their exceptional humanitarian and social work.

**57. TM Krishna to Receive Sangita Kalanidhi Award**

Renowned Carnatic vocalist TM Krishna will be honored with the Sangita Kalanidhi Award by the Madras Music Academy for his significant contributions to Carnatic music.

**58. Raksha Mantri Trophy Awarded to Top AFMS Command Hospitals**

Command Hospital (Southern Command), Pune, and Command Hospital (Central Command), Lucknow, have been awarded the top positions among AFMS command hospitals for their exceptional medical services.

**59. Prabha Varma Wins Saraswati Samman 2023**

Poet Prabha Varma has been awarded the Saraswati Samman 2023 for his Malayalam poetry collection, "Roudra Sathwikam," recognizing his significant literary contributions.

**60. Pyarelal Sharma Receives Laxminarayan International Award**

Musician Pyarelal Sharma has been honored with the Laxminarayan International Award for his outstanding contributions to the field of music during the Global Music Festival.

**61. Riken Yamamoto Receives 2024 Pritzker Architecture Prize**

Riken Yamamoto has been awarded the 2024 Pritzker Architecture Prize for his substantial and enduring contributions to the field of architecture.

**62. Amitav Ghosh Awarded Erasmus Prize 2024**

Indian writer Amitav Ghosh has been honored with the Erasmus Prize 2024 by the Premium Erasmianum Foundation of the Netherlands for his impactful literary work on climate change.

**63. Dr. Pradeep Mahajan Receives Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2024**

Dr. Pradeep Mahajan, founder of STEMRX Hospital and Research Centre, has been awarded the Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2024 for his pioneering work in regenerative medicine.

**64. Sunil Bharti Mittal Awarded Honorary Knighthood**

Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman and founder of Bharti Enterprises, has been awarded an honorary knighthood by King Charles III of Britain for his contributions to UK-India business relations.

**65. Sangeet Natak Akademi Honors Artists**

The Sangeet Natak Akademi has honored six artists with the Akademi Puruskar and ninety-two artists with Akademi Awards. Additionally, eighty young artists will receive the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for their contributions to performing arts.

**66. Dr. Pradeep Mahajan Receives Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2024**

Dr. Pradeep Mahajan, founder and chairman of STEMRX Hospital and Research Centre, has been awarded the Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2024 for advancing regenerative medicine.

**67. President Droupadi Murmu to Present Bharat Ratna Awards**

President Droupadi Murmu is set to present the Bharat Ratna Awards, honoring former Prime Ministers Chaudhary Charan Singh and P. V. Narasimha Rao, former Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur, and eminent scientist M. S. Swaminathan

posthumously. Veteran BJP leader L. K. Advani will also be honored.

**68. REC Limited** received the SKOCH ESG Award 2024 for Renewable Energy Financing, recognizing its commitment to sustainable financing.

**69. Hardik Singh** and **Salima Tete** were honored with the Hockey India Balbir Singh Senior Sr. Awards for Player of the Year 2023 (Men and Women, respectively).

**70. Prof. Meena Charanda**, Principal of Kalindi College, Delhi University, received the International Culture Award 2024 for her contributions to education and social service.

**71. Vineet Jain**, Managing Director of the Times Group, was awarded the ENBA Lifetime Achievement Award 2023 for his contributions to Indian television news.

**72. SJVN Limited** won the 15th CIDC Vishwakarma Award 2024 for CSR Contribution, while **GAIL** received the same award for its Barauni – Guwahati Pipeline project.

**73. ISRO's Chandrayaan-3 team** was honored with the John L "Jack" Swigert Jr Award for Space Exploration by the Space Foundation.

**74. Mamta G. Sagar**, Kannada poet and writer, received the WOW World Literary Prize at the VII World Literary Festival.

75. **Sana**, an AI news anchor by India Today, won global media awards for the best use of AI in customer-facing products and AI-led newsroom transformation.
76. **Alok Shukla**, environmental activist, was awarded the Goldman Environmental Prize for his efforts in protecting the Hasdeo Arand forest.
77. **Acharya Lokesh Muni** became the first Indian monk to receive the American President's Gold Volunteer Service Award for his contributions to public good and humanity.
78. **Gagandeep Kang** received the John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award for her contributions to global health research.
79. **Avi Wigderson** was honored with the ACM A.M. Turing Award for his foundational contributions to the theory of computation.
80. **Amitabh Bachchan** will receive the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award for his exemplary contributions to society.
81. **Adwaita Nayar**, co-founder of Nykaa, was named a 2024 Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum.
82. **Deepika Soreng** was awarded the Hockey India Asunta Lakra Award for Upcoming Player of the Year.
83. **Ratan Tata** received the KISS Humanitarian Award 2021 for his global humanitarian efforts.

84. **Wisden Cricketers' Almanack 2024** named Mitchell Starc, Usman Khawaja, Ash Gardner, Harry Brook, and Mark Wood as Wisden Cricketers of the Year.
85. **Pavuluri Subba Rao** was awarded the Aryabhata Award for Lifetime Contribution to Astronautics by the Astronautical Society of India.
86. The **Pandit Lacchu Maharaj Award** will be presented to notable figures in the field of dance and arts at a ceremony scheduled for August 31, 2024, in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. The award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to dance and related fields, is named in honor of the renowned kathak exponent Lacchu Maharaj.

**Here are the awardees and their corresponding years:**

1. **Uma Sharma** (2015) – Kathak, New Delhi
2. **Rama Vaidyanathan** (2016) – Kathak, New Delhi
3. **Uma Dogra** (2017) – Kathak, Jaipur
4. **Hema Malini** (2018) – Kathak and Film Actress, Mumbai
5. **Saira Banu** (2019) – Kathak and Film Actress, Mumbai
6. **Sandhaya Puricha** (2020) – Bharatanatyam Exponent, Mumbai

7. **Dr. Malabika Mitra** (2021) – Kathak, Kolkata
8. **Prachi Shah** (2022) – Kathak and Film Actress, Mumbai
9. **Ashim Bandhu Bhattacharya** (2023) – Kathak, Mumbai
10. **Pandit Rajendra Gangani** (2024) – Kathak, Jaipur

### 87. **Gina Justus Receives 2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Award for MENA**

- **Awardee:** Gina Justus, English teacher at Sharjah Girls Branch, UAE.
- **Award:** 2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Award.
- **Background:** Originally from Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, she has been teaching in the UAE since 2005.

### 88. **Bhavi Mehta Wins Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize 2024**

- **Awardee:** Bhavi Mehta.
- **Award:** Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize for "The Book Beautiful".
- **Award Details:** Trophy, certificate, and ₹1 lakh cash prize.
- **Event:** Announced at India Habitat Centre (IHC).

### 89. **Dr. Purnima Devi Barman Wins Second Whitley Gold Award**

- **Awardee:** Dr. Purnima Devi Barman, wildlife biologist from Assam.
- **Award:** Whitley Gold Award (Green Oscar) for conservation work on the Greater Adjutant Stork.
- **Presentation:** By Princess Anne at the Royal Geographical Society in London.

### 90. **International Chess Federation Awards Grandmaster Title to Vaishali Ramesh Babu**

- **Awardee:** Vaishali Ramesh Babu, Indian chess prodigy.
- **Title:** Grandmaster by FIDE.
- **Significance:** Third Indian female Grandmaster.

### 91. **2024 Pulitzer Prize Winners Announced**

- **Public Service:** Pro Publica.
- **Investigative Reporting:** Hannah Dreier of The New York Times.
- **Editorial Writing:** David E. Hoffman of The Washington Post.
- **Breaking News Photography:** Photography Staff of Reuters.
- **Fiction:** "Night Watch" by Jayne Anne Phillips.
- **Drama:** "Primary Trust" by Eboni Booth.
- **Poetry:** "Tripas: Poems" by Brandon Som.
- **Biography:**
  - "King: A Life" by Jonathan Eig.

- "Master Slave Husband Wife" by Ilyon Woo.

## 92. Pawan Sindhi Receives Global Pride of Sindhi Award 2024

- **Awardee:** Pawan Sindhi.
- **Award:** Global Pride of Sindhi Award 2024.
- **Event:** Celebrated with saints, Mahatmas, and sadhus.

## 93. President of India Presents Padma Awards 2024

- **Awards:** 2 Padma Vibhushan, 9 Padma Bhushan, and 56 Padma Shri Awards.
- **Ceremony:** Held at Rashtrapati Bhawan.

## 94. Ruskin Bond Honored with Sahitya Akademi Fellowship

- **Awardee:** Ruskin Bond.
- **Award:** Sahitya Akademi Fellowship.
- **Presentation:** At his Mussoorie residence.

## 95. IN-SPACE Honoured with Geospatial World Forum Leadership Award

- **Awardee:** Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACE).
- **Award:** Geospatial World Forum Leadership Award for "Public Policy: Enabling Industry Development".

- **Event:** 2024 Geospatial World Forum in Rotterdam.

## 96. Deepti Babuta Wins Dhahan Prize for Punjabi Literature

- **Awardee:** Deepti Babuta.
- **Award:** Dhahan Prize for Punjabi Literature.
- **Work:** "Bhukh Eon Sah Laindi Hai (Hunger Breathes Like This)".
- **Significance:** First woman to win this prize.

## 97. Jenny Erpenbeck's 'Kairos' Wins International Booker Prize 2024

- **Awardee:** Jenny Erpenbeck (author) and Michael Hofmann (translator).
- **Work:** "Kairos".
- **Prize Money:** £50,000.

## 98. Scientist Srinivas R. Kulkarni Awarded Shaw Prize in Astronomy

- **Awardee:** Srinivas R. Kulkarni.
- **Award:** Shaw Prize in Astronomy.

## 99. E-Rickshaw Driver Arti Conferred UK's Women's Empowerment Award

- **Awardee:** Arti, 18-year-old E-rickshaw driver from UP.
- **Award:** Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award.

- **Event:** Buckingham Palace, London.

100. **FTII Student Film Wins ‘La Cinef’ Award at 77th Cannes Film Festival**

- **Film:** "Sunflowers Were the First Ones to Know" by Chidanand S Naik.
- **Award:** La Cinef Award.

101. **Payal Kapadia’s Film Wins Cannes Grand Prix Award**

- **Film:** "All We Imagine as Light" by Payal Kapadia.
- **Award:** Grand Prix at Cannes Film Festival.
- **Significance:** First Indian to win the Grand Prix.

102. **India Wins Four Awards at Cannes Film Festival 2024**

- **Awards:**
  - **Chidanand Naik:** La Cinef section for "Sunflowers Were the First Ones to Know".
  - **Anasuya Sengupta:** Best Actress for "Shameless".
  - **Payal Kapadia:** Grand Prix for "All We Imagine as Light".
  - **Santosh Sivan:** Pierre Angénieux Tribute Award.

103. **NHPC Receives ‘The Economic Times HR World Future Ready Organization Award 2024-25’**

- **Awardee:** NHPC.
- **Award:** Economic Times HR World Future Ready Organization Award.

104. **KIA Bags Green Airports Recognition-2024 Award**

- **Awardee:** Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).
- **Award:** Silver in Airports Council International (ACI) Asia-Pacific & Middle East Green Airports Recognition (GAR) 2024.

**105. Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024**

**1. REC Limited**

- **Award:** Sustainability Champion— Editor’s Choice Award
- **Category:** Recognized for overall sustainability practices.

**2. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) Limited**

- **Award:** Corporate Social Responsibility Award (Non-Fossil Fuel sub-category)
- **Category:** Recognized for CSR initiatives focusing on non-fossil fuel energy.

**Award Categories and Winners:****1. Sustainable Governance Champion**

- **Fossil Fuel:** Coal India Limited
- **Non-Fossil Fuels:** NHPC Limited
- **Jury Special Recognition:** Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited

**2. Corporate Responsibility Champion**

- **Fossil Fuel:** GAIL (India) Limited
- **Non-Fossil Fuels:** Power Finance Corporation Limited
- **Jury Special Recognition:** NLC India Limited

**3. Circularity Champion**

- **Fossil Fuel:** Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
- **Non-Fossil Fuels:** Steel Authority of India Limited
- **Jury Special Recognition:** Indian Oil Corporation Limited

**4. Climate Action Champion**

- **Fossil Fuel:** NTPC Limited
- **Non-Fossil Fuels:** Bharat Electronics Limited
- **Jury Special Recognition:** Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited

**106. 2023 UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award****Major Radhika Sen**

- **Award:** 2023 UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year
- **Details:** Recognized for her significant contributions to gender equality in UN peacekeeping operations. The award will be presented by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres on the International Day of UN Peacekeepers, observed on May 29.

**107. Shaw Prize in Astronomy 2024****Srinivas R. Kulkarni**

- **Award:** Shaw Prize in Astronomy
- **Details:** Honored for his extensive research on millisecond pulsars, gamma-ray bursts, supernovae, and other transient astronomical phenomena.

**108. TIME100 Most Influential Companies 2024****Indian Companies Recognized:**

1. **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and Tata Group – Titans**
2. **Serum Institute of India (SII) – Pioneers**

**Other Notable Companies:**

- **Leaders:** Rare Beauty (founded by Selena Gomez)
- **Titans:** Microsoft, TikTok, Disney, Pfizer, Bank of America
- **Innovators:** Google, Huawei

## 109. Nelson Mandela Award for Health

Promotion 2024

- **Recipient:** National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru
- **Awarded by:** World Health Organization (WHO)
- **Details:** Recognizes contributions to health promotion.

110. Hindi Sahitya Bharati Award: **Recipient:**

Krishna Prakash **Details:** Honored for leading Mumbai Police's special counterterrorism team, Force One, and for his initiative of sending postcards to Lord Ram.

## 111. New York Indian Film Festival 2024

- **Award:** Best Actress
- **Recipient:** Sanya Malhotra for her role in "Mrs."
- **Additional Recognition:** Dadasaheb Phalke Award for "Kathal"

## 112. UN's WSIS 2024 "Champion" Award

- **Recipient:** Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)
- **Event:** WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event, Geneva
- **Technology Awarded:** Cell Broadcast Emergency Alerting Platform

## 113. Dilip Bose Lifetime Achievement Award

- **Recipients:** Coach Nar Singh and Rohini Lokhande
- **Award Details:** Honors lifetime achievements in tennis.

## 114. EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2024

- **Recipient:** Vellayan Subbiah
- **Details:** Executive Vice Chairman of Tube Investments of India, and Chairman of Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Limited.

## 115. Risk Manager of the Year Award 2024

- **Recipient:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- **Details:** Recognized for outstanding risk management practices.

116. UN Land Hero **Recipient:** Siddhesh Sakore

**Details:** Honored for pioneering work in natural farming and waste management.

117. Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award **Recipient:** Vinod Ganatra **Details:** Recognized for contributions to children's cinema.

## 118. V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award

**Recipient:** Subbiah Nallamuthu **Details:** Awarded for contributions to wildlife and documentary filmmaking.

## 119. Booker Prize and PEN Pinter Prize

- **Recipient:** Arundhati Roy
- **Details:** Awarded for courageous writing; also facing prosecution under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967.

#### 120. National Award for Atal Pension Yojana Enrollment

- **Recipient:** Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB)
- **Awarded by:** Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)
- **Details:** Recognized for maximum enrolment under Atal Pension Yojana (APY).

#### 121. 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) 2024 Awards

##### **Golden Conch Award for Best Documentary:**

- **Film:** *Golden Thread*
- **Director:** Nistha Jain (India)
- **Prize:** Rs 10 lakhs, citation, Golden Conch trophy

##### **International Competition Award Section:**

- **Best International Short Fiction Film:**
  - **Film:** *Sour Milk*
  - **Director:** Vera Pirogova (Estonia)

- **Prize:** Rs 5 lakhs, Silver Conch trophy

- **Best International Animation Film:**

- **Film:** *Zima*
- **Directors:** Tomek Popakul, Kasumi Ozeki (Poland)
- **Prize:** Rs 5 lakhs, Silver Conch trophy

- **Pramod Pati Award for Most Innovative/Experimental Film:**

- **Film:** *The Old Young Crow*
- **Director:** Liam Lopinto (Japan)
- **Prize:** Rs 1 lakh, trophy

- **Special Jury Mention:**

- **Film:** *Lovely Jackson*
- **Director:** Matt Waldeck (USA)
- **Prize:** Rs 1 lakh, trophy

##### **National Competition Awards Section:**

- **Best Indian Documentary Film (above 60 minutes):**

- **Film:** *6-A Akash Ganga*
- **Director:** Nirmal Chander Dandriyal (India)
- **Prize:** Rs 5 lakhs, Silver Conch trophy

- **Best Indian Short Fiction Film (up to 30 minutes):**

- **Film:** *Salt*
- **Director:** Barkha Prashant Naik (India)

- **Prize:** Rs 3 lakhs, Silver Conch trophy
- **Best Indian Animation Film:**
  - **Film:** *Nirjara*
  - **Director:** Gaurav Pati (India)
  - **Prize:** Rs 3 lakhs, Silver Conch trophy
- **Special Jury Mention:**
  - **Film:** *A Coconut Tree*
  - **Director:** Joshy Benedict (India)
  - **Prize:** Trophy

## 122. Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar and Yuva Puraskar 2024

**Announcement Date:** June 15, 2024

**Chairperson:** Madhav Kaushik, President of Sahitya Akademi

### Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2024

- **Recipients:** 24 winners
- **Categories:**
  - 4 Stories
  - 5 Short Stories
  - 7 Novels
  - 6 Books of Poetry
  - 1 Play
  - 1 Historical Fiction
- **Award Details:** Each winner receives a casket containing an engraved copper plaque and a cheque of Rs 50,000. The

award ceremony will be held at a later date.

### Yuva Puraskar 2024

- **Recipients:** 23 winners
- **Categories:**
  - 10 Poetry Books
  - 7 Short Stories
  - 2 Collections of Articles
  - 1 Essay
  - 1 Novel
  - 1 Ghazal
  - 1 Memoir
- **Award Details:** Each winner receives a casket containing an engraved copper plaque and a cheque of Rs 50,000. The award ceremony will be held at a later date.

## Ranks and report news

1. **Uttar Pradesh** has ranked first in registering the highest admission rate on the **Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS)** platform for the third consecutive year, as reported by the **eCommittee of the Supreme Court**.
2. The **Kuwaiti Dinar** is the most powerful currency globally, according to a recent **Forbes** report.

3. In the **World Economic Forum's Gender Gap Report 2023**, **India** ranked 127th out of 146 countries, improving by eight places. **Iceland** is the most gender-equal country.
4. **Arton Capital** ranked **United Arab Emirates (UAE)**'s passport as the most powerful in its **Passport Index**, allowing visa-free entry to 123 countries. **India's** passport is ranked 66th.
5. **India** is the world's largest milk producer, contributing 24% of global milk production, per the **Ministry of Animal Husbandry and Dairying**.
6. In the **Startup Ranking Framework 2023**, **Gujarat, Karnataka, and Kerala** were awarded for their performance in the state's startup rankings.
7. **India** was the top source market for **Sri Lanka's** tourism in 2023, contributing 20% of arrivals.
8. **Chennai** was ranked the top city in India for inclusivity and adaptability for working women in 2023.
9. **India** became the world's fourth-largest stock market by market capitalization, surpassing **Hong Kong**.
10. **Byrnihat, Meghalaya**, was ranked as India's most polluted city in 2023 by the **Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA)**.
11. According to **NITI Aayog**, around 25 crore people in India have lifted themselves out of poverty in the last nine years, reducing the poverty rate from 29% to 11%.
12. **NTPC Limited** has been certified as a **Top Employer** for 2024.
13. In the **Henley Passport Index 2024**, Indian passports are ranked 80th, offering access to 62 countries.
14. **India** ranked second in the **MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index**, surpassing **Taiwan**, with **China** in the top spot.
15. The **National Stock Exchange of India (NSE)** was named the world's largest derivatives exchange in 2023 by the **Futures Industry Association** for the fifth consecutive year.
16. **CPI-IW for December 2023**: The all-India **Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW)** slightly decreased to **138.8 points**. The monthly percentage change shows a **0.22% decrease** compared to the previous month.
17. **AISHE 2020-2021 Report**:
  - **Higher education enrolment** crossed **4.14 crore**.
  - **Female enrolment** exceeded **2 crore**, with a significant increase

of 13 lakh compared to the previous academic year.

- **SC student enrolment** saw a **28% increase** between 2014-15 and 2020-21, while **female SC student enrolment** rose by **38%**.

#### 18. NSSO Quarterly Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Q3FY24:

- The **urban unemployment rate** dropped to **6.5%**, the lowest in over 4 years.
- The **labour force participation rate (LFPR)** increased to **49.9%** in Q3FY24 from 48.2% in Q3FY23.

#### 19. India's Global Cybercrime Ranking:

- India ranked **80th** globally for cybercrime in 2023.
- **Kaspersky** products detected and blocked over **74 million cybercrime incidents** in India during the year.

20. **IFFCO** ranked first among the **top 300 cooperatives** worldwide based on the turnover-to-GDP per capita ratio, highlighting its leadership in the fertilizer industry.

21. **Mukesh Ambani**, Chairman of **Reliance Industries**, ranked second globally in the

**Brand Guardianship Index 2024**, with a score of **80.25**, and is the top Indian.

22. **India's Reduction in TB Cases:** Union Health Minister **Mansukh Mandaviya** announced a **16% reduction in tuberculosis (TB) cases** in India, nearly double the global average, at the **Stop TB Partnership** meeting.
23. **Karnataka** leads in **EV infrastructure development**, with **5,059 public charging stations**.
24. **World Happiness Report 2024:** **Finland** remains the **happiest country** for the **seventh consecutive year**. **India** ranks **126th** out of 143 nations, with older age being linked to higher life satisfaction.
25. **Mumbai Becomes Asia's Billionaire Capital:** **Mumbai** surpasses **Beijing** as Asia's billionaire capital, with **92 billionaires**, while **Beijing** has **91**. **China** leads globally with **814 billionaires**, and **India** has **271**.
26. **India's Gender Inequality Index Improvement:** **India** ranks **134th** in the **Global Human Development Index (HDR) 2023-24**. Top-ranking countries are **Switzerland, Norway, and Iceland**. **Sri Lanka, China, Bhutan, and Bangladesh** rank higher than India in this category.
27. **Dr. Jitendra Singh Unveils Report on Science and Technology:** Dr. Jitendra Singh launched the report "**A Decade of**

Science – Technology Panorama for Aatmanirbhar Bharat" on March 14, 2024, highlighting India's technological advancements over the past decade.

**28. Delhi and Begusarai Lead Pollution**

**Rankings:** Delhi is the world's most polluted capital city, while Begusarai, Bihar, ranks as the most polluted metropolitan area globally.

**29. Ras Malai Ranks Second in Taste Atlas' Top Cheese Desserts:**

The iconic Indian dessert Ras Malai from West Bengal ranks second on Taste Atlas' Top 10 Best Cheese Desserts list.

**30. US Chamber's International IP Index 2024:**

India retains 42nd rank with an overall score of 38.64%. USA tops the index, followed by the UK and France.

**31. World Bank's Women, Business, and the Law 2024 Report:**

India ranks 113th out of 190 countries, with a score of 74.4%, assessing the gap between legal reforms and actual outcomes for women.

**32. India TB Report 2024:**

India reported 24.7 lakh drug-susceptible tuberculosis (DS-TB) cases in 2023. 23.6 lakh (95%) patients were initiated on treatment.

**33. Indian Founders Leading in Offshore Unicorn Creation:**

- **Indian founders** have co-founded **109 unicorns outside India**, surpassing the **67 unicorns** founded within India.
- **India** ranks **third globally** with 67 unicorns, led by **Swiggy** and **Dream11** (each valued at \$8 billion) and **Razorpay** (\$7.5 billion), according to the **Global Unicorn Index 2024**.

**34. JNU Tops QS World University**

**Rankings by Subject 2024:**

- **Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)** secures the **top position among Indian universities**.
- JNU is ranked **20th globally** for excellence in development studies.
- **University of Oxford** leads overall, followed by **Stanford University, MIT, Harvard University, and University of Cambridge**.

**35. World Cybercrime Index:**

- **Russia** ranks first in the **World Cybercrime Index**, with **India** ranking **10th** and specializing in **scams**.
- The index is the result of three years of research involving the **University of Oxford** and **Monash University**.

**36. Delhi Airport Ranked Among World's**

**Top 10 Busiest Airports:**

- **Indira Gandhi International Airport (Delhi)** ranks **10th** among the world's busiest airports for 2023.
- **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport** leads with over **104.6 million passengers**.

#### 37. **India Among Top Contributors to Global Plastic Waste:**

- **India** is one of the **top 12 nations** contributing to about **60% of the world's mismanaged plastic waste**, according to **EA Earth Action's 2024 report**.
- India's per capita plastic waste production is **8 kg per year**, among the world's lowest.

#### 38. **Top Indian Banks in Asia-Pacific Region:**

- **S&P Global** ranks **State Bank of India (SBI)**, **HDFC Bank**, and **ICICI Bank** among the **top 50 banks** in the Asia-Pacific region by assets.
- **SBI** is India's largest commercial bank, while **HDFC Bank** rose significantly due to its merger with **HDFC**.
- **ICICI Bank** enters the list for the first time, securing the **48th position**.

#### 39. **India's Global Military Spending:**

- **India** ranks **4th** in **global military expenditure**, spending **\$83.6 billion** in 2023, as reported by the **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)**.
- India follows the **US, China, and Russia** in military spending.

#### 40. **Passport Affordability Rankings:**

- **Indian passport** ranks as the **second cheapest** globally, while the **UAE passport** is the most affordable.
- Indian passports offer low acquisition costs and cost-effectiveness, despite having limited **visa-free access**.

#### 41. **UN Report on Acute Hunger:**

- Over **282 million people** across **59 countries** suffered from acute hunger in 2023, as reported by the **United Nations**.
- **India**, along with **Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan**, is among the top ten nations grappling with acute hunger.

#### 42. **Kathmandu Ranked Most Polluted City Worldwide:**

- Kathmandu, Nepal tops IQAir's global list of cities with 'unhealthy air' due to alarming air pollution levels.

- Other Asian cities like New Delhi, Chiang Mai, Hanoi, Bangkok, and Dhaka also face significant air quality challenges.

#### 43. India Ranks 159th in World Press

##### **Freedom Index 2024:**

- India ranks 159th out of 180 countries in the latest index by Reporters Without Borders, showing slight improvement from 161st place in 2023.
- Pakistan ranks 152nd and Sri Lanka 150th.

#### 44. New York City Retains Title as World's

##### **Wealthiest City:**

- According to Henley & Partners, New York City remains the wealthiest globally.
- Mumbai and Delhi rank 24th and 37th, respectively, in the top 50 wealthiest cities.
- The Bay Area (California, USA), Tokyo, Singapore, and London follow New York as top global cities.

#### 45. World Bank Calls for 18-Fold Increase

##### **in Agrifood Investments:**

- A World Bank report suggests a major boost in annual investments, aiming for USD 260 billion, to halve agrifood emissions by 2030

and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

#### 46. India Tops \$100 Billion in Inward

##### **Remittances:**

- India becomes the first country to receive over \$100 billion in remittances in 2022, reaching \$111.22 billion.
- Mexico surpasses China as the second-highest recipient with \$61.10 billion.

#### 47. India Climbs to 39th in WEF Travel &

##### **Tourism Development Index:**

- India rises from 54th to 39th in the World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index, leading South Asia.
- The U.S. ranks first globally.

#### 48. NTPC Secures 3rd Rank at ATD BEST

##### **Awards 2024:**

- NTPC ranks third for talent development at the ATD BEST Awards, marking its seventh win in eight years.

#### 49. World Bank's 11th Annual Report on

##### **Carbon Pricing:**

- Total revenues from carbon taxes and emissions trading systems hit USD 104 billion in 2023, surpassing the USD 100 billion mark.

**50. India Records Positive Growth Among Top 5 Steel Producers:**

- India is the only country among the top five crude steel producers to show positive growth, with a 3.9% increase in April 2024.

**51. Delhi Leads Indian Rankings in Oxford Economics' Global Cities Index:** Delhi is ranked 350th globally, making it the highest-ranked Indian city in the Oxford Economics' Global Cities Index. Other cities like Bengaluru, Mumbai, and Chennai follow.

**52. Uttar Pradesh Tops in Addition of Transmission Lines:** Uttar Pradesh leads in adding transmission lines in 2023-24, followed by Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.

**53. Kerala Tops Youth Unemployment Rate:** Kerala has the highest youth unemployment rate (15-29 age group) in urban areas, while Delhi reports the lowest, according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS).

**54. WSJ's Highest-Paid CEOs in the USA for 2023:** Hock E. Tan (Broadcom) tops the list, followed by Indian-origin Nikesh Arora (Palo Alto Networks) in second place.

**55. Anish Kapoor Tops Hurun India Art List 2024:** British-Indian sculptor Anish Kapoor tops the list for the sixth

consecutive year with artwork sales totaling Rs 79.9 crore.

**56. IIT Bombay Ranks First Among Indian Institutes in QS World University Rankings 2025:** IIT Bombay ranks 118th globally with a score of 56.3, improving from 149th last year. IIT Delhi improved from 197th to 150th globally. MIT, USA, retains the top spot for the 13th consecutive year. Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University received the "Rising Star" award.

**57. ILO Report Highlights Global Unemployment Trends for 2024:** The ILO projects global unemployment at 4.9% in 2024, slightly lower than 5.0% in 2023. Unemployment is expected to stabilize at 4.9% in 2025.

**58. WMO Climate Update (2024-2028):** Predictions indicate a global mean temperature rise of 1.1°C to 1.9°C above the 1850-1900 baseline. There's an 80% chance of temporarily exceeding 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels in at least one year between 2024 and 2028.

**59. UNICEF 2024 Child Nutrition Report:** Approximately 181 million children under 5 years of age are living in severe food poverty. Children in food poverty are 50% more likely to experience wasting (acute malnutrition).

- 60. SIPRI and ICAN Reports on Nuclear Armament and Spending:** India's nuclear warheads increased from 164 in 2023 to 172 in 2024, overtaking Pakistan's 170 warheads. Global nuclear spending surged 13% in 2023 to a record \$91.4 billion, with the U.S. accounting for 80% of this increase.
- 61. Global Liveability Index 2024:** Vienna ranked as the most liveable city for the third consecutive year, followed by Copenhagen and Zurich. No Indian city ranked in the top 10.
- 62. India Ranks Third in Global Domestic Airline Market:** India became the third-largest domestic airline market by April 2024, surpassing Brazil and Indonesia, with an annual growth rate of 6.9%.
- 63. Sweden Tops Global Energy Transition Index 2024:** India ranked 63rd on the Global Energy Transition Index, improving from 67th last year. Sweden ranked first.
- 64. Nine Indian Ports Rank in Global Top 100 Container Ports:** For the first time, nine Indian ports ranked in the Global Top 100 Container Port Performance Index 2023, including Mundra, Pipavav, and Jawaharlal Nehru Port.
- 65. Indian Startups in WEF's Technology Pioneers 2024 List:** Ten Indian startups were featured, with a focus on AI, space

technology, and clean technology. Notable companies include Pixxel (space tech), Sarvam AI, and Niramai Health Analytix. Approximately 33% of these startups are led by women CEOs

### **Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Leads Indian Universities in THE Asia University Rankings:**

- IISc Bengaluru is ranked 32nd in Asia, while Tsinghua University (China) tops the list.
- **NSE Indices Launches India's First Electric Vehicle (EV) Index:**
  - NSE Indices launched the Nifty EV & New Age Automotive Index, India's first electric vehicle index.
  - It tracks companies in the EV ecosystem and new-age automotive technology.
  - It will serve as a benchmark for asset managers and reference index for passive funds, ETFs, and more.
  - Base Date: April 2, 2018; Base Value: 1000; Semi-annual reconstitution and quarterly rebalancing.

## Defence news

### 1. **Japan-India Maritime Exercise**

**(JIMEX-24):** The 8th edition of the Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX-24) began at Yokosuka, Japan. It is hosted by the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF), emphasizing maritime collaboration between the two countries.

2. **Veer Guardian Exercise:** The first edition of the Veer Guardian exercise between the Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japan Air Self-Defence Force (JASDF) was held at Hyakuri Air Base, Japan, in January 2023. It focuses on enhancing interoperability through joint aerial maneuvers and tactical drills, strengthening strategic ties between India and Japan.

3. **Dras Thunder Motorcycle Rally:** Vice Chief of Army Staff Lt. Gen. Upendra Dwivedi flagged off the Dras Thunder Motorcycle Rally from Delhi to the Kargil War Memorial. The rally commemorates the 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas, covering 1,029 kilometers, with participation from the 13 JAK RIFLES (KARGIL).

4. **Adani Defence and Aerospace Collaboration with EDGE Group:** Adani Defence and Aerospace signed an agreement with UAE-based EDGE Group to establish R&D facilities in India and the

UAE, focusing on advanced defense technologies such as missiles, unmanned platforms, and weapons to meet global demands.

5. **Indian Navy Launches Missile Cum Ammunition (MCA) Barge:** The Indian Navy launched the fifth Missile Cum Ammunition (MCA) Barge, LSAM 13, built by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Shipyard, SEPPL, Visakhapatnam. The launch took place at Vinayaga Marine Petro Limited in Mira Bhayandar, Maharashtra.

6. **India's Indigenous Kamikaze Drone Nagastra-1:** India achieved a defense milestone with the deployment of the Nagastra-1, a kamikaze drone developed by Solar Industries. Weighing 9 kg, with a range of 30 km, the drone strengthens border security and addresses rising drone-related incidents.

7. **India's First Multinational Air Exercise - Tarang Shakti 2024:** India will host its first multinational air exercise, Tarang Shakti, in August 2024. It will feature air forces from 12 countries, including Quad members (Australia, Japan, and the US), France, the UK, and Germany. The exercise will take place in southern and western India.

8. **India-Germany Defence Cooperation:** India and Germany formalized defense

cooperation in 2006, with significant agreements on classified information in 2007 and an implementation arrangement in 2019. A High Defence Committee meeting was held in Berlin in 2024, focusing on joint military exercises and defense industrial projects.

#### 9. **Indian Army Inducts ASMI**

**Submachine Gun:** The Indian Army's Northern Command ordered 550 indigenously manufactured ASMI submachine guns, valued at Rs 4.26 crore. Designed by DRDO's ARDE and manufactured by Lokesh Machine Limited, the ASMI is a lightweight, aerospace-grade weapon.

#### 10. **DRDO's Microwave Obscurant Chaff**

**Rocket Handed to Indian Navy:** DRDO handed over the Medium Range-Microwave Obscurant Chaff Rocket (MR-MOCR) to the Indian Navy. Developed by DRDO's Defence Laboratory, the rocket creates a microwave obscurant cloud, reducing radar detection.

#### 11. **Jaipur Military Station Builds Plastic**

**Waste Road:** Jaipur Military Station became the second military station in India to construct a road from plastic waste. This 100-meter road, inaugurated in June 2024, follows the example of Narangi Military Station, Guwahati, which built a plastic waste road in 2019.

#### 12. **DRDO Successfully Tests ABHYAS**

**System:** DRDO successfully tested the High-Speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) ABHYAS at Chandipur, Odisha, on 27 June 2024. With 10 successful developmental flights, the ABHYAS system is now ready for induction into the Indian armed forces, demonstrating improvements in radar cross-section, visual, and infrared augmentation.

#### 13. **IAF Conducts Bambi Bucket**

**Operations in Uttarakhand:** The Indian Air Force (IAF) used Mi-17 V5 helicopters for **Bambi Bucket** operations to combat forest fires in Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand.

#### 14. **Joint Exercise Gagan Strike-II (Indian**

**Army & IAF):** The Indian Army's Kharga Corps and IAF conducted the **Gagan Strike-II** joint exercise in Punjab, refining the use of attack helicopters like Apache and ALH WSI in support of mechanized operations.

#### 15. **India-French Military Exercise Shakti**

**2024:** The 7th edition of **Exercise Shakti** between Indian and French forces was scheduled at the Joint Training Node, Umroi, Meghalaya.

#### 16. **Indian Army Inducts New Drones for**

**Surveillance:** The Army enhanced border surveillance capabilities with **Drishti-10** (Hermes-900) drones, deployed in

Bathinda, Punjab, as part of the **Make in India** initiative.

17. **12th India-Mongolia Joint Working Group on Defence:** The Joint Working Group between Indian and Mongolian defense officials met to strengthen bilateral defense cooperation in Ulaanbaatar.
18. **Exercise Cyber Suraksha 2024: Exercise Cyber Suraksha 2024** aimed to boost India's cyber defense capabilities, overseen by Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan.
19. **DRDO's Successful Test of RudraM-II Missile:** DRDO successfully flight-tested the **RudraM-II** air-to-surface missile from the Su-30 MK-I platform in Odisha, achieving all objectives.
20. **Gagan Shakti Exercise at Pokhran:** The Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted its largest exercise, 'Gagan Shakti,' at the Pokhran Field Firing Range, demonstrating the striking capabilities of its fighter aircraft and helicopters. The Indian Army provided logistics for 10,000 personnel.
21. **Agni-Prime Missile Test:** The new-generation ballistic missile, Agni-Prime, was successfully tested in Odisha by the Strategic Forces Command (SFC) and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

22. **Akashteer Command and Control System:** The Indian Army inducted the Akashteer Command and Control System for enhanced air defense, developed by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) under the Self-reliant India initiative.
23. **India-Vietnam Coast Guard Training:** The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) ship Samudra Paheredar conducted joint marine pollution training with the Vietnam Coast Guard.
24. **INS Sharda Anti-Piracy Citation:** INS Sharda was awarded an on-the-spot unit citation for successfully conducting anti-piracy operations off Somalia.
25. **Parivartan Chintan Conference:** A tri-service conference, 'Parivartan Chintan,' was held in New Delhi to foster jointness and integration within the armed forces.
26. **Maritime Partnership Exercise:** INS Sahyadri participated in a maritime exercise with the UK's Littoral Response Group South (LRGS), enhancing maritime cooperation.
27. **India's BrahMos Delivery to Philippines:** India delivered the first batch of BrahMos supersonic missiles to the Philippines as part of a \$375 million deal.
28. **Naval Gallantry and Service Awards:** Admiral R Hari Kumar presented Gallantry and Distinguished Service

Awards to naval personnel at a ceremony in Goa.

29. **MPATGM Successful Trials:** DRDO and the Indian Army successfully tested the Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) at the Pokhran Range.
30. **Anti-Tank Guided Missile Training in Sikkim:** The Indian Army's Trishakti Corps conducted an Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) training exercise at an altitude of 17,000 feet in Sikkim.
31. **India-Uzbekistan Exercise Dustlik:** The fifth edition of the joint military exercise 'Dustlik' between India and Uzbekistan commenced in Termez, Uzbekistan.
32. **Crystal Maze 2 Missile Test:** India successfully tested the Crystal Maze 2 medium-range ballistic missile, adding to its missile capabilities.
33. **DRDO Delivers Tejas Mk1A Components:** DRDO delivered indigenous components for the Tejas Mk1A fighter jet to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), a step toward self-reliance.
34. **Exercise Poorvi Lehar:** The Indian Navy conducted 'Exercise Poorvi Lehar' on the east coast, involving ships, submarines, aircraft, and Special Forces to validate maritime security procedures.
35. **Record Defence Exports:** India's defense exports crossed Rs 21,000 crore for the

first time in FY 2023-24, reflecting a 32.5% increase over the previous year.

36. **Operation Sankalp Marks 100 Days:** The Indian Navy has intensified maritime security since December 2023 due to the Israel-Hamas conflict. The operation addressed the hijacking of the Malta-flagged MV Ruen and has responded to 18 incidents over 100 days, underscoring India's role as a key security partner in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
37. **Second Edition of India Mozambique Tanzania (IMT) Tri-Lateral Exercise:** INS Tir and INS Sujata participated in the second edition of the exercise held in March 2024. The exercise aimed at enhancing maritime cooperation and joint surveillance among the navies of India, Mozambique, and Tanzania.
38. **Indian Army Inducts Drone Detection Systems:** The Indian Army has deployed seven indigenous Integrated Drone Detection and Interdiction Systems along the northern borders with China, capable of both jamming ("soft kill") and using lasers ("hard kill") to neutralize hostile drones.
39. **Tejas Mk1A Completes Inaugural Flight:** The advanced variant of the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) conducted its first flight on March 28, 2024, with upgraded combat capabilities.

**40. DRDO Conducts Maiden Agni-5 Missile**

**Test:** The Agni-5 missile, with Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle (MIRV) technology, successfully completed its flight test, strengthening India's nuclear deterrence.

**41. Indian Navy's Shipbuilding Milestones:**

The Navy launched 'Agray' and 'Akshay', the fifth and sixth ships in the Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) Shallow Water Craft series, marking progress in India's naval defense capabilities.

**42. AMCA Fighter Jet Project Approved:**

The Indian government approved a Rs 15,000 crore project for the indigenous development of the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) for the Indian Air Force.

**43. IDEX Startup BBBS Secures Rs 200 Crore Anti-Drone Technology Order:**

Big Bang Boom Solutions (BBBS) secured a contract from the Ministry of Defence for its anti-drone technology, marking a significant milestone for indigenous defense solutions.

**44. Inauguration of Indian Navy HQ**

**'NausenaBhawan':** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the state-of-the-art naval headquarters in Delhi Cantonment, marking a boost to the Navy's administrative capabilities.

**45. Indian Army Participates in Exercise**

**LAMITIYE-2024:** The Indian Army joined the Seychelles Defence Forces for the tenth edition of the joint military exercise, aimed at enhancing cooperation and interoperability between the two nations.

**46. Green Propulsion System for Micro**

**Satellites:** DRDO successfully launched a green propulsion system, developed under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) by Bellatrix Aerospace, aboard PSLV C-58. This 1N-class monopropellant thruster will aid altitude control and orbit maintenance for micro-satellites.

**47. Commissioning of INS Sandhayak:**

The Indian Navy commissioned INS Sandhayak, a Survey Vessel Large (SVL) ship, on February 3, 2024, in Visakhapatnam. This vessel, one of four planned, will enhance maritime mapping and research capabilities.

**48. 12th Edition of MILAN Naval Exercise:**

Scheduled from February 19-27, 2024, in Visakhapatnam, MILAN will host naval forces from over 50 countries, promoting collaboration on maritime security under the theme "Forging Naval Alliances for a Secure Maritime Future."

**49. Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)**

**Approval:** The DAC, led by Rajnath Singh, approved capital acquisition

proposals worth Rs 84,560 crore, which include next-gen anti-tank mines with seismic sensors and remote deactivation for improved defense capabilities.

50. **SU-30MKI Upgrade Project:** HAL and DRDO initiated a Rs 60,000 crore project to upgrade the Indian Air Force's SU-30MKI fleet, integrating over 50% indigenous content to enhance its technological capabilities.
51. **5th Edition of Dharma Guardian:** The joint military exercise between the Indian Army and Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force commenced on February 25, 2024, at the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan.
52. **DOSTI 16 Exercise:** Indian and Sri Lankan Coast Guards, along with Bangladesh as an observer, participated in this maritime exercise in the Maldives from February 22-25, underscoring regional maritime collaboration.
53. **Adani Defence & Aerospace Facilities:** Adani inaugurated defense manufacturing facilities in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, with an investment of Rs 30 billion, boosting India's push for defense self-reliance.
54. **Indian Coast Guard Raising Day:** The 48th Raising Day of the Indian Coast Guard was marked by a "Day at Sea" event on February 25 in Chennai, showcasing the Coast Guard's operational capabilities.

55. **Inauguration of Kakinada Aircraft Museum:** The 3rd defense museum in India, featuring the decommissioned TU-142M aircraft, was inaugurated in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, offering visitors insights into India's naval aviation history.
56. **World Defence Show 2024:** Raksha Rajya Mantri Ajay Bhatt led an Indian delegation to the World Defence Show in Riyadh, focusing on defense tech advancements and fostering international partnerships.
57. **Vayu Shakti 2024:** The Indian Air Force conducted this joint exercise at Pokhran, demonstrating its offensive and defensive air capabilities through both day and night operations.
58. **Desert Cyclone-2024:** India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will conduct their joint military exercise in the Thar Desert of Rajasthan from January 2 to 15, 2024. This exercise highlights the growing defense ties between the two countries.
59. **MILAN 2024 Naval Exercise:** The Indian Navy's 12th edition of the multinational exercise, MILAN, will take place in Visakhapatnam from February 19 to 27, 2024. Initiated in 1995 under India's 'Look East Policy,' this biennial event initially involved four countries (Indonesia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand) and

has since expanded to include many more nations, emphasizing cooperation in maritime security.

60. **Launch of 'Ugram' Assault Rifle:** On January 10, 2024, the Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE) and a Hyderabad-based private firm launched an indigenous assault rifle named 'Ugram' (Cruel). This marks a significant collaboration between DRDO and a private company for weapon manufacturing.
61. **Ex-Ayutthaya Bilateral Naval Exercise:** The Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy (RTN) conducted the first edition of 'Ex-Ayutthaya,' a bilateral exercise. It symbolizes the historical ties between Ayodhya in India and Ayutthaya in Thailand.
62. **Indo-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise Cyclone:** The Indo-Egypt joint exercise "Cyclone" began on January 22, 2024, in Anshas, Egypt. This is the second edition, with the first one held in India in 2023, showcasing the strengthening military ties between the two countries.
63. **Exercise SADA TANSEEQ:** India and Saudi Arabia commenced their joint military exercise in Rajasthan from January 29 to February 10, 2024. This exercise aims to enhance defense cooperation between the two nations.

64. **Exercise Desert Knight 2024:** The Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted "Exercise Desert Knight 2024" with the French and UAE air forces over the Arabian Sea, further solidifying trilateral air defense cooperation.
65. **Decommissioning of INS Nirupak:** Indian Naval Ship (INS) Nirupak, an indigenously designed hydrographic survey ship, was decommissioned at Visakhapatnam's Naval Dockyard on January 29, 2024. After 38 years of service, the ship concluded its operational journey, marking the end of an era in India's naval capabilities.

## Science news

1. **Road Safety in Punjab:** In collaboration with MapmyIndia, the Punjab Police mapped 784 accident black spots across the state using the Maples app, as part of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's 'Road Safety Force' initiative. Punjab became the first Indian state to comprehensively map accident-prone areas, showing a proactive approach to road safety.
2. **Archaeological Discovery in Gujarat:** Archaeologists unearthed an 800 BC human settlement in Vadnagar, Gujarat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's village. This 2,800-year-old site suggests its

contemporaneity with post-Vedic/pre-Buddhist mahajanapadas or oligarchic republics.

3. **Japan's Moon Landing (SLIM Mission):** On January 19, 2024, Japan's spacecraft, Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM), successfully landed on the moon, making Japan the fifth country to achieve this milestone.
4. **Square Kilometre Array Observatory (SKAO):** The Indian government officially joined the SKAO project, contributing to the Rs 1250 crore international initiative aimed at building the world's largest radio telescope.
5. **Anuvadini AI-Based App:** The central government launched the 'Anuvadini' app, an AI-based platform, to promote multilingualism in education by digitizing study materials, especially in Indian languages listed in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution.
6. **ISRO Collaborates with SpaceX:** For the first time, ISRO will use SpaceX's services to launch its heavy communication satellite GSAT-20 aboard a Falcon-9 rocket in mid-2024, enabling high-speed internet services.
7. **e-Samridhi Portal for Farmers:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the 'e-Samridhi Portal,' which simplifies registration, procurement, and payment

processes for 'Arhar Dal' (Tur Dal) farmers, aiming for self-sufficiency in the pulses sector by 2027.

8. **Aditya-L1 Solar Mission:** ISRO successfully reached its destination with India's first solar mission, **Aditya-L1**, aimed at studying the solar atmosphere and phenomena such as solar flares and coronal mass ejections.
9. **10th Century Kadamba Inscription:** An inscription from the 10th century AD was discovered at the Mahadeva Temple in Kakoda, South Goa. Written in Kannada and Sanskrit, it reflects the region's historical linguistic diversity.
10. **XPosat Mission by ISRO:** On January 1, 2024, ISRO launched the X-ray polarimeter satellite (XPosat) aboard PSLV C58 from Sriharikota, marking India's first dedicated mission to study the polarization of cosmic X-rays.
11. **Neuralink Brain Chip:** Elon Musk's company Neuralink successfully implanted the first brain chip in a human patient, focusing on developing brain-computer interfaces to address paralysis and neurological conditions.
12. **Krutrim AI Unicorn:** Bhavish Aggarwal's third startup, Krutrim, became India's first AI unicorn in 2024, raising \$50 million in a funding round led by Matrix Partners India.

13. **Black Tiger Safari in Odisha:** Odisha's Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced plans for the world's first 'Black Tiger Safari' near Similipal Tiger Reserve. The project will showcase melanistic tigers across 200 hectares.
14. **Green Cover Index Initiative:** The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) signed an MoU with ISRO's National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) to develop a "Green Cover Index" for India's National Highways network.
15. **PAISA Portal for Affordable Credit:** Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurated the PAISA Portal Dashboard for affordable credit and the PM SVANidhi Mission Monitoring Portal to enhance accessibility for street vendors.
16. **Discovery of New Butterfly Species:** Researchers from the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), Bengaluru, discovered a new butterfly species, **Cigaritis conjuncta** (Conjoined Silverline butterfly), in the Bramhagiri Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka.
17. **BHU Advances Genetic Research:** Banaras Hindu University (BHU) has initiated a human DNA bank and is nearing the completion of a wildlife DNA bank, promoting India's "Make in India" initiative with cutting-edge technology like automated DNA extraction machines.
18. **Russian Cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko Sets Space Record:** Oleg Kononenko surpassed the previous record of 878 days in space, marking a new milestone in space exploration.
19. **Ghar Portal for Juvenile Justice:** The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched the Ghar Portal for digital monitoring and tracking of child restoration under the Juvenile Justice Act, utilizing the "Trackchild" portal.
20. **Microsoft AI Training Initiative:** Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella announced plans to train over 2 million Indians in generative AI skills by 2025, emphasizing U.S.-India collaboration in AI and its potential for GDP growth.
21. **AIIMS and CDAC's Ioncology.AI:** AIIMS Delhi and CDAC Pune launched the Ioncology.AI platform to enhance early detection of cancers, particularly breast and ovarian, using AI technology.
22. **GSLV-F14 Launch:** The GSLV-F14 rocket will launch with INSAT-3DS to enhance India's communications in various sectors. This mission includes the indigenous cryogenic stage.
23. **Lunar Soft Landing by Intuitive Machines' Odysseus:** The Odysseus spacecraft became the first commercial spacecraft to achieve a soft lunar landing,

a historic milestone in private sector space exploration.

**24. Gaganyaan Astronauts Announced:**

PM Narendra Modi revealed the names of four astronauts for India's first human space mission, Gaganyaan: Prashanth Nair, Angad Prathap, Ajit Krishnan, and Shubhanshu Shukla.

**25. Uttar Pradesh Promotes EVs:** The state government is enhancing the 'EV Upyog' portal to promote electric vehicle manufacturing and use.

**26. Bihar's Nitish Device for Disaster**

**Alerts:** The Bihar State Disaster Management Authority launched a pendant-shaped device to alert farmers about imminent natural disasters like floods and lightning.

**27. China's Smart Dragon-3 Rocket**

**Launch:** China successfully deployed nine satellites into sun-synchronous orbit using the Smart Dragon-3 rocket.

**28. Satellite-Based GPS Toll Collection:**

The Indian government plans to introduce satellite-based GPS toll collection systems, allowing for automatic toll deduction via vehicle number plate identification.

**29. Maharashtra's AI Partnership with**

**Google:** Maharashtra partnered with Google to implement AI solutions in healthcare, education, and agriculture.

**30. NASA, JAXA, Kyoto University, and Sumitomo Forestry Partnership:** These organizations are developing a biodegradable spacecraft, the Lignose probe, using magnolia tree wood, aiming to revolutionize spaceflight.

**31. Assam's Semiconductor Initiative:**

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has announced that Assam's Jagiroad unit will produce its first semiconductor chip by 2025. Tata's involvement is noted in establishing a Rs 27,000 crore semiconductor facility in the region.

**32. MSRTC's LNG-Powered Bus:** The

Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) has launched India's first bus powered by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), marking a major step towards cleaner public transportation.

**33. Chandrayaan-3 Landing Site Named:**

The landing site for Chandrayaan-3 has been officially named 'Shiva Shakthi,' reflecting India's cultural heritage in space exploration. The name was approved by the International Astronomical Union (IAU).

**34. Asteroid Named after Indian Scientist:**

The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named an asteroid (215884) Jayantmurthy in honor of Professor Jayant Murthy for his contributions to space science.

35. **ISRO's POEM-3 Mission:** ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle Orbital Experimental Module-3 (POEM-3) re-entered Earth's atmosphere without debris. The mission used the spent PS4 stage of PSLV-C58 and launched the XPoSat satellite.
36. **Reusable Launch Vehicle Pushpak:** ISRO successfully landed its Reusable Launch Vehicle Pushpak at the Aeronautical Test Range in Karnataka, demonstrating advanced autonomous landing technology.
37. **Pioneering Pig-to-Human Kidney Transplant:** Surgeons at Massachusetts General Hospital performed the first pig-to-human kidney transplant, a groundbreaking development in organ transplantation.
38. **Garuda Aerospace's 'Trishul' Drone:** Garuda Aerospace has introduced 'Trishul,' a drone designed for border patrol surveillance, enhancing border security capabilities.
39. **Drone Centre of Excellence at IIM Sambalpur:** IIM Sambalpur and IG Drones have established a Drone Centre of Excellence to advance drone technology applications in business and public policy.
40. **NASA's Europa Clipper Mission:** NASA's upcoming Europa Clipper

mission aims to explore Jupiter's moon Europa for signs of life, focusing on potential subsurface oceans.

41. **SpaceX's MethaneSAT Launch:** SpaceX has launched MethaneSAT, a satellite focused on monitoring methane emissions, aimed at improving greenhouse gas management.
42. **Eco-Friendly Wound Dressing Material:** Researchers at IASST have developed a wound dressing material from banana pseudo stems, combining banana fibers with chitosan and guar gum.
43. **Haj Guide 2024 and App Launch:** Minister Smriti Irani introduced the Haj Guide 2024 and Haj Suvidha Mobile App to facilitate a smoother pilgrimage experience for Haj participants.
44. **IN-SPACE Technical Center Inauguration:** Union Minister Jitendra Singh inaugurated a technical center in Ahmedabad established by IN-SPACE, aiming to boost private sector participation in space technology.
45. **AIM and Meta's Frontier Technology Labs:** The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and Meta are launching Frontier Technology Labs in schools to foster innovation and technological exploration among students.

46. **ChipIN Centre at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre:** Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar inaugurated the ChipIN Centre, which aims to revolutionize semiconductor design in India.
47. **MATH Hub in Hyderabad:** The Department of Science and Technology and T-Hub have launched the Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence Technology Hub (MATH) to advance AI and ML innovation.
48. **Skyroot Aerospace's Vikram-1 Rocket Test:** Skyroot Aerospace has successfully test-fired the stage-2 propulsion system of its Vikram-1 rocket, demonstrating significant advancements in space technology.
49. **Chandrayaan-4 Mission Objectives:** ISRO's Chandrayaan-4 aims to further India's lunar exploration with plans for a lunar landing by 2040. The mission will involve sending a craft to collect moon samples and return them to Earth.
50. **TSAT-1A Launch:** Tata Advanced Systems Limited has launched India's first private sector-built earth observation satellite, TSAT-1A. This military-grade satellite was launched aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket and is expected to cater to both government and commercial customers.
51. **WHO's S.A.R.A.H.:** The WHO has introduced S.A.R.A.H., an AI-powered digital health promoter capable of engaging users in eight languages. This initiative aims to provide 24/7 health information and support.
52. **125th Anniversary of Kodaikanal Solar Observatory:** The Kodaikanal Solar Observatory celebrated its 125th anniversary, marking it as a significant landmark in Indian astronomy with its extensive solar data archive.
53. **"IRAH" Film Launch:** Mumbai hosted the trailer and song launch of "IRAH," India's first Hindi film focused on artificial intelligence. The film is set to release on April 4, 2024.
54. **Expansion of Glacial Lakes:** ISRO's study reveals a 27% increase in the size of glacial lakes in the Indian Himalayas from 1984 to 2023, highlighting significant environmental changes.
55. **China's Space Ambitions:** China launched the Shenzhou-18 spacecraft with a three-member crew, part of its broader goal to establish a moon presence by 2030.
56. **Sweden Joins Artemis Accords:** Sweden has signed the Artemis Accords, joining 37 other nations in promoting responsible and peaceful space exploration.

57. **NASA's Solar Sail Mission:** NASA has launched a solar-powered spacecraft with a solar sail from New Zealand, demonstrating advancements in space propulsion technology.
58. **IIT Guwahati's 3D-Printed Ballot Unit:** IIT Guwahati has introduced a 3D-printed dummy ballot unit to enhance voter awareness and engagement.
59. **GUJCOST and ISRO's START Programme:** GUJCOST has been designated as the Nodal Centre for ISRO's START programme, aimed at fostering space science education.
60. **White House Directive on Lunar Time Standard:** The White House has tasked NASA with establishing a unified lunar time standard to support international space exploration efforts.
61. **Gopichand Thotakura's Space Mission:** Indian national Gopichand Thotakura is set to become the second Indian citizen in space with Blue Origin's New Shepard mission.
62. **Swiggy Pawlice Initiative:** Swiggy has launched "Swiggy Pawlice" to help locate missing pets using its delivery network.
63. **IISc Hydrogel for Microplastic Pollution:** IISc has developed a hydrogel that binds and degrades microplastics in water using UV light.
64. **ISRO to Launch ESA's Proba-3 Mission:** ISRO will launch ESA's Proba-3 mission, which will use two satellites to create a solar coronagraph for studying the Sun's corona.
65. **ISRO's Debris-Free Space Missions by 2030:** ISRO aims to achieve debris-free space missions by 2030, aligning with global efforts to reduce space debris.
66. **Largest Stellar Black Hole:** European astronomers have discovered the largest stellar black hole in the Milky Way, named BH-3, which is 33 times the mass of the Sun.
67. **DRDO's Bulletproof Jacket:** DRDO has developed a lightweight Level 6 bulletproof jacket that offers high protection while maintaining mobility for soldiers.
68. **Taam Ja' Blue Hole:** Scientists have identified the Taam Ja' Blue Hole in Mexico's Chetumal Bay as the world's deepest at 1,380 feet. The depth surpasses the previous record-holder by 480 feet, offering significant potential for marine exploration and discovery.
69. **Bajaj Auto's CNG-Powered Motorcycle:** Bajaj Auto, led by Rajiv Bajaj, is launching the world's first CNG-powered motorcycle on June 18, 2024. This initiative aims to provide a cost-

effective commuting option amid rising petrol prices.

**70. India's First Loitering Aerial**

**Munitions (LAM):** Kadet Defence Systems (KDS) introduces India's first indigenous LAM for the armed forces, developed in collaboration with DRDO. The LAMs are designed and manufactured domestically with over 90% local components, enhancing self-reliance in defense production.

**71. New Marine Species Named After**

**Chandrayaan-3:** A new marine tardigrade species, *Batillipes chandrayaani*, discovered off the coast of Tamil Nadu, is named after the Chandrayaan-3 mission. Tardigrades are microscopic creatures known for their resilience.

**72. NASA's Lunar Railway System:**

**FLOAT:** NASA introduces FLOAT, a lunar railway system to transport payloads efficiently on the Moon. The system features magnetic robots that levitate over a flexible track, aimed at supporting sustainable lunar bases.

**73. Agnikul's 3D-Printed Rocket Engine:**

Chennai-based Agnikul Cosmos successfully launches the world's first rocket with a single-piece 3D-printed engine. The Agnibaan rocket is India's first semi-cryogenic engine-powered

launch vehicle, entirely designed and manufactured indigenously.

**74. TCS and IIT-Bombay's Quantum**

**Diamond Microchip Imager:** TCS and IIT-Bombay develop India's first Quantum Diamond Microchip Imager. This advanced tool will improve semiconductor chip examination and energy efficiency of electronic devices, aligning with India's National Quantum Mission.

**75. Microsoft's AI-Enhanced 'Copilot+'**

**PCs:** Microsoft introduces 'Copilot+' PCs featuring advanced AI capabilities, developed in collaboration with Acer and ASUSTeK. These PCs perform AI tasks locally, and the Copilot+ voice assistant enhances user experience in various applications.

**76. Mission ISHAN: Streamlining India's**

**Airspace:** India launches Mission ISHAN to unify its fragmented airspace into a single system managed from Nagpur. This centralization aims to optimize air traffic management, enhance safety, and increase capacity.

**77. World's Highest Observatory**

**Inaugurated in Chile:** The University of Tokyo inaugurates the Atacama Observatory (TAO) at 5,640 meters above sea level, the highest in the world. TAO

houses a 6.5-meter optical-infrared telescope for advanced cosmic research.

#### 78. **ISRO's Mangalyaan-2 Mission**

**Strategy:** ISRO unveils its strategy for the Mangalyaan-2 Mars mission on National Technology Day. Upon successful launch, India will become the fourth country to land a spacecraft on Mars.

#### 79. **New Shepard-25 Mission by Blue**

**Origin:** Blue Origin's New Shepard rocket system completes its 7th human space flight on May 19, 2024. Indian commercial jet pilot Gopi Thotakura becomes the first Indian space tourist, experiencing zero gravity and contributing to space tourism milestones.

#### 80. **ISRO and CNES Collaborate on**

**Mission TRISHNA for Environmental Monitoring:** On World Environment Day 2024, ISRO announced Mission TRISHNA, a collaboration with the French space agency CNES. Scheduled for launch in 2025, TRISHNA (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for High-Resolution Natural Resource Assessment) aims to monitor Earth's surface temperatures and mitigate climate change. The mission will operate for five years, providing high-resolution data on surface temperature, emissivity, biophysical, and radiation variables. It will focus on

assessing terrestrial water stress and energy and water budgets of the continental biosphere.

#### 81. **Boeing's Starliner Maiden Voyage to**

**ISS with NASA Astronaut:** In June 2024, Boeing's Starliner spacecraft made its maiden voyage to the ISS with NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams. This crewed flight test, launched on a ULA Atlas V rocket from Cape Canaveral, marks a key step in validating and certifying the crew system for operational missions. Indian-origin astronaut Sunita Williams is noted for being the first female astronaut on this inaugural mission, part of NASA's Boeing Crew Flight Test program.

#### 82. **Russian Cosmonaut Becomes 1st Person to Spend 1,000 Cumulative**

**Days in Space:** Roscosmos cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko set a world record in September 2023 by accumulating 1,000 days in space. His current mission to the ISS, which began on September 15, 2023, alongside NASA astronaut Loral O'Hara and fellow cosmonaut Nikolai Chub, highlights his passion for spaceflight and long-term dedication to working in orbit, driven by a lifelong dream to become a cosmonaut.

#### 83. **12 Countries Signed Zero Debris**

**Charter – Pivot to Space Sustainability:**

At the ESA Space Summit in Seville in November 2023, 12 countries signed the Zero Debris Charter, aiming to address space debris and promote sustainable space activities. The Charter, with signatories including Austria, Belgium, and the UK, seeks to achieve debris-neutral space operations by 2030. It emphasizes international collaboration, responsible space operations, and the development of technologies for debris management, with over 100 organizations committed to its objectives.

84. **Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) Signs MoUs with Nokia, Plasser India, and Jacobs Solutions:** Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) in Vadodara, Gujarat, signed MoUs with Nokia, Plasser (India) Private Limited, and Jacobs Solutions to strengthen industry-academia collaborations. The MoU with Nokia, signed by GSV Vice-Chancellor Prof. Manoj Choudhary and Nokia's Raghav Sahgal, focuses on 5G/6G communications research and the development of AI labs for transportation use cases.

85. **ISRO Develops PraVaHa CFD Software for Aerospace Vehicle Analysis:** ISRO has developed PraVaHa, a Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) software at its Vikram Sarabhai Space

Centre. PraVaHa simulates airflow for various aerospace vehicles, supporting aerodynamic design studies and performance optimization. It operates under both Perfect Gas and Real Gas conditions and is being validated for complex simulations, including air dissociation and scramjet combustion.

86. **Kerala Pioneers AI Learning in Class 7 ICT Curriculum:** Kerala introduced AI learning in the ICT curriculum for Class 7, benefiting over 400,000 students. The curriculum includes practical experience in creating an AI program to recognize human facial expressions, making Kerala the first Indian state to implement AI education uniformly across an entire class.
87. **Wipro 3D and ISRO Jointly Pave the Way for Sustainable Space Exploration Through Additive Manufacturing:** Wipro 3D, in collaboration with ISRO, successfully manufactured a 3D-printed PS4 rocket engine for the PSLV's 4th stage. This achievement, highlighted by V Narayanan from ISRO, marks a significant milestone in using additive manufacturing for space technology, enhancing the PSLV's capability for accurate satellite placement.
88. **China Launches Pakistan's PakSAT-MM1 Communication Satellite:** In June

2024, China launched Pakistan's PakSAT-MM1 communication satellite using a Long March-3B rocket from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center. Part of Pakistan's National Space Programme 2047, the satellite aims to improve internet services and technological capabilities in Pakistan, with operations set to begin in August 2024.

#### **89. Wipro Launches Lab45 AI Platform:**

Wipro has introduced the Lab45 AI platform, designed to enhance business functions using generative AI, machine learning, and deep learning. The platform integrates advanced language models and deep learning technologies, providing features like image generation from text and content summarization. Lab45, Wipro's innovation hub, aims to boost efficiency across HR, sales, marketing, and operations.

#### **90. Three Craters on Mars Named for Physicist Devendra Lal and Indian Towns:**

Three Martian craters have been named in honor of Indian figures and locations: Lal Crater for physicist Devendra Lal, and Mursan and Hilsa craters for towns in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, respectively. Lal Crater, with a diameter of 65 kilometers, recognizes Professor Lal's contributions to cosmic

ray physics and space research, including insights into Mars's past climate.

#### **91. Reliance's JPL-SES Joint Venture Approved for Satellite Internet Launch in India:**

Orbit Connect India, a joint venture between Reliance's Jio Platforms Limited (JPL) and Luxembourg-based SES, has received approval from IN-SPACE to launch satellite internet services in India. The venture has secured landing rights and market access, aiming to provide high-speed satellite internet across the country.

#### **92. Launch of E-flows Monitoring System for Ganga River Cleaning:**

Union Minister C.R. Patil launched the E-flows Monitoring System for the Ganga River, part of the Namami Ganga Mission's progress review. Developed by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), the system aims to monitor and ensure the continuous and sustainable flow of the Ganga River as part of the Aviral Ganga component.

#### **93. DG, RPF Launches Sangyaan App - A Comprehensive Application for Legal Reference:**

Shri Manoj Yadava, DG of RPF, unveiled the Sangyaan App for Android and iOS to educate Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel on new laws such as the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023. The app provides a

comprehensive legal database, including key railway security laws and rules, with features for offline access and easy navigation.

94. **ISRO Completes RLV Technology Demonstrations Through LEX Trio:** In June 2024, ISRO successfully conducted the third and final RLV LEX mission at the Aeronautical Test Range in Chitradurga, Karnataka. The Pushpak (RLV-TD) vehicle demonstrated advanced autonomous landing capabilities and reused systems from previous missions, highlighting ISRO's progress in developing reusable flight systems.
95. **Shri Chirag Paswan and Shri Ravneet Singh Launch Website and Mobile App for World Food India 2024:** Union Ministers Shri Chirag Paswan and Shri Ravneet Singh launched a website and mobile app for World Food India 2024. The event, scheduled from September 19-22, aims to foster global and Indian food sector collaboration, emphasizing the role of food processing in reducing wastage and ensuring food security.
96. **Dhruva Space's Thybolt Satellites Complete 15,000 Orbits:** Dhruva Space's Thybolt-1 and Thybolt-2 satellites, launched by ISRO's PSLV C54 in November 2022, have completed

15,000 orbits and securely deorbited. This milestone marks a significant achievement for the Hyderabad-based space tech startup, demonstrating its capability in space technology and satellite operations.

#### **Books and author**

1. **"Why Bharat Matters"** – Authored by **External Affairs Minister Jaishankar Prasad**, the book explains India's rise through the lens of the **Ramayana**.
2. **"Exam Warriors"** – **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** shares snippets from his book, encouraging students to find their own style during exams.
3. **"Fertilising the Future: India March Towards Fertilizer Self-Sufficiency"** – Written by **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers**, highlighting India's journey toward fertilizer independence.
4. **"An Uncommon Love: The Early Life of Sudha and Narayana Murthy"** – Authored by **Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni**, this book explores the early life of the Murthy couple.
5. **"Conversations with Aurangzeb"** – Written by **Charu Nivedita**, and translated into English by **Nandini Krishnan**, this novel brings historical and philosophical insights.

6. **"Ek Samandar, Mere Andar"** – A collection of 75 poems penned by **Sanjeev Joshi**, Deputy CEO of **BrahMos Aerospace**, blending creativity with defense expertise.
7. **"A Promised Nation: Hon'ble Shri Narendra Modi - The Maker of New India"** – Launched by **Amit Shah**, **Union Minister of Home Affairs**, this Braille book makes **PM Modi's** life accessible to the visually impaired.
8. **"Sanskriti ke Ayaam"** – Authored by **Manorama Mishra**, released by **General V.K. Singh (Retd.)**, Union MoS for Road Transport and Civil Aviation, focusing on India's rich cultural heritage.
9. **"Panchayats Free From Gender-Based Violence (GBV)"** – Unveiled by **Union Minister Giriraj Singh**, this handbook is designed to assist Panchayati Raj representatives in addressing gender-based violence.
10. **"Artificial Intelligence and National Security"** – Unveiled by **Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan** at the **Defence Literature Festival, "Kalam and Kavach"** in Pune, Maharashtra, focusing on AI's role in national defense.
11. **"Sculpted Stones: Mysteries of Mamallapuram"** – Written by **Ashwin Prabhu** and published by **Tulika Books**, exploring the enigmatic sculptures of Mamallapuram.
12. **"9 Incredible Years of Haryana Government – Rise of a New and Vibrant Haryana"** – Released by **Vice President of India Jagdeep Dhankhar** at Surajkund, Faridabad. The book, published in Hindi and English, highlights the accomplishments of the Haryana government over nine years, with **Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar** and **former Governor Bandaru Dattatreya** in attendance.
13. **"Maha Swaapnikudu"** – Launched by **former Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu**, this book celebrates his visionary leadership and significant contributions.
14. **"Shree Jagannatha, Lord of the Universe"** – Released by **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** during the **World Odia Language Conference**, a coffee-table book from **The Hindu Group** celebrating Lord Jagannatha.
15. **"Basic Structure and Republic"** – Unveiled by **Goa Governor P.S. Sreedharan Pillai**, the book focuses on the **Kesavananda Bharati vs. Sanyasi case** and the concept of the basic structure in India's constitutional law.
16.  **"Swallowing the Sun"** – Written by **Lakshmi Murdeshwar Puri**, former Assistant Secretary-General of the United

Nations, this debut novel, launched in Mumbai, is set during India's independence and draws inspiration from Puri's roots in Maharashtra, focusing on women empowerment and cultural heritage.

17. □ **"FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023"** – Released by **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik**, this coffee-table book by **Sportstar** encapsulates the excitement of the 15th edition of the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup.
18. □ **"Israel War Diary"** – Written by **Vishal Pandey** and launched by **Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur** in New Delhi. Thakur emphasized peace and dialogue as solutions to conflicts while recognizing India's defense strengthening.
19. □ **"A Compendium on Non-Native Organisms of India"** – Released by **Animal Husbandry Minister J. Chinchurani**, this book discusses invasive species in Alappuzha. It is co-authored by **K.V. Jayachandran** and faculties from TKMM College, **Sheela S., Jasmin Anand, and Vinod Haridas**.
20. □ **"An Illustrated Guide to the Lepidoptera of India"** – Published by the **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)**, this guide on butterflies and moths is co-authored by **Dr. Dhriti Banerjee**, Director of ZSI, along with **Dr. Navneet Singh, Dr. Rahul Joshi, Dr. P.C. Pathania, and Dr. R.C. Kendrick** from Hong Kong.
21. □ **"From a Car Shed to the Corner Room & Beyond"** – An autobiography by **S. Raman**, chronicling his journey from a clerk at SBI to Chairman of Canara Bank and Member of SEBI, highlighting personal integrity and professional challenges in the financial sector.
22. □ **"The Idea of Democracy"** – Written by **Sam Pitroda**, this book delves into the state of democracy and its challenges, particularly in India and the U.S. The launch event was graced by **Rajya Sabha MP Kapil Sibal** and other prominent literary figures.
23. □ **"Law and Spirituality: Reconnecting the Bond"** – Edited by **Professor Raman Mittal** and **Professor Seema Singh**, this book offers an exploration of the relationship between law and spirituality, bridging two seemingly distinct realms of human experience.
24. □ **"Just a Mercenary?: Notes from My Life and Career"** – In this memoir, former **RBI Governor Duvvuri Subbarao** recounts his career, from being a sub-collector to finance secretary and eventually leading the Reserve Bank of India.
25. □ **"India — the Road to Renaissance: A Vision and an Agenda"** – Authored by

former **UN official Bhimeswara Challa**, this book presents a vision for India's future, discussing key strategies for the nation's renaissance. The launch took place at the **Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI)** in Hyderabad.

26. □ **"Heavenly Islands of Goa"** – Written by **Goa Governor P.S. Sreedharan Pillai**, this book is part of his series dedicated to unveiling Goa's rich natural heritage, highlighting the state's lesser-known facets.
27. □ **"India's Nuclear Titans"** – Edited by **Soumya Awasthi** and **Shrabana Barua**, this book was presented to **External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar** and explores India's evolution into a nuclear state, focusing on influential figures such as **Homi Bhabha, Vikram Sarabhai, Abdul Kalam, and K. Subrahmanyam**.
28. □ **"The Winner's Mindset"** – Written by **Watson**, this self-help book offers insights into the mindset required to achieve success, particularly drawn from his cricketing career, making it a guide rather than a traditional autobiography.
29. **Book Release: "Snakes of Himachal Pradesh" Released by: Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu** **Content:** This book offers a detailed guide to the snake species found in Himachal Pradesh, including both venomous and non-venomous varieties. **Editors: Omesh**

**Kumar Bharti** and **DD Bisht** from the State Institute of Health and Family Welfare, Shimla.

30. □ **Bill Gates Unveils "Source Code: My Beginnings"**  
Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates is set to release his memoir, "Source Code: My Beginnings," on February 4, 2025. This highly anticipated book promises to offer an intimate look into the life and experiences that shaped Gates, one of the most influential figures in technology.
31. □ **Ravichandran Ashwin Unveils Autobiography 'I Have the Streets: A Kutti Cricket Story'**  
Indian cricketer Ravichandran Ashwin has launched his autobiography, "I Have the Streets: A Kutti Cricket Story," co-written with Sidharth Monga. Published by Penguin Random House India, the book details Ashwin's journey from a cricket enthusiast in Chennai to becoming a leading international cricketer, including his notable achievements such as being the second-fastest bowler to reach 500 Test wickets.
32. □ **Kerala CM Releases "Viswasapoorvam," Autobiography of A. P. Aboobacker Musliyar**  
Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan released "Viswasapoorvam," the autobiography of Islamic scholar A. P.

Aboobacker Musliyar, published by the Malaibar Foundation for Research and Development. The book offers insights into Musliyar's life and his role as president of the Kerala Muslim Jama-ath.

33. □ **“A Fly on the RBI Wall” by Alpana Killawala**

Alpana Killawala's book, "A Fly on the RBI Wall: An Insider's View of the Central Bank," provides a detailed account of her two-decade career at the Reserve Bank of India. The book offers a unique perspective on the evolution of the RBI's communication strategies and the institution's development over 25 years.

34. □ **Alia Bhatt's Children's Book “Ed Finds a Home”**

Actress Alia Bhatt has unveiled her debut children's book, "Ed Finds a Home," which marks the start of the “Ed-amamma” series. Collaborating with illustrator Tanvi Bhat, the book features vibrant watercolor and gouache illustrations, bringing the heartwarming story to life.

35. □ **Maharashtra Governor Unveils Maritime History Book: ‘Gateways to the Sea’**

Maharashtra Governor Shri Ramesh Bais released "Gateways to the Sea: Historic Ports and Docks of Mumbai Region" at a June 2024 event at Raj Bhavan Mumbai. Published by the Publications Division,

Government of India, and compiled by the Maritime Mumbai Museum Society, the book includes 18 articles on the maritime history of Mumbai, highlighting its historic ports and docks.

### **Obituary**

#### **Demise of Renowned Writer Dr. Usha Kiran Khan**

Dr. Usha Kiran Khan, a celebrated Hindi and Maithili writer, passed away at the age of 79 at a hospital in Patna, Bihar. She was a distinguished litterateur and Padma Shri awardee, recognized for her significant contributions to Hindi and Maithili literature.

#### **2. Passing of Genetic Medicine Specialist and Padma Shri Awardee I.C. Verma**

I.C. Verma, a renowned specialist in genetic medicine, passed away. Born on December 25, 1936, he made significant contributions to the field and was awarded the Padma Shri in 2023 for his achievements in medicine.

#### **3. Dr. Nitya Anand, Pioneer of Oral Contraceptive Pill ‘Saheli’, Passes Away**

Dr. Nitya Anand, known for developing the first oral contraceptive pill ‘Saheli’ in India, passed away at 99 in Lucknow. He was in charge of the Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) from

1974 to 1984 and was honored with the Padma Shri award.

#### **4. Renowned Ghazal Singer and Padma Shri Awardee Pankaj Keshubhai Udhas Passes Away**

Pankaj Keshubhai Udhas, a prominent Indian ghazal singer and Padma Shri awardee, passed away at the age of 72 in Mumbai, Maharashtra. Born on May 17, 1951, in Jetpur, Saurashtra, Gujarat, he was honored with the Padma Shri for his contributions to the arts in 2006.

#### **5. Louis Gossett Jr., First Black Man to Win Best Supporting Actor Oscar, Dies at 87**

Louis Gossett Jr., the first Black man to win the Best Supporting Actor Oscar for his role in *An Officer and a Gentleman* in 1983, passed away at the age of 87.

#### **6. India's Oldest Parliamentarian Shafiqur Rahman Barq Passes Away at 94**

Shafiqur Rahman Barq, a prominent Indian politician, passed away at the age of 94. He was elected to the Lok Sabha five times and served as a member of the Uttar Pradesh State Assembly in four elections.

#### **7. Renowned Archaeologist Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma Passes Away at 90**

Padma Shri Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma, a distinguished archaeologist, passed away at the age of 90 in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. He was known for his contributions to Indian archaeology, including the excavation of the Ram Janmabhoomi Ayodhya site.

#### **8. Brian Mulroney, Former Canadian Prime Minister, Dies at 84**

Brian Mulroney, the former Canadian Prime Minister known for his transformative policies, passed away at the age of 84.

#### **9. David Seidler, Oscar-Winning Writer of *The King's Speech*, Dies at 86**

David Seidler, the Oscar-winning screenwriter behind *The King's Speech*, passed away at the age of 86.

#### **10. Juan Vicente Pérez Mora, World's Oldest Man, Passes Away at 114**

Juan Vicente Pérez Mora, the Venezuelan resident who was recognized as the world's oldest person by Guinness World Records in 2022, passed away at the age of 114.

#### **11. Yakshagana Mourns the Loss of Veteran Exponent Subrahmanya Dhareshwar**

Subrahmanya Dhareshwar, a senior Yakshagana 'bhagavatha', passed away in Bengaluru at the age of 66. He was a recipient of the Karnataka

Rajyotsava award for his contributions to Yakshagana.

### **12. Remembering Sudhir Kakar: Legacy of the Father of Indian Psychology**

Sudhir Kakar, a pioneering Indian psychoanalyst known as the “Father of Indian Psychology,” passed away at 85. His work bridged Western and Eastern thought in psychology.

### **13. India Mourns the Passing of Squadron Leader Sardar Dalip Singh Majithia, Oldest Air Force Pilot**

Squadron Leader Sardar Dalip Singh Majithia, India’s oldest fighter pilot and entrepreneur, passed away at the age of 103. He was cremated with full military honors in Rudrapur, Udham Singh Nagar, and had served during World War II.

### **14. Renowned Carnatic Musician K.G. Jayan Passes Away at 90**

K.G. Jayan, a prominent figure in Carnatic music and Malayalam cinema, passed away at the age of 90 in Thripunitura, Kerala. Known as one half of the “Jaya-Vijaya” duo, he was deeply immersed in music throughout his life.

### **15. Nobel Prize-Winning British Physicist Peter Higgs Passes Away at 94**

Nobel Prize-winning British physicist Peter Higgs passed away at the age of 94 in Edinburgh, UK. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2013 for his work on the Higgs boson and the Royal Society’s Copley Medal in 2015.

### **16. Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi Killed in Helicopter Crash**

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, the 8th President of Iran and 7th Chief Justice of Iran, was killed in a helicopter crash at the age of 63. He had been elected president in 2021.

### **17. Renowned Art Historian B. N. Goswamy Passes Away at 90**

Art historian B. N. Goswamy, born on August 15, 1933, in Sargodha (now in Pakistan), passed away in Chandigarh at the age of 90. He was known for his work as Professor Emeritus of Art History at Punjab University and was honored with Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan awards.

### **18. Padma Shri Awardee Malti Joshi Passes Away at 90**

Storyteller and Padma Shri awardee Malti Joshi passed away at her residence in New Delhi on May 15, 2024, at the age of 90. She had been battling oesophagus cancer and was known for her work in Hindi and Marathi languages.

### **19. Rajasthan's First Woman Minister and Former Governor Kamla Beniwal Passes Away at 97**

Kamla Beniwal, Rajasthan's first woman minister and former Governor of Tripura, Gujarat, and Mizoram, passed away on May 15, 2024, in Jaipur at the age of 97.

### **20. Dr. Birubala Rabha: Champion Against Witch Hunting Passes Away**

Dr. Birubala Rabha, a Padma Shri awardee and crusader against witch hunting, passed away at 75 in Guwahati, Assam. She was known for her work in combating superstitions and social evils through her organization, Mission Birubala.

### **21. Renowned Punjabi Poet Surjit Patar Passes Away at 79**

Surjit Patar, a celebrated Punjabi poet and Padma Shri recipient, passed away in Ludhiana, Punjab, at the age of 79. He was recognized for his significant contributions to Punjabi literature and culture.

### **22. Passing of Padma Bhushan Awardee Moosa Raza**

Moosa Raza, former Chief Secretary of Jammu & Kashmir and Padma Bhushan awardee, passed away at 87 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. He was born

on February 27, 1937, in Villupuram district, Tamil Nadu.

### **23. Renowned Bharatanatyam Dancer and Padma Bhushan Awardee Professor C.V. Chandrasekhar Passes Away at 89**

Professor C.V. Chandrasekhar, a celebrated Bharatanatyam dancer and Padma Bhushan awardee, passed away at the age of 89. He was honored with numerous awards, including the Padma Bhushan in 2011 for his contributions to Bharatanatyam.

### **24. Legendary Sarod Maestro Pandit Rajeev Taranath Passes Away at 91**

Pandit Rajeev Taranath, an illustrious Sarod maestro from the Senia Maihar Gharana, passed away at the age of 91 in Mysuru. He was known for his contributions to Indian classical music and was awarded the Padma Shri in 2019.

### **25. Eminent Wildlife Conservation Activist A.J.T. Johnsingh Passes Away**

A.J.T. Johnsingh, a distinguished Indian wildlife conservationist and biologist, passed away at the age of 78 in Bengaluru, Karnataka. He was known for his significant contributions to wildlife conservation and was awarded the Padma Shri.

### **26. Ramoji Film City Founder & Media Mogul Ramoji Rao Passes Away**

Ramoji Rao, the head of Ramoji Film City and the Telugu news and entertainment network ETV, passed away in Hyderabad at the age of 87. He was honored with the Padma Vibhushan in 2016 and received numerous awards for his contributions to media.

## **27. Eminent Puppeteer Padma Shri Maguni Kuanr Passes Away**

Padma Shri Maguni Charan Kuanr, a distinguished puppeteer from Odisha, passed away at the age of 88. He was known for his work in Kandhei Nach (rod puppetry) and had received awards from the Orissa Sangeet Natak Akademi and the North Orissa University.

## Sports news

1. **ICC Modified DRS Rules:** As of December 12, 2023, the ICC introduced changes to the Decision Review System (DRS), including limited challenges for stumping incidents, a separate option for caught-behind decisions, and mandatory use of side-on cameras for stumping reviews.
2. **Man Singh's Marathon Gold:** Indian marathon runner Man Singh won the gold medal at the Asian Marathon Championships 2024.
3. **Rohit Sharma's T20I Milestone:** Rohit Sharma scored his fifth century in T20 Internationals, making him the player with the most centuries in the format.
4. **Sue Redfern's Historic Umpiring Role:** Sue Redfern became the first female neutral umpire appointed by the ICC for a bilateral series, officiating matches between Australia and South Africa.
5. **Khelo India Youth Games 2024:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the sixth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games on January 19, 2024, at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Chennai.
6. **ICC December 2023 Player of the Month:** Australia's Pat Cummins won the Best Men's Cricketer award, and India's Deepti Sharma was named Best Women's Cricketer for December 2023.
7. **Ravi Kumar Dahiya's Bronze:** Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Ravi Kumar Dahiya secured a bronze medal at the Grand Prix de France Henri DeGlen wrestling tournament.
8. **Meghalaya Games 2024:** President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the fifth edition of the Meghalaya Games in Tura, Meghalaya, which began in 2001.
9. **Rohit Sharma's Captaincy Honors:** Rohit Sharma was named captain of the ICC Men's ODI Team of the Year, while Pat Cummins led the ICC Men's Test Team of the Year.
10. **India's Beach Games 2024:** Madhya Pradesh topped the medal tally with 18 medals, including 7 gold, at the inaugural "The Beach Games 2024" held at Ghoghla Beach, Diu.
11. **Asian Shooting Championships 2024:** India topped the Asian Shooting Championships in Jakarta, Indonesia, with a total of 19 medals, including 7 gold, qualifying for the Paris 2024 Olympics.
12. **National Sports and Adventure Awards 2023:** President of India presented awards including Arjuna, Dronacharya, and Dhyan Chand Awards, recognizing achievements across various sports.
13. **Indian Shooters' Gold at Olympic Qualifiers:** India's Varun Tomar, Arjun Singh Cheema, and Ujjawal Malik won gold in the men's 10m air pistol team event at the Asian Olympic Qualifiers.
14. **Harpreet Chandi's World Record:** British Sikh Army officer Harpreet Chandi set a world record as the fastest woman to complete a solo skiing expedition to the South Pole.
15. **Naorem Roshibina Devi's Wushu Honor:** Naorem Roshibina Devi was named the International Wushu Federation's Female Athlete of the Year in the Sanda category.
16. **Rohit Sharma's 150th T20I Match:** Indian captain Rohit Sharma became the first male player to participate in 150 T20 International matches, achieving the feat against Afghanistan.
17. **Pat Cummins and Deepti Sharma: ICC Players of December 2023:** Pat Cummins and Deepti Sharma were named ICC Players of the Month for December 2023.
18. **Praggnanandhaa Becomes India's No.1 Chess Player:** Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa, 18, surpassed Viswanathan Anand by defeating World Champion Ding Liren, becoming India's No.1 chess player.
19. **Yogesh Singh's Gold at Asia Olympic Qualifiers:** Yogesh Singh won the individual gold in the men's 25m center

- fire pistol competition and led India to team gold.
20. **Carlos Sainz's Historic Dakar Rally Win:** At age 61, Carlos Sainz won the Dakar Rally for the fourth time, becoming the oldest winner of the prestigious event.
  21. **Tata Sons Retains IPL Sponsorship:** Tata Sons secured the title sponsorship of the IPL for the 2024-2028 seasons by exercising its Right to Match card.
  22. **Ravi Kumar Dahiya's Bronze at Grand Prix de France:** Ravi Kumar Dahiya won a bronze medal in the 61kg freestyle category at the Grand Prix de France Henri Deglane wrestling tournament.
  23. **Madrid to Host Spanish Formula 1 Grand Prix:** Madrid will host the Spanish Formula 1 Grand Prix starting in 2026, replacing Barcelona.
  24. **Indian Shooters Win Bronze at Asian Shotgun Championships:** Raiza Dhillon and Gurjoat Singh Khangura clinched bronze in the mixed skeet team event at the Asian Shotgun Championships 2024.
  25. **Tai Tzu Ying's India Open Victory:** After a Malaysian Open loss, Tai Tzu Ying claimed her 32nd career title by winning the India Open 2024 women's singles title.
  26. **Sreeja Akula Wins First International Table Tennis Title:** Indian table tennis player Sreeja Akula won her first international title at the WTT Feeder Corpus Christi 2024 in Texas.
  27. **Rohan Bopanna's Historic Australian Open Win:** At 43, Rohan Bopanna became the oldest player to win men's doubles at the Australian Open, partnering with Matthew Ebden.
  28. **India Runner-Up at FIH Hockey 5s Women's World Cup:** India finished as runners-up at the inaugural FIH Hockey 5s Women's World Cup, losing 7-2 to the Netherlands in the final.
  29. **Jannik Sinner Wins Australian Open:** Jannik Sinner won his first Grand Slam title at the Australian Open, defeating Daniil Medvedev in a thrilling five-set final.
  30. **Tanmay Agarwal's Record Ranji Trophy Knock:** Hyderabad's Tanmay Agarwal scored an unbeaten 323 off 160 balls in a Ranji Trophy Plate Group game against Arunachal Pradesh.
  31. **David Warner Retires from ODI Cricket:** David Warner announced his retirement from ODI cricket before his final Test match against Pakistan at the Sydney Cricket Ground.
  32. **Koneru Humpy's World Rapid Chess Silver:** Indian chess player Koneru Humpy secured the silver medal at the 2023 World Rapid Chess Championships in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.
  33. **Shortest Cricket Test Match:** The shortest-ever 107-over Test match in cricket history was played between India and South Africa in Cape Town.
  34. **Anahat Singh Wins Scottish Junior Open Squash:** Indian squash player Anahat Singh won the girls' under-19 title at the 2023 Scottish Junior Open squash championship in Edinburgh.
  35. **ICC Awards 2023:** Suryakumar Yadav was named Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year, Virat Kohli won Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year, and Pat Cummins was named Men's Cricketer of the Year.
  36. **BCCI Awards 2024:** Ravi Shastri received the Col. CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award, and Shubman Gill and Deepti Sharma were named best international cricketers for 2022-23.
  37. **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty's Silver at India Open:** Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty won silver in men's doubles at the Yonex-Sunrise India Open 2024 in Delhi.
  38. **India Shines at ISSF World Cup:** India excelled at the ISSF World Cup with Rhythm Sangwan and Ujjwal winning gold in the 10m air pistol mixed team event. Arjun Babuta and Sonam Uttam Maskar secured silver in the 10m air rifle mixed team event.

39. **Wei Yi Wins Tata Steel Chess Tournament 2024:** China's Grandmaster Wei Yi claimed his first master title at the Tata Steel Chess Tournament 2024 by defeating India's GM Gukesh. Indian GM Leon Luke Mendonca won the Challengers category by beating IM Divya Deshmukh.
40. **Maharashtra Wins Khelo India Youth Games 2024:** Maharashtra secured its fourth consecutive title at the Khelo India Youth Games 2024, winning a total of 57 gold, 48 silver, and 53 bronze medals. Tamil Nadu, the host, achieved its best-ever finish with 38 gold, 21 silver, and 39 bronze medals.
41. **Karnataka Wins Nagesh Trophy:** Karnataka ended a 20-year wait by winning the Nagesh Trophy in the men's national T20 cricket tournament for the blind, defeating Andhra Pradesh by nine wickets in the final.
42. **Abhinav Bindra Named Torchbearer for 2024 Paris Games:** Abhinav Bindra, India's first individual Olympic gold medallist, was chosen as a torchbearer for the 2024 Paris Olympics, highlighting his significant contribution to Indian sports.
43. **Vinicius Jr Named UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador:** Real Madrid's Vinicius Jr has been appointed as a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for the Education for All initiative, becoming the second Brazilian footballer after Pele to hold this title.
44. **Khelo India University Games 2023 Preparations Unveiled:** Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated preparations for the Khelo India University Games 2023 in Guwahati, including the logo, anthem, mascot, jersey, and torch.
45. **IFAB Introduces Blue Card in Football:** The International Football Association Board (IFAB) is introducing the blue card for dissent and cynical fouls, alongside traditional yellow and red cards, to enhance disciplinary measures in football.
46. **Australia Wins U19 Cricket World Cup:** Australia claimed its fourth U19 Cricket World Cup title by defeating India by 79 runs. Kwena Maphaka was named Player of the Tournament, and Mahli Beardman was awarded Player of the Match.
47. **Sumit Nagal Breaks Into ATP Top 100:** Indian tennis player Sumit Nagal rose 23 ranks to enter the ATP Top 100 for the first time, following his victory at the Chennai Open Challenger event.
48. **ICC Player of the Month January 2024:** Shamar Joseph of the West Indies and Amy Hunter of Ireland were named ICC Men's and Women's Player of the Month for January 2024, respectively.
49. **Sportstar Aces Awards Highlights:** At the Sportstar Aces Awards, Neeraj Chopra was named Sportstar of the Year (Male), Sheetal Devi won Sportstar of the Year (Female) and Moment of the Year, and Rohan Bopanna received the 'Ace of Aces' award.
50. **Chess Olympiad Torch Handoff:** Sports Minister Anurag Thakur and FIDE President Arkady Dvorkovich handed over the Chess Olympiad torch to Hungary in Budapest, marking India's engagement with the global chess community.
51. **UWW Lifts Suspension on Wrestling Federation of India:** The United World Wrestling (UWW) lifted the suspension on the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) imposed in August 2023, requiring WFI to conduct athletes' commission elections before July 1, 2024.
52. **Shubman Gill Appointed Punjab's State Icon:** Indian cricketer Shubman Gill has been appointed as Punjab's "State Icon" to boost voter engagement ahead of the Lok Sabha elections.
53. **Asian Track Cycling Championships 2024 in New Delhi:** The Asian Track Cycling Championships 2024, a qualifier for the Paris Olympics, will begin in New Delhi with 22 Indian cyclists competing.
54. **Saketh Myneni and Ramkumar Ramanathan Win Bengaluru Open**

- 2024:** The Indian tennis pair Saketh Myneni and Ramkumar Ramanathan won the men's doubles title at the Bengaluru Open 2024 by defeating French duo Constantin Bittoun Kouzmine and Maxime Janvier.
55. **Jacintha Kalyan Becomes India's First Female Pitch Curator:** Jacintha Kalyan has made history as India's first female pitch curator, showcasing her pioneering role in sports.
56. **India Wins 18 Medals at BWF Para Badminton World Championships 2024:** Indian shuttlers won 18 medals, including 3 golds, at the BWF Para Badminton World Championships 2024 held in Pattaya, Thailand. Gold medal winners included Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj, Krishna Nagar, and Pramod Bhagat.
57. **Jan Nicol Loftie-Eaton Sets Record for Fastest T20I Century:** Namibian cricketer Jan Nicol Loftie-Eaton set a record for the fastest T20I century against Nepal during the Tri-Nation Series.
58. **Training for 200 Para Athletes:** Sports Minister Anurag Thakur announced the training of 200 para athletes across various National Centers of Excellence (NCOEs) in India.
59. **India Wins 14 Medals at Archery Asia Cup 2024:** Indian archers won 14 medals, including 9 golds, at Stage I of the Archery Asia Cup 2024 held in Baghdad, Iraq. Notable winners included Deepika Kumari and Dhiraj Bommadevara.
60. **Tamil Nadu Launches 'Kalaingar Sports Kit' Initiative:** Tamil Nadu Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin announced the 'Kalaingar Sports Kit' initiative, providing sporting kits to 12,000 village panchayats across the state.
61. **India as Runner-Up at FIH Hockey 5s Women's World Cup:** India finished as the runner-up at the inaugural FIH Hockey 5s Women's World Cup after a 7-2 loss to the Netherlands in the final
62. **BIMSTEC Aquatic Championships Opened:** Sports Minister Anurag Thakur inaugurated the first BIMSTEC Aquatic Championships in New Delhi, highlighting regional sports cooperation.
63. **Telangana to Host FIFA World Cup Qualifiers:** The Telangana Football Association will host the FIFA World Cup qualifiers between India and Kuwait in Hyderabad on June 6, 2024
64. **Indian Army Wins Khelo India Winter Games 2024:** The Indian Army topped the medal tally at the Khelo India Winter Games 2024, winning 21 medals, including 10 golds. The event's mascot, a snow leopard named "Sheen-e-She" or "Shan," represented the games
65. **Carlos Sainz Wins Australian GP:** Carlos Sainz of Ferrari clinched the victory at the Australian Grand Prix. Max Verstappen, the reigning champion from Red Bull, retired unexpectedly
66. **Sathiyar Gnanasekaran Wins WTT Feeder Beirut Tournament** Sathiyar Gnanasekaran won the Men's Singles title at the WTT Feeder Beirut Tournament, defeating Manav Vikas Thakkar.
67. **Russian & Belarusian Athletes Barred from Paris Games Opening Ceremony:** The IOC announced that Russian and Belarusian athletes will not participate in the Parade of Nations at the Paris Olympics opening ceremony.
68. **Lakshya Sen Reaches World No. 13 in Men's Badminton:** Lakshya Sen climbed to World No. 13 in men's singles, while Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty retained their top spot in men's doubles.
69. **Virat Kohli Reaches 12,000 T20 Runs:** Virat Kohli became the first Indian cricketer to score 12,000 T20 runs during the IPL 2024 opener.
70. **Sharath Kamal to Be India's Flagbearer for Paris 2024:** Veteran table tennis player Sharath Kamal was chosen as the flagbearer for India at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

71. **PR Sreejesh Named FIH Athletes Committee Co-Chair:** India's PR Sreejesh was appointed co-chair of the FIH Athletes Committee alongside Chile's Camila Caram.
72. **India Wins Anthony de Mello Trophy 2024:** India, led by Rohit Sharma, defeated England 4-1 to claim the Anthony de Mello Trophy in the 2024 Test series.
73. **KIRTI Talent Hunt Launched:** Anurag Thakur inaugurated the KIRTI (Khelo India Rising Talent Identification) event to discover young sports talent in India.
74. **Mumbai Wins 2024 Ranji Trophy:** Mumbai clinched their 42nd Ranji Trophy title by defeating Vidarbha at the Wankhede Stadium
75. **3rd North East Games Inaugurated in Nagaland:** Nagaland CM Neiphiu Rio inaugurated the 3rd North East Games with 3000 athletes participating.
76. **PM Modi Praises Formula-4 Car Show in Srinagar:** The first-ever Formula-4 car show took place on the banks of Dal Lake in Srinagar, praised by PM Narendra Modi.
77. **Sheetal Devi Named National PwD Icon:** Para archer Sheetal Devi was appointed as the Election Commission's National PwD Icon, with a new voter guide for PwDs.
78. **Odisha CM Inaugurates Indoor Athletics & Aquatic Stadium:** CM Naveen Patnaik inaugurated India's first indoor athletics stadium and aquatic center in Bhubaneswar.
79. **Indian Women's Football Team Finishes Runner-Up in Turkish Women's Cup:** The Indian women's football team finished second in the Turkish Women's Cup, losing to Kosovo in the final.
80. **Chandigarh University Wins Khelo India University Games 2024:** Chandigarh University emerged as winners in the Khelo India University Games, securing 71 medals.
81. **Ashwin Becomes India's Leading Home Test Wicket-Taker:** Ravichandran Ashwin surpassed Anil Kumble to become India's top home Test wicket-taker with 444 wickets.
82. **Puneri Paltan Wins Pro Kabaddi League Season 10:** Puneri Paltan claimed their first Pro Kabaddi League title by defeating Haryana Steelers.
83. **BPCL Names Neeraj Chopra as Brand Ambassador:** Neeraj Chopra was announced as the brand ambassador for BPCL's 'Speed' petrol variant.
84. **Sai Praneeth Retires from International Badminton:** Sai Praneeth announced his retirement from international badminton due to persistent injuries.
85. **Shimla Hosts First Asian River Rafting Championships:** The inaugural Asian River Rafting Championships took place on the Sutlej River in Shimla.
86. **Khelo India Medallists Now Eligible for Government Jobs:** Medallists from Khelo India competitions were made eligible for government jobs.
87. **Yatin Bhaskar Duggal Wins National Youth Parliament Festival 2024:** Yatin Bhaskar Duggal of Haryana won first prize at the National Youth Parliament Festival 2024
88. **Harendra Singh Appointed Coach of Indian Senior Women's Hockey Team:** Former player and Dronacharya awardee Harendra Singh takes over as the coach, replacing Janneke Schopman, with a tenure expected until the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.
89. **Mirabai Chanu Qualifies for Paris Olympics:** Chanu, the Tokyo Olympics silver medalist, secured her spot by finishing third in the 49kg category at the IWF World Cup in Phuket.
90. **Novak Djokovic Set to Become Oldest World No. 1:** Djokovic is poised to become the oldest ATP World No. 1, continuing his dominance with 419 weeks at the top.
91. **Bindyarani Devi Wins Bronze at IWF World Cup 2024:** Devi, alongside

- Mirabai Chanu, represented India, with Devi clinching bronze in Phuket.
92. **Arjun Erigaisi Becomes India's Top Chess Player:** Erigaisi is now the highest-ranked Indian chess player, moving to ninth in the FIDE rankings.
93. **Shiny Wilson Nominated to Asian Athletic Commission:** The former athlete has been nominated for a four-year term on the commission.
94. **Bilquis Mir Becomes First Indian Woman Jury Member at Summer Olympics:** Mir from Jammu and Kashmir will be part of the jury for the 33rd Summer Olympics in Paris.
95. **Anupama Upadhyaya and M. Tharun Win at Kazakhstan International Challenge:** Both Indian shuttlers clinched singles titles in their respective categories.
96. **Sumit Nagal Makes Monte Carlo Masters History:** Nagal became the first Indian in 42 years to reach the singles main draw at the Monte Carlo Masters.
97. **Max Verstappen Wins Japanese Grand Prix:** Verstappen secured his third consecutive win at the Japanese Formula One Grand Prix.
98. **Valerie Adams Named Ambassador for TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2024:** The iconic shot putter will be the international ambassador for the event.
99. **Maheshwari Chauhan Clinches Olympic Quota with Silver:** Chauhan secured an Olympic quota for India with a silver in the women's skeet at the shotgun qualification championship.
100. **Nethra Kumanan Secures Sailing Quota for Paris Olympics:** Kumanan earned her spot at the Paris Olympics with a fifth-place finish at the Last Chance Regatta in France.
101. **Harshit Kumar Wins Gold at U-20 Asian Athletics Championship:** Kumar won gold in the Hammer throw, leading India's medal tally.
102. **Jannik Sinner Wins Miami Open:** Sinner claimed the men's singles title, while Danielle Collins won the women's singles title.
103. **Kean Yew Loh Wins Men's Title at Spain Masters 2024:** Loh claimed the title, with Ratchanok Intanon winning the women's singles.
104. **India's Defence Exports Cross Rs 21,000 Crore:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reported a significant increase in defence exports.
105. **Kamindu Mendis and Maia Bouchier Named ICC Players of the Month:** Mendis and Bouchier were recognized for their exceptional performances in March 2024.
106. **Udit Wins Silver at Asian Wrestling Championship 2024:** Udit won a silver, marking India's absence of a gold in the 57kg category since 2019.
107. **Rohit Sharma Hits 500 T20 Sixes:** Sharma becomes the first Indian to achieve this milestone in T20 cricket.
108. **Anupama Upadhyaya and Tharun Mannepalli Win at Kazakhstan International Challenge:** Upadhyaya and Mannepalli won their respective singles titles.
109. **Rashmi Kumari Wins 12th National Carrom Championship:** Kumari secured her 12th title with a victory in the women's final.
110. **Jonatan Christie Wins Asian Badminton Championship:** Christie claimed his first Asian title, defeating Li Shi Feng in the final.
111. **Mykolas Alekna Breaks Discus Throw World Record:** Alekna set a new world record with a throw of 74.35 meters.
112. **Olympic Flame Lit for Paris 2024:** The flame was ignited in Ancient Olympia, marking 100 days until the games.
113. **India Secures Nine Medals at Asian Wrestling Championship:** The Indian team won a total of nine medals in the championship.
114. **India Wins Medals at European Girls' Mathematical Olympiad:** Indian

students secured two silver and two bronze medals at the 13th EGMO.

115. **Casper Ruud Wins ATP Barcelona Open:** Ruud triumphed over Tsitsipas in straight sets to claim the title.
116. **Max Verstappen Wins Chinese Grand Prix:** Verstappen dominated the race, marking Formula One's return to China after five years.
117. **D Gukesh Wins Candidates Chess Tournament:** Gukesh became the youngest-ever winner of the FIDE Candidates tournament, setting the stage for the World Championship.
118. **India's T20 World Cup Squad for 2024:** Rohit Sharma leads a 15-member squad, with Hardik Pandya as Vice-Captain. India is placed in Group A with Pakistan, Canada, USA, and Ireland.
119. **Japan Wins 2024 Men's AFC U-23 Title:** Japan secured its second AFC U-23 title by defeating Uzbekistan, qualifying for the 2024 Paris Olympics.
120. **Women's T20 World Cup 2024 in Bangladesh:** ICC announced the fixtures for the ninth edition, set to take place from October 3 to 20, 2024.
121. **Tejaswin Shankar Wins Men's High Jump at USATF Festival:** Shankar cleared 2.23 meters to win the event in Tucson, Arizona.
122. **Indian Women's 4×400 Metre Relay Team Qualifies for Paris Olympics:** The team qualified by finishing second in their second-round heat at the World Athletics Relays.
123. **Real Madrid Clinches 36th La Liga Title:** Real Madrid defeated Cadiz 3-0 to win their 36th La Liga title.
124. **Iga Swiatek and Andrey Rublev Win Madrid Open Titles:** Swiatek won her first women's singles title, while Rublev secured his second men's singles title at the 2024 Madrid Open.
125. **Mumbai City FC Wins ISL 2023-24:** Mumbai City FC defeated Mohun Bagan Super Giant 3-1 to win the Indian Super League final.
126. **China Wins Thomas and Uber Cup Titles:** China triumphed in both the men's Thomas Cup and women's Uber Cup badminton titles in Chengdu, China.
127. **Indian Boxers Shine at ASBC Asian U-22 and Youth Boxing Championships:** India secured 43 medals, including 12 gold, at the championships in Astana, Kazakhstan.
128. **Coca-Cola India Partners with Hockey India:** Coca-Cola became the official partner for the National Women's Hockey League 2024-2025.
129. **Amul Sponsors Sri Lanka Men's Team for T20 World Cup 2024:** Amul was named the official sponsor of the Sri Lanka Men's Team for the 2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup.
130. **Manika Batra Enters World Top 25 TT Rankings:** Batra achieved a career-best ranking of 24 in the women's singles table tennis rankings.
131. **Bajrang Punia Suspended by UWW:** The wrestling champion was provisionally suspended due to a NADA violation, jeopardizing his participation in the 2024 Paris Olympics.
132. **Nisha Dahiya Qualifies for Paris Olympics:** Dahiya became the fifth Indian woman wrestler to qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympics.
133. **Neeraj Chopra Wins Silver at Doha Diamond League:** Chopra secured second place with a throw of 88.36 meters in the javelin event.
134. **Kami Rita Sets Record with 30th Ascent of Mount Everest:** Nepal's Kami Rita reached a new milestone with his 30th successful ascent of Mount Everest.
135. **Japan Wins Maiden Sultan Azlan Shah Hockey Trophy:** Japan defeated Pakistan in the final, securing their first Sultan Azlan Shah Trophy title.
136. **Jorge Martin Wins 2024 French MotoGP:** Jorge Martin from Spain clinched the victory in the 2024 French MotoGP, racing for Pramac Ducati. He overcame tough competition from Marc

Marquez and Francesco Bagnaia to secure the win.

137. **Manika Batra Reaches Career-Best Table Tennis Ranking:** Manika Batra became the first Indian woman to enter the top 25 in world table tennis women's singles rankings, securing a career-high rank of 24. This achievement follows her successful run at the Saudi Smash tournament, where she reached the quarterfinals and jumped 15 spots.
138. **Magnus Carlsen Wins 2024 Superbet Poland Rapid & Blitz:** Five-time World Champion Magnus Carlsen triumphed in the 2024 Superbet Poland Rapid & Blitz in Warsaw. Carlsen scored 26 points, including 10 consecutive wins, to secure the victory.
- **Sunil Chhetri Announces International Retirement:** Indian football star Sunil Chhetri announced his retirement from international football after India's match against Kuwait on June 6, 2024. Chhetri, India's third-highest goal scorer with 94 goals in 150 matches, has received several honors, including the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna and Padma Shri awards.
  - **April ICC Players of the Month:** West Indies captain Hayley Matthews was named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for April, her third such award. UAE captain Muhammad Waseem became the first player from the UAE to win the ICC Men's Player of the Month award for April.
139. **Boxing Federation of India (BFI) Joins World Boxing:** The Boxing Federation of India (BFI) has had its membership application to World Boxing approved by the General Assembly. It is now awaiting ratification by World Boxing's Executive Board. World Boxing, which was established in April 2023, aims

to keep boxing at the center of the Olympic movement.

140. **Real Madrid Wins UEFA Champions League for the 15th Time:** Real Madrid has clinched the UEFA Champions League trophy for the 15th time, defeating Borussia Dortmund 2-0 in the final. This victory marks a historic achievement for the club. The final of the 2023-24 UEFA Champions League took place on June 1, 2024, at Wembley Stadium, England. This was the third time Wembley hosted a Champions League final, having previously done so in 2011-12 and 2013-14. The Union of European Football Associations (UEFA), established on June 15, 1954, governs football in Europe and includes 55 national football associations. Its headquarters are in Nyon, Switzerland, with Aleksander Čeferin as President.
141. **Indian Boxers Jasmine Lamboria and Amit Panghal Secure Paris Olympic Quotas:** Indian boxers Jasmine Lamboria and Amit Panghal have secured their places for the Paris Olympics. Amit Panghal earned his quota in the men's 51 kg category by defeating Liu Chuang of China with a 5-0 victory in the quarter-final. Jasmine Lamboria qualified in the women's 57 kg category by winning against Marine Camara of Mali with a 5-0 quarter-final win.
142. **India Shines at Taiwan Athletics Open with 7 Medals:** India concluded the Taiwan Athletics Open 2024 with a total of seven medals: three gold, three silver, and one bronze. The gold medals were won by Nayana James in the women's long jump, Devarakeshavi Prakasha Manu in the men's javelin throw, and Ankesh Choudhary in the men's 800 meters. Silver medals were secured by Somnath Chouhan in the men's 800 meters, Dev Kumar Meena in the men's pole vault, and Nithya Ramraj in the women's 100 meters hurdles. Velluva Koroth Vismaya won the bronze in the women's 400 meters.

143. **Tanvi Sharma Wins Women's Singles at Yonex Bonn International 2024:** Tanvi Sharma, aged 15, won the women's singles title at the Yonex Bonn International 2024, defeating Wang Pei Yu from Chinese Taipei. The event, part of the Badminton World Federation (BWF) Future Series, took place from May to June 2024 in Bonn, Germany. In the men's singles, Cheng Kai from Chinese Taipei emerged victorious against Gustav Bjorkler from Sweden.
144. **Record Prize Money for 2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup:** The 2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup will feature a record-breaking prize money pool of at least \$2.45 million, the highest in the tournament's history. The distribution includes \$2.45 million for the winners, \$1.28 million for the runners-up, \$787,500 for each losing semi-finalist, and varying amounts for teams exiting in different stages of the tournament.
145. **Kedar Jadhav Announces Retirement from All Forms of Cricket:** Indian cricketer Kedar Jadhav announced his retirement from all forms of cricket in June 2024 at the age of 39. Jadhav made his international debut in November 2014 against Sri Lanka. He was part of the 2019 World Cup team and played his last ODI against New Zealand on February 8, 2020.
146. **Dinesh Karthik Announces Retirement from All Forms of Cricket:** Dinesh Karthik has officially announced his retirement from all formats of representative cricket. His last match was with the Royal Challengers Bangalore in the IPL 2024 Eliminator in May. Karthik, who debuted for India in 2004, became the fourth Indian to play 300 T20 matches and was a member of the teams that won the 2007 T20 World Cup and the 2013 ICC Champions Trophy.
147. **Rohit Sharma Breaks Records at ICC T20 World Cup:** Rohit Sharma set a new record by becoming the first cricketer to hit 600 sixes in international cricket during India's opening match of the 9th ICC T20 World Cup, co-hosted by the USA and West Indies. Sharma, known as "Hitman," achieved this milestone across 473 matches, surpassing Chris Gayle and Shahid Afridi, who have 553 and 476 sixes respectively.
148. **Sarabjot Singh Wins Gold at ISSF Munich World Cup 2024:** Sarabjot Singh won the gold medal in the men's 10-meter air pistol event at the ISSF World Cup held from May 31 to June 8, 2024, in Munich, Germany. Singh scored 242.7 points in the final. This marks his second individual gold medal in the ISSF World Cup. The ISSF, founded in 1907 and headquartered in Munich, is one of the most prestigious shooting sports governing bodies in the world.
149. **Archery Asia Cup 2024 Stage 3: India's Medal Tally:** India concluded the 2024 Archery Asia Cup Stage 3, held in Suwon, South Korea, with five medals: one gold, two silvers, and two bronzes. Kumud Saini won gold in the Women's Compound Individual event. Silver medals were awarded to the Women's Compound Team (Kumud Saini, Maya Bishnoi, Tejal Rajendra Salve) and the Mixed Compound Team (Kumud Saini, Manav Jadhao). Bronze medals went to the Men's Compound Team (Manav Jadhao, Ganesh Mani Ratnam Thirumuru, Kushal Dalal) and the Women's Recurve Team (Bhargaviben Bhagora, Basanti Mahato, Sharvari Somnath Shende). The event took place from June 4 to 9, 2024.
150. **Magnus Carlsen, Ju Wenjun Win Norway Chess Titles:** Magnus Carlsen, ranked World No. 1, secured his sixth Norway Chess title by defeating Fabiano Caruana in an Armageddon match. Indian prodigy Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu showcased his skills by drawing with Hikaru Nakamura in classical play and winning their Armageddon match, securing third place overall.

151. **Carlos Alcaraz, Iga Swiatek Win 2024 French Open Tennis Singles Titles**  
At the 123rd French Open (Roland Garros) held from May 26 to June 9, 2024, Carlos Alcaraz (Spain) won the Men's Singles title, defeating Alexander Zverev (Germany). Iga Swiatek (Poland) claimed the Women's Singles title, overcoming Jasmine Paolini (Italy). The event was held at Stade Roland Garros, Paris, France.
152. **Sumit Nagpal Wins 6th ATP Challenger Tennis Title**  
Indian tennis player Sumit Nagpal won the Heilbronn Neckarcup 2024 ATP Challenger tournament in Germany, marking his sixth ATP Challenger title. This victory enhances his ATP ranking and qualifies him for the 2024 Summer Paris Olympics.
153. **Max Verstappen Clinches 60th Career Victory at 2024 Canadian Grand Prix**  
Max Verstappen of Red Bull won the Formula 1 Canadian Grand Prix 2024 at Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, marking his 60th career victory. McLaren's Lando Norris finished second, and Mercedes's George Russell came third.
154. **India Named Hosts for 2025 FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup**  
India will host the 2025 FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup, which will be expanded to feature 24 teams for the first time. The event is scheduled for December 2025, aiming to showcase junior hockey talent globally.
155. **Divya Deshmukh Wins World Junior Girls' Chess Championship**  
Divya Deshmukh from India won the World Junior Girls' Chess Championship by defeating Bulgaria's Beloslava Krasteva in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. She remained unbeaten throughout the championship.
156. **Shruti Vora Makes History as First Indian Rider to Win 3-Star Grand Prix Event**

- Shruti Vora became the first Indian rider to win a three-star Grand Prix event at the FEI Dressage World Cup CDI-3 in Lipica, Slovenia. She scored 67.761 points on Magnanimous, outperforming Moldova's Tatiana Antonenco.
157. **Likith SP and Dhinidhi Desinghu Win Bronze Medals at Singapore National Swimming Championship 2024**  
Likith SP won bronze in the Men's 100-metre breaststroke with a time of 1 minute and 2 seconds. Dhinidhi Desinghu secured bronze in the Women's 200-metre freestyle with a time of 2 minutes and 5 seconds. The championship is a key qualification event for the Paris Olympics.
158. **Euro Cup 2024 to Kick Off on June 15**  
The Euro Cup 2024 will start on June 15, 2024, with Germany facing Scotland in the opening match. The tournament features 24 teams divided into six groups. Germany is in Group A, while defending champions Italy are in Group B, known as the "group of death."
159. **ICC Players of the Month for May 2024: Gudakesh Motie (West Indies):** Named ICC Men's Player of the Month for his outstanding performance against South Africa with 8 wickets at an average of 8.50. **Chamari Athapaththu (Sri Lanka):** ICC Women's Player of the Month for leading Sri Lanka to qualify for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024.
160. **Archery: Ankita Bhakat:** Secured an individual quota for the Paris Olympics by advancing to the quarter-finals at the Final Olympic Qualifier in Antalya, Turkey. **Dhiraj Bommadevara:** Won two bronze medals at the Archery World Cup 2024 in Antalya, Turkey.
161. **BRICS Games 2024: Indian Women's Table Tennis Team:** Clinched a bronze medal after losing to China in the semi-finals. **Indian Men's Table Tennis Team:** Finished fifth.
162. **Lockie Ferguson:** Set a record for the most economical spell in T20I history

with figures of 4-4-0-3 against Papua New Guinea.

163. **Virat Kohli:** Reclaimed the top spot as India's most valued celebrity brand with a value of \$227.9 million.
164. **Indian National Ultimate Frisbee Team:** Won silver at the 2024 Asia Oceanic Championship in Japan, finishing as runners-up to the Philippines.
165. **Trent Boult:** Announced his retirement from international cricket after New Zealand's final group match in the T20 World Cup.
166. **Kiran Pahal:** Qualified for the Paris Olympics in the Women's 400m event with a time of 50.92 seconds.
167. **David Warner:** Retired from international cricket following Australia's exit from the T20 World Cup.
168. **Indian Swimmers: Dhinidhi Desinghu and Srihari Nataraj** qualified for the 2024 Paris Olympics through the Universality quota.
169. **Smriti Mandhana:** Became the first Indian woman to score consecutive centuries in ODIs.
170. **Max Verstappen:** Triumphed at the Spanish Grand Prix 2024, solidifying his lead in the Formula 1 drivers' championship.
171. **43rd World Medical and Health Games: Indian Armed Forces Medical Services:** Won a record 32 medals, including 19 gold, at the games held in Saint-Tropez, France.
172. **Sreeja Akula:** Became the first Indian to win a WTT Contender singles title at the WTT Contender Lagos 2024.
173. **Neeraj Chopra:** Claimed gold in the men's javelin throw at the Paavo Nurmi Games 2024 in Finland.
174. **Copa America 2024:** The tournament will be held in the USA from June 21 to July 15, with Argentina defending their title against debutants Canada in the opening match

## 2nd Edition of WPL: RCB Clinches Women's Premier League Title with Victory Over Delhi Capitals

- **Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB)** secured an **8-wicket** victory against **Delhi Capitals** in the Women's Premier League (WPL) Cricket final, held at the **Arun Jaitley Stadium** in New Delhi.
- **Delhi Capitals** set a target of **114 runs**, which RCB chased down by scoring **115 for 2** in **19.3 overs**.

### Key Performances:

- **Ellyse Perry** emerged as the highest scorer for RCB with **35 runs**, followed by:
  - **Sophie Devine** with **32 runs**.
  - **Smriti Mandhana** contributed **31 runs** to the team's total.

### Important Points:

- **RCB Captain:** Smriti Mandhana
- **Delhi Capitals Captain:** Meg Lanning
- **Orange Cap Winner:** Ellyse Perry (Runs: 347)
- **Purple Cap Winner:** Shreyanka Patil (Wickets: 13)
- **Most Valuable Player:** Deepti Sharma

### India's Performance at the 2024 World Para Athletics Championships

- **Event:** 2024 World Para Athletics Championships
- **Location:** Kobe, Japan
- **Medal Count:** 17 (6 Gold, 5 Silver, 6 Bronze)
- **Overall Position:** 6th

### Gold Medalists:

- **Mariyappan Thangavelu** (Men's High Jump T63)

- Sumit Antil (Men's Javelin Throw F64)
- Sachin Khilari (Men's Shot Put F46)
- Simran Sharma (Women's 200m T12)
- Deepthi Jeevanji (Women's 400m T20)
- Ekta Bhyana (Women's Club Throw F51)

**Silver Medalists:**

- Yogesh Kathuniya (Men's Discus Throw F56)
- Nishad Kumar (Men's High Jump T47)
- Rinku (Men's Javelin Throw F46)
- Kashish Lakra (Women's Club Throw F51)
- Bhagyashri Jadhav (Women's Shot Put F34)

**Bronze Medalists:**

- Dharambir (Men's Club Throw F51)
- Navdeep (Men's Javelin Throw F41)
- Ajeet Singh (Men's Javelin Throw F46)
- Sandeep (Men's Javelin Throw F64)
- Preethi Pal (Women's 100m T35)
- Preethi Pal (Women's 200m T35)

**KKR Wins Third IPL Title (2024)**

- **Champion:** Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR)
- **Final Opponent:** Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH)
- **Venue:** M.A. Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai
- **Date:** May 26, 2024
- **Result:** KKR won by 8 wickets

**IPL 2024 Awards:**

- **Winner:** Kolkata Knight Riders (Rs. 20 crore)
- **Runner-Up:** Sunrisers Hyderabad (Rs. 12.5 crore)
- **Orange Cap:** Virat Kohli (RCB) - 741 runs (Rs. 10 lakh)
- **Purple Cap:** Harshal Patel (PBKS) - 24 wickets (Rs. 10 lakh)
- **Emerging Player of the Season:** Nitish Kumar Reddy (SRH) (Rs. 10 lakh)

- **Most Valuable Player:** Sunil Narine (KKR) (Rs. 10 lakh)
- **Most Sixes Award:** Abhishek Sharma (SRH) (Rs. 10 lakh)
- **Most Fours Award:** Travis Head (SRH) (Rs. 10 lakh)
- **Best Strike Rate Award:** Jake Fraser-McGurk (DC) (Rs. 10 lakh)
- **Catch of the Season:** Ramandeep Singh (KKR) (Rs. 10 lakh)
- **Fair Play Award:** Sunrisers Hyderabad (Rs. 10 lakh)

**Yuzvendra Chahal Achieves T20 Milestone**

- **Historic Achievement:** Yuzvendra Chahal becomes the first Indian bowler to claim 350 wickets in T20 cricket.
- **Team:** Rajasthan Royals
- **Format:** Indian Premier League (IPL)

**Leading T20 Wicket-Takers:**

1. **Dwayne Bravo** - 625 wickets
2. **Rashid Khan** - 572 wickets
3. **Sunil Narine** - 549 wickets
4. **Imran Tahir** - 502 wickets
5. **Shakib Al Hasan** - 482 wickets
6. **Andre Russell** - 443 wickets
7. **Wahab Riaz** - 413 wickets
8. **Lasith Malinga** - 390 wickets
9. **Sohail Tanvir** - 389 wickets
10. **Chris Jordan** - 368 wickets
11. **Yuzvendra Chahal** - 350 wickets

**Lando Norris Wins First F1 Race at Miami Grand Prix**

- **Historic Victory:** Lando Norris, driving for McLaren, secures his first Formula 1 victory at the Miami Grand Prix.
- **Location:** Miami International Autodrome, Florida, USA.
- **Significance:** Norris's win ends Red Bull's Max Verstappen's streak, who had dominated the 2024 F1 season with four wins in six races.

**Grand Prix Winners 2023-2024 Highlights:**

1. **Bahrain GP:** Max Verstappen (Red Bull)
2. **Saudi Arabia GP:** Max Verstappen (Red Bull)
3. **Australian GP:** Carlos Sainz (Ferrari)
4. **Japanese GP:** Max Verstappen (Red Bull)
5. **Chinese GP:** Max Verstappen (Red Bull)
6. **Miami GP:** Lando Norris (McLaren)



**Important Persons And Their Position**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Constitutional Head</b>	<b>President</b>	Smt. Droupadi Murmu (15th)
	<b>Vice President</b>	Jagdeep Dhankhar (14th)
	<b>Prime Minister</b>	Narendra Modi (15th)
<b>Judicial Head</b>	<b>Chief Justice, Supreme Court</b>	DY Chandrachud (50th)
	<b>Attorney General of India</b>	R. Venkataramani (16th)
	<b>Solicitor General of India</b>	Tushar Mehta
	<b>Chairperson, National Green Tribunal</b>	J. Prakash Shrivastava
	<b>GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT)</b>	Sanjaya Kumar Mishra
<b>Parliamentary Head</b>	<b>Speaker, Rajya Sabha</b>	Jagdeep Dhankhar
	<b>Deputy Speaker, Rajya Sabha</b>	Harivansh Narayan Singh
	<b>Secretary General, Rajya Sabha</b>	Pramod Chandra Mody
	<b>Leader of Opposition, Rajya Sabha</b>	Mallikarjun Kharge
	<b>Speaker, Lok Sabha</b>	Om Birla
	<b>Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha</b>	Rahul Gandhi
	<b>Secretary General, Lok Sabha</b>	Utpal Kumar Singh
<b>Election Commission</b>	<b>Chief Election Commissioner</b>	Rajiv Kumar (25th)
	<b>Election Commissioners</b>	Gyanesh Kumar, Sukhbir Sandhu
	<b>Deputy Election Commissioners</b>	Ajay Bhadoo, R.K. Gupta, Umesh Sinha, Chandrabhushan Kumar, Sudip Jain
<b>Comptroller and Auditor General</b>	<b>Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)</b>	Girish Chandra Murmu (14th)
	<b>Comptroller General of Accounts (CGA)</b>	S.S. Dubey (28th)
<b>Armed Forces Head</b>	<b>Supreme Commander</b>	Smt. Droupadi Murmu
	<b>Chief of Air Staff</b>	V.R. Chaudhari (27th)
	<b>Chief of Naval Staff</b>	Dinesh Kumar Tripathi (26th)
	<b>Chief of Army Staff</b>	Upendra Dwivedi (30th)
	<b>Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)</b>	Lt. General Anil Chauhan (2nd)
	<b>DG, Military Operations (DGMO)</b>	Manoj Kumar Katiyar
<b>Secretaries and Advisors</b>	<b>Cabinet Secretary</b>	Rajiv Gauba
	<b>Adviser, Prime Minister</b>	Amit Khare
	<b>Principal Secretary, Prime Minister</b>	PK Mishra
	<b>Defence Finance Secretary</b>	Gargi Kaul
	<b>Foreign Secretary</b>	Vikram Misri
	<b>Home Secretary</b>	Ajay Kumar Bhalla
	<b>Finance Secretary</b>	T.V. Somnathan

	<b>Defence Secretary</b>	Giridhar Aramane
	<b>Revenue Secretary</b>	Sanjay Malhotra
	<b>National Security Advisor (NSA)</b>	Ajit Doval
	<b>Deputy National Security Advisor</b>	Pankaj Kumar Singh
	<b>Chief Economic Advisor</b>	Anantha Nageswaran
	<b>Principal Scientific Adviser</b>	Ajay Kumar Sood
<b>Intelligence and Investigation Organizations Head</b>	<b>Vigilance Commissioner, CVC</b>	Praveen Kumar Srivastava
	<b>Director, CBI</b>	Arvind Kumar
	<b>Director, Enforcement Directorate (ED)</b>	Sanjay Kumar Mishra
	<b>Director, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)</b>	Satya Narayan Pradhan
	<b>Chief Information Commissioner</b>	Suresh Chandra
	<b>Head, Intelligence Bureau (IB)</b>	Tapan Kumar Deka
	<b>Head, Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)</b>	Ravi Sinha
	<b>DG, National Investigation Agency (NIA)</b>	Sadanand Vasant Date
<b>Paramilitary Forces Head</b>	<b>DG, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)</b>	Daljit Singh Chaudhary
	<b>DG, Border Security Force (BSF)</b>	Nitin Agarwal
	<b>DG, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)</b>	Anish Dayal Singh
	<b>DG, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)</b>	Neena Singh
	<b>DG, National Security Guard (NSG)</b>	Nalin Prabhat
	<b>Director, Special Protection Group (SPG)</b>	Vivek Srivastava
	<b>DG, Indian Coast Guard (ICG)</b>	Rakesh Pal (25th)
	<b>Director General, National Disaster Relief Force (NDRF)</b>	Piyush Anand
	<b>DG, Railway Protection Force (RPF)</b>	Manoj Yadav
	<b>Director General, Assam Rifles (AR)</b>	Pradeep Chandran Nair
	<b>Director General, Home Guard (HG)</b>	Vivek Srivastava
<b>Chairman and Secretary of Commissions</b>	<b>Chairman, NITI Aayog</b>	Prime Minister Narendra Modi

	<b>Deputy Chairman, NITI Aayog</b>	Suman Kumar Bery
	<b>CEO, NITI Aayog</b>	B.V.R. Subrahmanyam
	<b>Chairman, UPSC</b>	Rituraj Awasthi
	<b>Chairman, 22nd Law Commission</b>	Ashok Kumar Mathur
	<b>Chairperson, National Commission for Women</b>	Rekha Sharma
	<b>Chairman, National Backward Classes Commission</b>	Hansraj Gangaram Ahir
	<b>Chairman, Staff Selection Commission</b>	Rakesh Ranjan
	<b>Chairman, 7th Pay Commission</b>	Ashok Kumar Mathur

<b>Category</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Chairmen of Commissions</b>	<b>Chairman, Lokpal</b>	Ajay Manikrao Khanwilkar
	<b>Chairman, 16th Finance Commission</b>	Dr. Arvind Panagariya
	<b>Chairman, 15th Finance Commission</b>	N.K. Singh
	<b>Chairman, Competition Commission of India</b>	Ravneet Kaur
	<b>Chairman, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes</b>	(Vacant)
	<b>Chairman, National Commission for Scheduled Castes</b>	Kishor Makwana
	<b>Chairman, National Human Rights Commission</b>	Arun Kumar Mishra (8th)
	<b>Chairman, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights</b>	Priyank Kanungo
	<b>Chairman, National Minorities Commission</b>	Sardar Iqbal Singh Lalpura
	<b>Indian Boards/Committees/Authorities</b>	<b>Chairman and CEO, Railway Board</b>
<b>Chairman, SEBI</b>		Madhabi Puri Buch
<b>CEO, Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)</b>		Anil Kumar Jain
<b>Chairman, Civil Aviation Security</b>		Ravindra Bhakar
<b>Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)</b>		Ravi Agrawal
<b>Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)</b>		Sanjay Kumar Aggarwal

	<b>Chairman, National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)</b>	Meenesh Shah
	<b>Chairman, Company Law Board (CLB)</b>	Mahesh Mittal Kumar
	<b>Chairman, Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB)</b>	Anil Kumar Lahoti
	<b>Chairman, TRAI</b>	Amit Agarwal
	<b>CEO, UIDAI</b>	Saurabh Garg
	<b>Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India</b>	Mrityunjay Kumar Narayan
	<b>Chairman, Public Accounts Committee</b>	(Vacant)
	<b>Chairman, Estimates Committee</b>	Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal
	<b>Chairman, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)</b>	Santosh Kumar Yadav
<b>Heads of Maharatna Companies</b>	<b>CMD, NTPC</b>	Gurdeep Singh
	<b>CMD, ONGC</b>	Arun Kumar Singh
	<b>CMD, SAIL</b>	Amarendu Prakash
	<b>CMD, GAIL</b>	Sandeep K. Gupta
	<b>CMD, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL)</b>	Shrikant Madhav Vaidya
	<b>CMD, Coal India Ltd. (CIL)</b>	Polavarapu M. Prasad
	<b>CMD, BPCL</b>	G. Krishna Kumar
	<b>CMD, BHEL</b>	Koppu Sadasiva Murthy
	<b>CMD, HPCL</b>	Pushp Kumar Joshi
	<b>CMD, Power Grid Corporation</b>	Ravindra Kumar Tyagi
	<b>CMD, Power Finance Corporation (PFC)</b>	Parminder Chopra
	<b>CMD, Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)</b>	Vivek Kumar Dewangan
	<b>CMD, Oil India Limited (OIL)</b>	Ranjit Rath
<b>Heads of Navratna Companies</b>	<b>CMD, IRCON</b>	Brajesh Kumar Gupta
	<b>CMD, RITES</b>	Rahul Mitthal
	<b>CMD, CONCOR</b>	B. Kalyan Rama
	<b>CMD, MTNL</b>	Sunil Kumar
	<b>CMD, Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL)</b>	Manoj Jain
	<b>CMD, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL)</b>	C.B. Ananthkrishnan
	<b>CMD, NMDC</b>	Sumit Dey
	<b>CMD, NALCO</b>	Shridhar Patra
	<b>CMD, Shipping Corporation of India (SCI)</b>	Harjeet Kaur Josh
	<b>CMD, Nayveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. (NLC)</b>	Rakesh Kumar
	<b>CMD, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL)</b>	Atul Bhat
	<b>CMD, NBCCL</b>	P. K. Gupta
	<b>CMD, Engineering India Ltd. (EIL)</b>	Bartika Shukla

	<b>CMD, Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL)</b>	Pradeep Gau
	<b>CMD, Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers (RCF)</b>	Sudhir Kumar Shukla
	<b>CMD, ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL)</b>	Arun Kumar Sing
	<b>CMD, IREDA</b>	Pradip Kumar Da
	<b>CMD, Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd.</b>	Sanjeev Singha
<b>Heads of Other PSUs</b>	<b>CMD, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)</b>	Robert J Ra
	<b>CMD, Airports Authority of India (AAI)</b>	Sanjeev Kumar
	<b>CMD, ITDC</b>	Sambit Patra
<b>Heads of Educational and Academic Institutions</b>	<b>Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC)</b>	M. Jagadish Kumar
	<b>Vice Chancellor, IGNOU</b>	Prof. Nageshwar Rao
	<b>Vice Chancellor, Delhi University</b>	Yogesh Singh
	<b>Vice Chancellor, JNU</b>	Shantishree Dhulipudi Pandit
	<b>Vice Chancellor, BHU</b>	Rakesh Bhatnagar
	<b>Chancellor, Nalanda University</b>	Anand Kumar
	<b>Vice Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia</b>	Najma Heptullah
	<b>Director, NCERT</b>	Gaurav Dwivedi
	<b>Chairperson, CBSE</b>	Uma Nandu
	<b>President, Sahitya Akademi</b>	Navin Kumar Sah
	<b>President, Sangeet Natak Academy</b>	Shekhar Suman
	<b>President, Lalit Kala Academy</b>	Gaurav Dwivedi
<b>Head of Press and Media</b>	<b>Chairman, Prasar Bharati Board</b>	Sudhir K. Ja
	<b>CEO, Prasar Bharati</b>	Arvind Panagariya
	<b>Chairman, National School of Drama</b>	Anurag Kashyap
	<b>President, Indian Film and Television Institute</b>	Ravi Sinha
	<b>Principal Director General, All India Radio</b>	Mausami Chakravarty
	<b>Chairman, Press Trust of India (PTI)</b>	K. N. Shanth Kumar
	<b>President, United News of India (UNI)</b>	Sagar Mukhopadhyay
	<b>President, Indian Newspaper Society (INS)</b>	Rakesh Sharma
<b>Heads of Scientific and Research Organizations</b>	<b>Chairman, ISRO</b>	Somnath Bhardwaj
	<b>Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)</b>	Dinesh Kumar Shukla
	<b>Chairman, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)</b>	S.K. Sharma
	<b>Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC)</b>	Vivek Bhasin
	<b>Chairman, Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)</b>	Samir V. Kamat
	<b>Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)</b>	Nallathamby Kalaiselvi

	<b>Chairman, Council of Industrial and Development Research</b>	T. Ramasamy
	<b>Director, Vikram Sarabhai Space Center</b>	Dr. Unnikrishanan Nair
<b>Heads of Sports Organizations</b>	<b>Chairman, ICC</b>	Greg Barclay
	<b>CEO, ICC</b>	Geoff Allardice
	<b>President, Asian Cricket Council (ACC)</b>	Jay Shah
	<b>First Independent Woman Director, ICC</b>	Indra Nooyi
	<b>President, BCCI</b>	Roger Binny
	<b>Chairman of Selectors, BCCI</b>	Amol Muzumdar
	<b>Head Coach, Indian Cricket Men Team</b>	Rahul Dravid
	<b>Coach, Indian Women's Cricket Team</b>	Neelam Kapoor
	<b>Director General, Sports Authority of India</b>	Sanjay Singh
	<b>President, Wrestling Federation of India (WFI)</b>	Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh
	<b>President, Table Tennis Federation of India</b>	Meghana Ahlawat
	<b>Chief, All India Football Confederation (AIFF)</b>	Kalyan Chaubey
	<b>President, Volleyball Federation of India</b>	Achyuta Samant
	<b>President, All India Chess Federation (AICF)</b>	Sanjay Kapoor
	<b>President, Hockey India</b>	Dilip Tirkey
	<b>President, Athletic Federation of India (AFI)</b>	Adil Sumariwala
	<b>President, Boxing Federation of India (BFI)</b>	Ajay Singh
	<b>President, Indian Olympic Association (IOA)</b>	N. Ramachandran
	<b>President, Archery Association of India (AAI)</b>	Arjun Munda
	<b>President, Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)</b>	Sheikh Talal
	<b>President, International Athletic Federation</b>	Sebastian Coe (UK)
	<b>President, Badminton Association of India (BAI)</b>	P.T. Usha
	<b>President, FIFA</b>	Gianni Infantino (Italy-Switzerland)
	<b>President, Indian Weightlifting Federation</b>	Mohamed Jalud
	<b>President, International Hockey Federation (FIH)</b>	Mohammad Tayyab Ikram
	<b>President, World Squash Federation (WSF)</b>	Jenna Wooldridge (England)
	<b>President, International Golf Federation (IGF)</b>	Anika Saarenstam (Sweden)

	<b>President, International Boxing Association Athletes Committee</b>	Lovlina Borgohain
	<b>President, Indian Paralympic Committee (IPC)</b>	Devendra Jhajharia
<b>Heads of Insurance Institutions</b>	<b>Chairman, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)</b>	Debashish Panda
	<b>Interim Chairman, LIC</b>	Siddhartha Mohanty
	<b>DG ESIC</b>	Kamal Kishor Soan
	<b>Chairman, General Insurance Corporation</b>	Ramaswamy Narayanan
	<b>Chairman, IFFCO</b>	Dileep Sanghani
	<b>Chairman, NASSCOM</b>	Rajesh Nambiar
	<b>Chairman, Bombay Stock Exchange</b>	Pramod Agrawal
	<b>Chairman, Unit Trust of India (UTI)</b>	Leo Puri
	<b>CEO, National Stock Exchange (NSE)</b>	Ashish Kumar Chauhan
	<b>Chairman, National Stock Exchange (NSE)</b>	Girish Chandra Chaturvedi
	<b>CEO, Bombay Stock Exchange</b>	Sundararaman Ramamurthy
<b>Officials of Banks</b>	<b>Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI)</b>	Shaktikant Das (25th)
	<b>Deputy Governor, RBI</b>	Swaminathan Janakiraman
	<b>Deputy Governor, RBI</b>	T. Rabi Shankar
	<b>Deputy Governor, RBI</b>	M. Rajeshwar Rao
	<b>Deputy Governor, RBI</b>	Michael Devvrat Patra
	<b>Chief Financial Officer, RBI</b>	Sudha Balakrishnan
	<b>Chairman, State Bank of India</b>	Challa Srinivasulu Shetty
	<b>CFO, State Bank of India</b>	Kameshwar Rao Koda
	<b>MD, SBI</b>	Vinay M. Tonse
	<b>MD, Bank of Baroda</b>	Ashwini Kumar Tiwari
	<b>MD, Bank of India</b>	Alok Kumar Choudhary
	<b>MD, Bank of Maharashtra</b>	Challa Srinivasulu Setty
	<b>MD, Canara Bank</b>	K. Satyanarayan Raju
	<b>MD, Central Bank of India</b>	Matam Venkata Rao
	<b>MD, Indian Bank</b>	Shanti Lal Jain
	<b>MD, Indian Overseas Bank</b>	Ajay Kumar Srivastava
	<b>MD, Punjab National Bank</b>	Atul Kumar Goyal
	<b>MD, Punjab &amp; Sind Bank</b>	Sawrup Kumar Saha
	<b>MD, UCO Bank</b>	Ashwani Kumar
	<b>MD, Union Bank of India</b>	A. Manimekhalai

**2024 appointment at the glance from January to June**
**Set 1**

S.No	Name	New Appointment	Previous Position	Effective Date
1	Hitesh Kumar Sethia	MD & CEO, Jio Financial Services	N/A	Approved by Ministry of Corporate Affairs
2	Krishna Ella	President, Indian Vaccine Manufacturers Association (IVMA)	Succeeded Adar C. Poonawala	April 2024
3	Prof. Mohammad Rihan	Director General, National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE)	N/A	N/A
4	Pratima Singh	Director, Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)	IRS Officer, 2009 batch	N/A
5	Sanjaya Kumar Mishra	President, GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT)	Former Chief Justice, Jharkhand High Court	Four years
6	Atanu Chakraborty	Part-time Chairman, HDFC Bank Limited	N/A	Reappointed by RBI
7	Mallika Nadda	Chairperson, Special Olympics Asia Pacific Advisory Council (APAC)	President, Special Olympics Bharat	Three years
8	Sanjeev Nautiyal	MD & CEO, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank	N/A	July 1, 2024
9	Keki Mistry	Chairman, HDFC Life	Succeeded Deepak Parekh	N/A
10	Pradeep Natarajan	Whole Time Director, IDFC FIRST Bank	N/A	Approved by RBI
11	Ashok Vaswani	MD & CEO, Kotak Mahindra Bank	Succeeded Dipak Gupta	N/A
12	Maushumi Chakravarty	Director General, Akashvani	Senior IIS Officer	N/A
13	Dileep Sanghani	Chairman, IFFCO	Elected	N/A
14	R. Lakshmi Kanth Rao	Executive Director, RBI	N/A	May 2024
15	Rizwan Koita	Chairperson, National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH)	Director, Koita Foundation	N/A
16	R Shankar Raman	President, L&T	Whole-time Director and CFO, L&T	N/A
17	Neeraj Chopra	Sporting Ambassador, Swiss luxury brand OMEGA	Olympic gold medalist javelin thrower	N/A
18	P Santhosh	MD & CEO, Kamat's term as Chairman of DRDO	N/A	Until May 31, 2025

19	Shah Rukh Khan	Brand Ambassador, Muthoot Pappachan Group	N/A	N/A
20	Jetha Ahir	Chairman, National Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Federation of India (NAFED)	Elected	N/A
21	Vice Admiral Gurcharan Singh	Commandant, National Defence Academy	N/A	N/A
22	Pradeep Kumar Sinha	Non-Executive Part-time Chairman, ICICI Bank Limited	Succeeded Girish Chandra Chaturvedi	N/A
23	Rushabh Gandhi	MD & CEO, IndiaFirst Life Insurance	N/A	N/A
24	John Slaven	Vice-Chairman, National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL)	CEO, Vedanta Aluminium	N/A
25	Dr. Bikramjit Chaudhuri	Chief of Measurement Science and Analytics, Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC)	N/A	N/A
26	Sanjiv Puri	President, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)	MD, ITC	2024-25
27	Rakesh Ranjan	Chairman, Staff Selection Commission (SSC)	N/A	N/A
28	PV Sindhu	Brand Ambassador for Tobacco Control	N/A	World No Tobacco Day 2024
29	PV Sindhu	Investor and Brand Ambassador, Greenday's 'Better Nutrition' brand	N/A	N/A
30	Sushil Kumar Singh	Chairman, Deendayal Port Trust	N/A	N/A
31	Rakesh Mohan Joshi	Vice-Chancellor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT)	N/A	N/A
32	Kamal Kishore Soan	Additional Director General, Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)	N/A	N/A
33	Aditya Roy Kapur	Brand Ambassador, Bisleri International's #DoubleTheChill campaign for Bisleri Limonata	N/A	N/A
34	Raj Priy Singh	Director, Department of Rural Development	N/A	N/A
35	Ajit Doval	National Security Advisor (reappointment)	N/A	From June 10
36	Vijaya Bharathi Sayani	Acting Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)	N/A	From June 2024
37	Harsh Pati Singhania	First Vice-Chair, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)	N/A	N/A

38	InderPal Singh Bindra	Secretary, Competition Commission of India (CCI)	N/A	N/A
39	Vikram Misri	Foreign Secretary of India	Succeeded Vinay Mohan Kwatra	From July 15, 2024
40	Kapil Dev	President, Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI)	N/A	N/A

S.No	Name	New Appointment	Previous Position	Effective Date
41	Aksha Mohit Kamboj	Vice President, India Bullion Jewellers Association (IBJA)	N/A	June 2024
42	Mark Rutte	NATO Secretary General	N/A	October 1
43	Tapan Kumar Deka	Director General, Intelligence Bureau (extended service)	N/A	Extended by one year
44	Jagat Prakash Nadda	Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha	N/A	N/A
45	Girija Subramanian	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD), New India Assurance	N/A	N/A
46	Anuj Tyagi	MD and CEO, HDFC ERGO General Insurance	N/A	July 1, 2024
47	Subodh Kumar Singh	DG, NTA (removed due to exam irregularities)	N/A	N/A
48	Manoj Jain	Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)	N/A	N/A
49	Atul Kumar Chaudhary	Secretary, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)	N/A	N/A
50	Bhartruhari Mahtab	Pro tem Speaker of the Lok Sabha	N/A	N/A
51	Akhil Gupta	Chairman, Bharti AXA Life Insurance Company Limited	N/A	N/A
52	InderPal Singh Bindra	Secretary, Competition Commission of India (CCI)	N/A	N/A
53	Dr. Soumya Swaminathan	Principal Advisor, National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme	N/A	Pro bono
54	Govind Singh	MD and CEO, Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited (USFBL)	N/A	September 21, 2024
55	Ratan Kumar Kesh	Interim MD and CEO, Bandhan Bank Limited	N/A	July 10, 2024
56	Justice Sheel Nagu	Chief Justice, Punjab and Haryana High Court	N/A	N/A
57	Hemant Soren	Chief Minister, Jharkhand	N/A	July 4, 2024
58	Riyan Parag	Brand Ambassador, PUMA India	N/A	N/A

59	Nitish Kumar Reddy	Brand Ambassador, PUMA India	N/A	N/A
60	Dhirendra K Ojha	Principal Spokesperson of the Central Government	N/A	N/A
61	Smt. Charulatha S Kar	Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	N/A	July 1, 2024
62	Dr. BN Gangadhar	Chairperson, National Medical Commission (NMC)	N/A	N/A
63	Rajinder Khanna	Additional National Security Adviser (NSA)	T V Ravichandran and Pavan Kapoor (Deputy NSAs)	N/A
64	Naveen Chandra Jha	MD and CEO, SBI General Insurance Company Ltd	N/A	N/A
65	Hungary	Assumed rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union	Under Prime Minister Viktor Orban	N/A
66	Siddhartha Mohanty	Re-designated as MD and CEO, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)	N/A	N/A
67	Akhilesh Pathak	Chief General Manager, Southern Region Transmission System-I (SRTS-I), PGCIL	N/A	N/A
68	Manoj Kumar Singh	Chief Secretary, Uttar Pradesh	N/A	N/A
69	Ravi Agrawal	Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)	Succeeded Nitin Gupta	N/A
70	Challa Sreenivasulu Setty	Next Chairman, State Bank of India (SBI)	N/A	N/A
71	Rajat Sharma	President, News Broadcasters & Digital Association (NBDA)	N/A	N/A
72	PV Sindhu	Investor and Brand Ambassador, Hoop	N/A	N/A
73	Arun Kumar Bansal	MD and CEO, Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL)	N/A	N/A
74	Robert Jerard Ravi	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD), Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)	N/A	July 15, 2024
75	Georges Elhedery	CEO, HSBC Holdings Plc	N/A	N/A
76	Vinay Kwatra	India's next Ambassador to the United States	N/A	N/A
77	Shikhar Dhawan	Brand Ambassador for MotoGP in India	N/A	N/A
78	Shekhar Kapur	Festival Director, International Film Festival of India (IFFI)	N/A	N/A
79	Manoj Mittal	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD), Small Industries	N/A	N/A

		Development Bank of India (SIDBI)		
<b>80</b>	Krishnan Venkat Subramanian	MD and CEO, Federal Bank	N/A	N/A
<b>81</b>	Dr. Deepa Malik	Sub-Regional Representative for South Asia, Asian Paralympic Committee (APC)	N/A	N/A

**Set 2**

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>New Appointment</b>	<b>Previous Position</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
<b>1</b>	Justice PS Dinesh Kumar	Presiding Officer, Securities Appellate Tribunal	N/A	N/A
<b>2</b>	Justice Dheeraj Bhatnagar	Technical Member, Securities Appellate Tribunal	N/A	N/A
<b>3</b>	Jagjit Pavadia	Re-elected to International Narcotics Control Board (2025-2030)	N/A	N/A
<b>4</b>	Manoj Panda	Full-time Member, 16th Finance Commission of India	Former Director, Institute of Economic Growth	N/A
<b>5</b>	Sanjay Nayar	President, ASSOCHAM (2024-25)	Chairman, Sorin Investment Fund	N/A
<b>6</b>	Atul Mehra	Managing Director and CEO (Designate), Axis Capital	N/A	N/A
<b>7</b>	Judith Suminwa Tuluka	First Female Prime Minister, Democratic Republic of Congo	N/A	N/A
<b>8</b>	Sheyphali B Sharan	Principal Director General, Press Information Bureau	Senior Information Service Officer	N/A
<b>9</b>	Rajeev Singhal	Managing Director, Tata International	N/A	N/A
<b>10</b>	Jayaraj Shanmugam	Head of Global Airport Operations, Air India	N/A	N/A
<b>11</b>	Murali Ramakrishnan	Non-Executive Independent Director, RBL Bank	N/A	N/A
<b>12</b>	Tarun Bajaj	Head, US-India Tax Forum at US-India Strategic and Partnership Forum (USISPF)	N/A	N/A
<b>13</b>	Anurag Kumar	Joint Director, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	Senior IPS Officer	N/A
<b>14</b>	Deepak Sharma	Independent Director, Suryoday Small Finance Bank	N/A	N/A
<b>15</b>	Kristalina Georgieva	Managing Director, IMF (Re-appointed)	N/A	October 1, 2024
<b>16</b>	Ajith Kumar KK	MD & CEO, Dhanlaxmi Bank	N/A	N/A

17	Vice Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi	Chief of the Naval Staff	N/A	April 30, 2024
18	Amitabh Chaudhry	MD & CEO, Axis Bank (Re-appointed)	N/A	N/A
19	T Rabi Sankar	RBI Deputy Governor (Extended Term)	N/A	Extended by one year
20	Professor Naima Khatoon	First Female Vice-Chancellor, Aligarh Muslim University	N/A	N/A
21	Neeraj Chopra	Brand Ambassador, Eveready	Olympic and Asian Games Gold Medalist	N/A
22	Abhay Thakur	Ambassador of India to Myanmar	Senior Indian Diplomat	N/A
23	Hansha Mishra	Director, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)	Officer, Indian Audit and Accounts Service	N/A
24	Sadanand Vasant Date	Director General, National Investigation Agency (NIA)	N/A	N/A
25	Piyush Anand	Head, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)	N/A	N/A
26	Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi	Judicial Member, Lokpal	N/A	March 27, 2024
27	Naveen Jindal	President, Indian Steel Association (ISA)	Chairman, Jindal Steel and Power	N/A
28	Girija Subramanian	CMD, New India Assurance	N/A	N/A
29	Bhupesh Sushil Rahul	CMD, United India Insurance	N/A	N/A
30	Govind Dholakia	Chairman, Surat Diamond Bourse (SDB)	Rajya Sabha MP, Gujarat	N/A
31	MV Rao	Chairman, Indian Banks' Association (IBA)	MD & CEO, Central Bank of India	N/A
32	Kamal Kishore	Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction, UN	Official, NDMA	N/A
33	Kishor Makwana	Chairman, National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)	N/A	N/A
34	Justice Satyendra Kumar Singh	Lokayukta, Madhya Pradesh	N/A	N/A
35	Gyanesh Kumar	Election Commissioner	N/A	N/A
36	Sukhbir Singh Sandhu	Election Commissioner	N/A	N/A
37	Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan	Resigned as Lt. Governor of Puducherry and Governor of Telangana	N/A	N/A
38	Jaideep Hansraj	Group President – One Kotak, Kotak Mahindra Bank	MD & CEO, Kotak Securities	April 1, 2024
39	Vinay Kumar	Ambassador of India to Russia	Ambassador to Myanmar	N/A

40	C. P. Radhakrishnan	Governor of Jharkhand, Additional Charge of Telangana and Puducherry	Governor of Jharkhand	N/A
41	Daljit Singh Chaudhary	Director General, National Security Guard (NSG)	DG, Sashastra Seema Bal	N/A
42	Anurag Agarwal	Head of Parliament Security	N/A	N/A
43	Ravindran	Part-Time Chairman, Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	Former SEBI Executive Director	N/A

S.No	Name	New Appointment	Previous Position	Effective Date
41	Rajendra Prasad Goyal	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD), NHPC Limited	N/A	March 1, 2024
42	Alok Rungta	Managing Director and CEO, Future Generali India Life Insurance	Succeeded Bruce De Broize	April 1, 2024
43	Tamas Sulyok	President of Hungary	Former Head of Hungary's Constitutional Court	N/A
44	Sultan Ibrahim	Malaysia's 17th King	Sultan of Johor	N/A
45	Anil Kumar Lahoti	Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)	Former Railway Board Chairman and CEO	N/A
46	Ranveer Singh	Stakeholder and Official Face of Boat's Audio Products	Bollywood Actor	N/A
47	Olzhas Bektenov	Prime Minister of Kazakhstan	Amanat Party	N/A
48	Narendra Kumar Yadav	Civil Servant Brand Ambassador for Fit India Movement	IRS Officer	N/A
49	Ravi Kumar Jha	Managing Director and Chief Executive, LIC Mutual Fund Asset Management	30-year experience at LIC	N/A
50	Ajay Kumar Choudhary	Non-Executive Chairman and Independent Director, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)	N/A	N/A
51	Geeta Batra	Director, Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of the World Bank's Global Environment Facility (GEF)	N/A	N/A
52	CA. Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal	President, Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)	N/A	N/A
53	Nikhil Joshi	Managing Director, Boeing Defence India (BDI)	N/A	N/A
54	S. Rajeev	Vigilance Commissioner, Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)	Former MD & CEO, Bank of Maharashtra	N/A

55	K.V.S. Manian	Joint Managing Director, Kotak Mahindra Bank	N/A	March 1, 2024
56	Ashish Vijayakar	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, SBM Bank (India) Limited	N/A	February 17, 2024
57	Justice Ajay Manikrao Khanwilkar	Chairperson, Lokpal	Former Supreme Court Judge	N/A
58	Mio Oka	Country Director for India, Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Succeeded Takeo Konishi	N/A
59	Apurva Chandra	Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare	Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	N/A
60	Ravindra Kumar	Director-Operations, NTPC Ltd.	N/A	N/A
61	H. Venkatachalam Iyer	MD & CEO, Tata AIA Life Insurance Company Limited	N/A	N/A
62	Arvind Panagariya	Chairman, 16th Finance Commission	Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog	N/A
63	Daljit Singh Chaudhary	Director General, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)	N/A	N/A
64	Ravindra Kumar Tyagi	Chairman and Managing Director, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID)	N/A	N/A
65	Indra Mani Pandey	Secretary General, BIMSTEC	N/A	N/A
66	Senthil Pandian C	Ambassador, World Trade Organization (WTO), Geneva	IAS Officer	N/A
67	Raghuram Iyer	Chief Executive Officer, Indian Olympic Association	N/A	N/A
68	Justice Sanjiv Khanna	Acting Chairman, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)	Senior-most Judge, Supreme Court	N/A
69	Jay Shah	President, Asian Cricket Council (ACC)	BCCI Secretary	N/A
70	Ravindra Jadeja	Brand Ambassador, VARNI	Indian Cricketer	N/A
71	Havildar Preeti Rajak	First Woman to Hold the Rank of Subedar in the Indian Army	Champion Trap Shooter	N/A
72	Govindayapalli Ram Mohan Rao	Executive Director (ED), Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)	N/A	N/A
73	Michael Debabrata Patra	Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	N/A	Reappointment
74	Praveen Achuthan Kutty	Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), DCB Bank Limited	N/A	N/A

**international appointments, including the capitals of the respective countries:**

S.No	Name	Position	Country	Capital	Effective Date
1	Ishaq Dar	Deputy Prime Minister	Pakistan	Islamabad	N/A
2	Lai Ching-te	President of Taiwan	Taiwan	Taipei	N/A
3	Gitanas Nausėda	President of Lithuania	Lithuania	Vilnius	N/A
4	General To Lam	President of Vietnam	Vietnam	Hanoi	N/A
5	Luis Abinader	President of the Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	Santo Domingo	N/A
6	Cyril Ramaphosa	President of South Africa	South Africa	Pretoria	N/A
7	Nicolas Maduro	President of Venezuela	Venezuela	Caracas	N/A
8	Paul Kagame	President of Rwanda	Rwanda	Kigali	N/A
9	Kristen Michal	Prime Minister of Estonia	Estonia	Tallinn	July 23, 2024
10	Masoud Pezeshkian	President of Iran	Iran	Tehran	July 6, 2024
11	Peter Pellegrini	President of Slovakia	Slovakia	Bratislava	N/A
12	Luís Montenegro	Prime Minister of Portugal	Portugal	Lisbon	N/A
13	Abdel Fattah al-Sisi	President of Egypt	Egypt	Cairo	N/A
14	Simon Harris	Taoiseach (Prime Minister) of Ireland	Ireland	Dublin	N/A
15	Lindy Cameron	High Commissioner of the UK to India	United Kingdom	London	N/A
16	Bjarni Benediktsson	Prime Minister of Iceland	Iceland	Reykjavik	N/A
17	Ahmad Abdullah al-Ahmad al-Sabah	Prime Minister of Kuwait	Kuwait	Kuwait City	N/A
18	Lawrence Wong	Prime Minister of Singapore	Singapore	Singapore	May 15, 2024
19	Mohamed Muizzu	President of Maldives	Maldives	Malé	N/A
20	Gita Sabharwal	United Nations Resident Coordinator in Indonesia	Indonesia	Jakarta	N/A
21	Colonel Edison Napyo	Defense Advisor to India	Papua New Guinea	Port Moresby	N/A
22	Simon Harris	Prime Minister of Ireland (repeated)	Ireland	Dublin	N/A
23	Asif Ali Zardari	President of Pakistan	Pakistan	Islamabad	N/A
24	Gustavo Lino Adrianzen Olaya	Prime Minister of Peru	Peru	Lima	N/A
25	Mohammad Mustafa	Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority	Palestinian Authority	Ramallah	N/A
26	Vladimir Putin	President of Russia	Russia	Moscow	N/A
27	Bassirou Diomaye Faye	President of Senegal	Senegal	Dakar	N/A
28	Nawaf Salam	President of the International Court of Justice (ICJ)	N/A	The Hague	N/A
29	Ilham Aliyev	President of Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan	Baku	N/A

30	Felix Tshisekedi	President of the Democratic Republic of Congo	Democratic Republic of Congo	Kinshasa	N/A
31	Queen Margrethe II	Abdication, succeeded by Crown Prince Frederick	Denmark	Copenhagen	N/A
32	Gabriel Atal	Prime Minister of France	France	Paris	N/A
33	Tshering Tobgay	Prime Minister of Bhutan (second term)	Bhutan	Thimphu	N/A

### Important days January to July

#### January

Date	Event/Celebration	Details
2023	International Year of Millets (IYM)	Sponsored by the Government of India and accepted by the UN General Assembly. Celebrated as a "People's Movement" to position India as a "Global Hub for Millets".
January 1, 2023	Global Family Day	Promotes unity and brotherhood across nations and cultures, discouraging negative attitudes towards others.
January 4, 2023	World Braille Day	Commemorates the birth of Louis Braille and highlights Braille's significance as a form of communication for the visually impaired.
January 6, 2023	World Day of War Orphans	Aims to raise awareness of the hardships faced by children orphaned due to wars.
January 10-16, 2023	Startup India Innovation Week	Celebrates the Indian Startup Ecosystem and National Startup Day (January 16) under the leadership of DPIIT.
January 11, 2023	National Human Trafficking Awareness Day (USA)	Raises awareness about human trafficking. January is observed as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.
January 11-17, 2023	Road Safety Week	Organised by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways under "Swachhata Pakhwada" to promote safer roads.
January 14, 2023	Armed Forces Veterans Day	Celebrated since 1953 in honor of Field Marshal KM Cariappa, India's first Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army.
January 15, 2023	Indian Army Day	Marks the anniversary of Field Marshal KM Cariappa taking command of the Indian Army in 1949.
January 16, 2023	National Startup Day	Celebrates the founding of Startup India and the Indian startup ecosystem.
January 19, 2023	National Disaster Response Force Day	Celebrates the NDRF, formed in 2006, for its contributions to disaster management.
January 24, 2023	International Day of Education	Celebrates education's role in peace and development, with a 2023 theme of "Invest in people, prioritize education".

January 24, 2023	National Girl Child Day	Promotes the rights and education of girls in India, with a focus on self-defense training for girls in 2023.
January 25, 2023	National Voters' Day	Marks the foundation of the Election Commission of India, celebrated since 2011 with the theme "Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure" in 2023.
January 26, 2023	International Customs Day	Marks the establishment of the World Customs Organisation in 1953, with a 2023 theme of "Promoting knowledge-sharing and professional pride in Customs."
January 27, 2023	International Holocaust Remembrance Day	Commemorates the victims of the Holocaust and the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1945, with the 2023 theme "Home and Belonging".
January 28, 2023	Data Protection Day (Data Privacy Day)	Raises awareness about data protection, with a 2023 theme of "Think Privacy First".
January 30, 2023	Martyrs' Day (Shaheed Diwas)	Commemorates the death of Mahatma Gandhi in 1948 and pays tribute to freedom fighters.
January 29, 2023	World Leprosy Day	Celebrates people affected by leprosy and calls for an end to stigma, with a 2023 theme of "Act Now. End Leprosy."
January 30, 2023	World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day	Raises awareness of neglected tropical diseases, with a 2023 theme of "Act Now. Act Together. Invest in Neglected Tropical Diseases."

**February**

Date	Event/Day	Details
February 1	Indian Coastal Guard Day	Celebrates the establishment of the Indian Coast Guard in 1977. A tribute to the personnel safeguarding India's maritime interests.
February 2	World Wetland Day	Marks the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) in 1971. Theme: "Wetlands and Human Well-being".
February 2	Rheumatoid Arthritis Awareness Day	Raises awareness about Rheumatoid Arthritis, a chronic autoimmune disease.
February 4	World Cancer Day	Observed annually to raise awareness about cancer. Theme (2022-2024): "Close the Care Gap".
February 6	International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM	Focuses on eliminating Female Genital Mutilation. Theme: "Her Voice. Her Future".
February 6	Safer Internet Day	Global call to make the digital world safer. Theme (2024): "Inspiring Change. Making a Difference".
February 7	National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day	Highlights the fight against HIV/AIDS in African American communities. Theme: "Engage, Educate, Empower".
February 10	World Pulses Day	Promotes the benefits of pulses in food security and sustainability. Theme: "Pulses: Nourishing Soils and People".
February 11	International Day of Women and Girls in Science	Recognizes the contributions of women and girls in STEM. Theme: "Closing the Gender Gap in Science".

February 12	Birth Anniversary of Swami Dayananda Saraswati	Commemorates the 200th birth anniversary of Swami Dayananda Saraswati.
February 13	World Radio Day	Celebrates the importance of radio. Theme (2024): "Radio: A Century Informing, Entertaining, and Educating".
February 13	National Women's Day	Celebrates the 145th birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu, known as the "Nightingale of India".
2nd Monday of February	International Epilepsy Day	Raises awareness and support for people living with epilepsy. Theme: "Milestones on My Epilepsy Journey".
February 15	International Childhood Cancer Day	Raises awareness about childhood cancer and its challenges.
February 17	UN Global Tourism Resilience Day	Recognizes and promotes the resilience of the tourism industry.
February 20	Arunachal Pradesh Foundation Day	Marks Arunachal Pradesh's attainment of statehood in 1987.
February 20	Mizoram Foundation Day	Celebrates Mizoram's statehood, marking its foundation in 1987.
February 20	World Day of Social Justice	Focuses on addressing inequality and promoting social justice globally.
February 21	International Mother Language Day	Celebrates linguistic diversity. Theme (2024): "Multilingual Education – A Pillar of Learning and Intergenerational Learning".
February 24	Central Excise Day	Marks the foundation of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
February 26 - March 1	RBI Financial Literacy Week	Promotes financial literacy among young adults. Theme (2024): "Make a Right Start – Become Financially Smart".

**March**

Date	Event/Celebration	Details	Theme
<b>March 4th</b>	National Safety Day	Aimed at creating awareness and promoting a culture of safety in workplaces and communities. Organized by the National Safety Council (NSC) of India. Established in 1966 by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India.	Focus on Safety Leadership for Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Excellence
<b>March 7th</b>	Jan Aushadhi Diwas	Promotes the use of generic medicines under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) and makes healthcare affordable for all sections of society.	-
<b>March 8th</b>	International Women's Day (IWD)	Celebrates the achievements of women, raising awareness about gender equality, and advocating for women's rights.	Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress

		Originates from early 20th-century women's rights movements.	
<b>March 10th</b>	CISF Raising Day	Celebrates the establishment of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), which was formed on March 10, 1969, under the CISF Act, 1968, to provide security to critical infrastructure across India.	-
<b>March 14th</b>	World Kidney Day	Observed globally on the second Thursday of March to raise awareness about the importance of kidney health.	Kidney Health for All – Advancing Equitable Access to Care and Optimal Medication Practice
<b>March 15th</b>	World Consumer Rights Day	Dedicated to raising awareness about consumer rights and advocating for fair treatment and protection of consumers worldwide. First observed in 1983, marking the anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's speech on consumer rights.	Fair and Responsible AI for Consumers
<b>March 16th</b>	National Vaccination Day	Commemorates the first successful administration of the oral polio vaccine by Dr. Jonas Salk on March 16, 1955.	Vaccines Work For All
<b>March 18th</b>	Ordnance Factories Day	Celebrates the role of Ordnance Factories in defense production and contribution to national security.	-
<b>March 20th</b>	International Day of Happiness	Recognizes the importance of happiness and well-being as universal goals. Established by the UN General Assembly in 2012.	Reconnecting for Happiness: Building Resilient Communities
<b>March 20th</b>	World Sparrow Day	Raises awareness about the declining population of sparrows and the importance of conserving their habitats. First celebrated in 2010.	Sparrows: Give them a tweet-chance!
<b>March 21st</b>	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	Commemorates the 1960 Sharpeville massacre in South Africa, where peaceful demonstrators were shot by police.	A Decade of Recognition, Justice, and Development
<b>March 21st</b>	World Forestry Day	Raises awareness about the importance of forests and trees in sustaining life and promoting sustainable forest management.	Forests and Innovation: New Solutions for a Better World
<b>March 21st</b>	World Down Syndrome Day	Aims to raise awareness about Down syndrome and promote the rights and well-being of individuals with the condition.	End the Stereotypes

<b>March 22nd</b>	World Water Day	Raises awareness about the importance of freshwater and advocates for sustainable water management.	Water for Prosperity and Peace
<b>March 23rd</b>	World Meteorological Day	Commemorates the establishment of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1950.	At the Frontline of Climate Action
<b>March 23rd</b>	Shaheed Diwas (Martyr's Day)	Commemorates the martyrdom of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev, who sacrificed their lives for India's independence.	-
<b>March 24th</b>	World Tuberculosis (TB) Day	Marks Dr. Robert Koch's discovery of the TB bacterium in 1882, a crucial step in diagnosing and curing tuberculosis.	Yes! We Can End TB
<b>March 27th</b>	World Theatre Day	Promotes theatre as an art form and its role in cultural exchange and social transformation. Established by the International Theatre Institute (ITI) in 1961.	Theatre and a Culture of Peace
<b>March 29th</b>	Good Friday	Commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and his death at Calvary, marking his sacrifice for the redemption of humanity's sins.	-
<b>March 30th</b>	International Day of Zero Waste	Raises awareness about minimizing waste and valuing resources, promoting a sustainable world. Adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2022.	Let's work together to build a world where waste is minimized, resources are valued, and our planet thrives

### April

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>1st April</b>	Odisha Day (Utkala Dibasa)	Commemorates the formation of Odisha as a separate state on 1 April 1936.
<b>1st-7th April</b>	Prevention of Blindness Week	Raises awareness about blindness and visual impairment in India.
<b>2nd April</b>	International Children's Book Day	Annual event to inspire a love of reading and highlight children's books. Theme 2024: "Cross the Seas on the Wing of your Imagination."
<b>4th April</b>	International Day of Mine Awareness	Promotes awareness of the dangers of landmines. Theme 2024: "Protecting Lives. Building Peace."
<b>5th April</b>	National Maritime Day	Celebrates India's maritime history and the 1919 voyage of SS Loyalty from Mumbai to London. Theme 2024: "Navigating the Future: Safety First!"
<b>7th April</b>	World Health Day	Raises awareness of global health issues, marking the anniversary of the World Health Organization (WHO).
<b>10th April</b>	World Homeopathy Day	Celebrates homeopathy and the birth anniversary of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann. Theme 2024: "Homeoparivar: One Health, One Family."

<b>11th April</b>	National Pet Day	Encourages adopting pets instead of shopping for them. Theme 2024: "Don't Shop! Adopt!"
<b>11th April</b>	National Safe Motherhood Day	Highlights the importance of maternal health and care during pregnancy and childbirth.
<b>13th April</b>	Jallianwala Bagh Massacre	Commemorates the 1919 massacre in Amritsar, Punjab.
<b>14th April</b>	B.R. Ambedkar Remembrance Day	Celebrates the life and contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the Father of the Indian Constitution.
<b>17th April</b>	World Hemophilia Day	Raises awareness about hemophilia and other bleeding disorders. Theme 2024: "Equitable access for all: recognizing all bleeding disorders."
<b>18th April</b>	World Heritage Day	Promotes the preservation of cultural heritage around the world. Theme 2024: "Discover and Experience Diversity."
<b>21st April</b>	National Civil Service Day	Honors the work of civil servants and commemorates Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel's 1947 address to probationary officers.
<b>22nd April</b>	World Earth Day	Focuses on environmental protection. Theme 2024: "Planet vs. Plastics."
<b>23rd April</b>	World Book and Copyright Day	Celebrates reading and encourages copyright protection. Theme 2024: "Read Your Way."
<b>24th April</b>	National Panchayati Raj Day	Marks the implementation of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act on Panchayati Raj in 1993.
<b>25th April</b>	World Malaria Day	Raises awareness about the global fight against malaria. Theme 2024: "Accelerating the fight against malaria for a more equitable world."
<b>26th April</b>	World Intellectual Property Day	Promotes the role of intellectual property in innovation. Theme 2024: "IP and the SDGs: Building our common future with innovation and creativity."
<b>27th April</b>	World Veterinary Day	Celebrates the contributions of veterinarians. Theme 2024: "Veterinarians are Essential Health Workers."
<b>30th April</b>	Ayushman Bharat Diwas	Celebrates the Ayushman Bharat Yojana, aiming to provide affordable healthcare to all in India.

### May

Date	Event	Description	Theme/Origin
May 1	International Labour Day	Originated from the Chicago strike in 1886, advocating for an eight-hour workday and better conditions.	"Ensuring workplace safety and health amidst climate change."
May 2	World Tuna Day	Highlights the health benefits of tuna and the threats from overfishing.	Established in 2017.
May 3	World Press Freedom Day	Emphasizes the importance of a free press for democracy and the right to information.	"A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the Face of the Environmental Crisis."

May 4	International Fire Fighters' Day	Honors firefighters who risk their lives for public safety, originating from a tragedy in Australia in 1998.	N/A
May 5	International Day of Midwife	Recognizes the contribution of midwives worldwide.	"Midwives: A Vital Climate Solution."
May 7	Border Road Organisation (BRO) Day	Celebrates the 65th raising day of BRO in India.	N/A
First Tuesday of May	World Asthma Day	Organized by GINA to raise awareness about asthma.	"Asthma Education Empowers."
May 10	World Lupus Day	Raises awareness about lupus, an autoimmune disease.	N/A
May 11	World Migratory Bird Day	A campaign to raise awareness about migratory birds and their habitats.	"Insects."
May 11	National Technological Day	Commemorates India's achievements in science and technology.	N/A
May 12	International Nurses Day	Tribute to Florence Nightingale, recognizing nurses' contributions.	"Our Nurses Our Future: The Economic Power of Care."
May 15	International Day of Family	Highlights the importance of families in society.	"Families and Climate Change."
May 16	International Day of Light	Acknowledges the role of light in innovation and technology.	N/A
May 17	World Telecommunication Day	Explores the potential of ICT and the internet in societies.	N/A
May 18	International Museum Day	Raises awareness about the role of museums.	N/A
May 20	World Refugee Day	Highlights challenges faced by refugees.	N/A
May 21	International Tea Day	Celebrates the significance of tea in cultures and economies.	N/A
May 21	Anti-Terrorism Day	Commemorates the death anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi, promoting awareness against terrorism.	N/A
May 22	International Day for Biological Diversity	Emphasizes the importance of biodiversity for human well-being.	"Be part of the Plan."
May 23	World Turtle Day	Raises awareness about turtles and tortoises, promoting their conservation.	N/A
May 24	International Day of the Markhor	Promotes conservation of the markhor, an ecologically significant species.	N/A

May 25	World Thyroid Day	Raises awareness about thyroid health and diseases.	“Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).”
May 28	World Hunger Day	Raises awareness about global hunger and food access.	“Thriving Mothers. Thriving World.”
May 29	International Day of the UN Peacekeepers	Acknowledges the service of peacekeepers and encourages support for peace.	“Fit for the future, building better together.”
May 29	World Digestive Health Day	Raises awareness of digestive diseases and their management.	“Your Digestive Health: Make It A Priority.”
May 30	International Day of Potato	Highlights the nutritional and cultural value of potatoes.	“Harvesting diversity, feeding hope.”

**June**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Observance/Day</b>	<b>Purpose/Significance</b>	<b>Established/History</b>
June 1	<b>World Milk Day</b>	Recognizes the importance of milk as a global food and celebrates the dairy sector.	Established by FAO in 2001 to promote the benefits of milk and dairy products.
June 3	<b>World Bicycle Day</b>	Highlights the significance of bicycles as a sustainable mode of transportation.	First marked in 2018; promotes eco-friendly travel and reduced carbon emissions.
June 4	<b>International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression</b>	Raises awareness about the plight of children affected by violence and conflict.	First observed in 1982 after a UN General Assembly session focused on children in Lebanon.
June 5	<b>World Environment Day</b>	Aims to raise awareness and promote action towards environmental protection.	Established by UNEP in 1972; serves as a platform for pressing ecological issues.
June 7	<b>World Food Safety Day</b>	Raises awareness about food safety and promotes actions to prevent foodborne risks.	Proposed by the UN in 2016; officially recognized in 2018 by WHO.
June 8	<b>World Oceans Day</b>	Recognizes the vital role oceans play in sustaining life on Earth.	Celebrated annually; theme for 2024 is “Awaken New Depths.”
June 9	<b>International Archives Day</b>	Raises awareness about the role of records and archives	Idea proposed in 2004; declared by ICA in 2007.

		in preserving collective memory.	
June 14	<b>World Blood Donor Day</b>	Promotes the importance of donating safe blood.	First observed in 2004; June 14 chosen to honor Karl Landsteiner's birthday.
June 15	<b>Global Wind Day</b>	Celebrates wind energy and its potential in sustainable development.	Celebrated annually; 2024 theme is "Pawan-Urja: Powering the Future of India."
June 20	<b>World Refugee Day</b>	Dedicated to supporting refugees and highlighting their plight.	Established in 2000; theme for 2024 is "Everyone is Welcome."
June 21	<b>International Day of Yoga</b>	Celebrates yoga's benefits for physical, mental, and spiritual well-being.	Officially proclaimed by the UN in 2014 after a proposal by PM Modi; theme for 2024 is "Yoga for Self and Society."
June 23	<b>International Widows' Day</b>	Draws attention to widows' voices and needs, promoting their rights.	Observed annually to raise awareness and support for widows.
June 23	<b>United Nations Public Service Day</b>	Honors the importance of public service and encourages careers in the public sector.	Designated by the UN in 2002; emphasizes the role of public servants in development.
June 23	<b>International Olympic Day</b>	Celebrates the founding of the IOC and promotes involvement in sports.	First celebrated in 1948; theme for 2024 is "Let's Move and Celebrate."
June 27	<b>Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day</b>	Highlights the role of MSMEs in economic development.	Celebrated annually; 2024 theme focuses on resilience of MSMEs for sustainable development.
June 28	<b>National Insurance Awareness Day</b>	Promotes the importance of insurance and financial security.	Observed annually; aims to encourage proactive steps towards financial protection.

