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HIGHLIGHTED POINTS

- Priyanka Jarkiholi Youngest Tribal Woman To Win In Lok Sabha
- India Named Hosts For 2025 FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup
- India, S. Korea, US, Japan, EU Launch Biopharmaceutical Alliance
- WHO Recognises 3rd Indian Institute For Traditional Medicine Research
- Nar Singh, Rohini Lokhande Win Dilip Bose Lifetime Achievement Award



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Monthly Current Affairs Magazine – June 2024

National News

Supreme Court Reconstitutes Gender Sensitisation Committee

The Supreme Court of India has reconstituted its Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee, in accordance with the Gender Sensitisation and Sexual Harassment regulations of 2013. The reconstitution, initiated by the Chief Justice of India, appoints Justice Hima Kohli as the Chairperson, alongside Justice BV Nagarathna as a Member and Dr. Sukhda Pritam as the Member Secretary.

Centre Launches New Mobile Number Series For Service, Transactional Calls

The Centre has introduced a new numbering series, 160xxxxxxx, for making service or transactional calls. This move aims to help citizens easily identify legitimate calls and curb unsolicited voice calls from telemarketers using 10-digit mobile numbers.

PM Launches 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Campaign

On June 5, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign to commemorate the World Environment Day. He planted a Peepal tree sapling at Buddha Jayanti Park in Delhi. He was accompanied by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav and Delhi's Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena.

CBIC Chairperson Inaugurates GST Bhawan At Rohtak, Haryana

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Chairman, HRI Sanjay Kumar Agarwal, officially launched the GST Bhawan, the official complex of the Central Board of Indirect Tax (CGST) Rohtak Commissionerate, in Rohtak, Haryana. At the inaugural ceremony were Shri Shashank Priya, Member of CBIC (GST, Legal, CX & ST), together with officers and staff from the CGST Rohtak Commissionerate, Panchkula Zone, and senior CBIC officers.

India To Host 81st IATA Annual General Meeting In 2025

India will host the prestigious 81st International Air Transport Association (IATA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) in 2025, marking its return after a 42-year hiatus. This significant event, scheduled for June 8 to 10, will convene in Delhi, the third time the city has hosted the AGM after 1958 and 1983.

NOTA Creates Record In MP's Indore Lok Sabha Seat

NOTA created a record with 2.18 lakh voters in Madhya Pradesh's Indore opting for the 'none of the above' option in the Lok Sabha elections, counting for which is underway. Of the total voters, 14.01 per cent opted for 'None of the Above', introduced in 2013 following a Supreme Court order.

NHRC Takes Serious Cognizance Of 'Nata Pratha'

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a notice to four states- Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujarat. This notice follows a 2020 case in which a father sold his daughter for 2.5 lakhs and later filed a complaint with the commission upon discovering her dead body.

Priyanka Jarkiholi Youngest Tribal Woman To Win In Lok Sabha

Congress nominee and Minister Satish Jarkiholi's daughter Priyanka Jarkiholi has won from Chikkodi, defeating incumbent MP and BJP leader Annasaheb Jolle. Priyanka Jarkiholi from Chikkodi became the youngest tribal woman to enter Parliament from an unreserved seat in Karnataka since Independence. In fact, the BJP has won all the seats in Mumbai Karnataka, except Chikkodi.

India Expands Overseas Port Operations: Targeting Mongla Port In Bangladesh

In a strategic move to counter China's growing influence in the region, India sets its sights on managing the Mongla Port in Bangladesh. Following the successes of Chabahar in Iran and Sittwe in Myanmar, India aims to further strengthen its commercial and security interests by expanding its overseas port operations.

India Welcomes Egypt, Iran, UAE, Saudi Arabia And Ethiopia Joining BRICS

India on June 10, wholeheartedly welcomed Egypt, Iran, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia joining the BRICS as their representatives attended for the first time a key meeting of the grouping hosted by Russia. Senior diplomat Dammu Ravi led the Indian delegation at the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Nizhny Novgorod, in western Russia.



National Commission For Indian System Of Medicine Celebrates Its 4th Foundation Day

The National Commission for Indian Medical Systems organized a two-day National Conference, 'PRANA' Protecting Rights and Novelties in ASUS (Mind to Market for Indian System of Medicines [ISM] Professionals) in Collaboration with All India Council for Technical Education and Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell to mark its fourth foundation.

Universities Will Be Allowed To Offer Admission Twice A Year

Indian universities and higher education institutions (HEIs) will now be allowed to offer admissions twice a year on lines of foreign universities. The two admission cycles- followed globally also- will be July-August and January-February from the 2024-25 academic session.

National Crime Record Bureau(NCRB) Launches Mobile App 'NCRB Sankalan Of Criminal Laws'

National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) has launched a Mobile App "NCRB Sankalan of Criminal Laws" to serve as a comprehensive guide providing complete information about the new criminal laws at one place. The New criminal laws will come into force from the 1st of next month (July)

Jammu & Kashmir Elevates Agricultural Partnership With New Zealand

In a major advancement in the agricultural sector, Jammu & Kashmir on June 12, broadened its existing Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with New Zealand into a full-fledged strategic agreement. The partnership taps into New Zealand's globally recognized strengths in breeding technology, sustainable farm management and advanced disease control measures within the sheep sector. The collaboration is set to transform and revitalize both the sheep and goat sectors in the Union Territory through comprehensive training initiatives besides innovative and sustainable practices.

India Is World's Second Largest Emitter Of Nitrous Oxide

India is the world's second largest source of nitrous oxide (N₂O), a greenhouse gas that heats up the atmosphere far more than carbon dioxide. Nearly 11% of such global man-made emissions in 2020 were from India, topped only by China at 16%. The major source of these emissions comes from fertiliser usage, according to a global assessment of N₂O emissions published in the journal Earth System Science Data on June 12.

India Surpasses Hong Kong To Reclaim Fourth Spot In Global Equity Market

India's equity market has once again outpaced Hong Kong, securing the position as the world's fourth-largest by market capitalization. With India's market value soaring to \$5.2

trillion, bolstered by a 10% surge following a post-election market rebound, it now leads Hong Kong, which stands at \$5.17 trillion after a 5.4% decline from its peak this year.

Vice President Inaugurates 'Prerna Sthal' at Parliament House Complex

Rajya Sabha Chairperson and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurated the 'Prerna Sthal' (Inspiration Site) within the Parliament House Complex. This newly constructed site houses statues of national icons and freedom fighters that were previously scattered across different locations on the premises.

India Set to be the 6th Country to have its own Deep Sea Mission

India is set to join an elite group of nations with the launch of its ambitious Deep Sea Mission, making it the sixth country to embark on such a groundbreaking endeavor. Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, PMO, Atomic Energy, Space, Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions, expressed pride and happiness over the progress of this mission during a recent meeting in New Delhi.

India's Refusal to Sign Ukraine Declaration at Swiss Conference

At the recent Summit on Peace in Ukraine hosted by Switzerland, India opted not to sign the final communique alongside several other nations. This decision stemmed from India's strategic relationship with Russia, its primary defense supplier, and Moscow's absence from the summit, which India deemed crucial for any lasting peace agreement involving Ukraine.

PM Modi Inaugurates New Campus of Nalanda University in Bihar

On June 19, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the new campus of Nalanda University, an international institution of learning near the ancient ruins of Nalanda in Rajgir, Bihar. The PM asserted that Nalanda is a symbol of India's academic heritage and a proclamation of the enduring nature of knowledge.

Cabinet Approves National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES)

The Union Cabinet, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has sanctioned the Central Sector Scheme titled "National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES)" with a comprehensive financial allocation of Rs. 2254.43 crore spanning from 2024-25 to 2028-29. This initiative, spearheaded by the Ministry of Home Affairs, aims to bolster India's forensic capabilities through strategic investments in infrastructure and manpower.

Chirag Paswan and Shri Ravneet Singh launch Website and Mobile App for World Food India 2024

As a precursor to the 3rd edition of World Food India, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries, Shri Chirag Paswan and Union Minister of State for Food Processing Industries and Railways, Shri Ravneet Singh, launched the website and mobile application for World Food India 2024.

9 Major Ports of India Makes It to Global Top 100 by World Bank, First for The Country

In a significant boost to the India's port development programme, as many as 9 ports of India made it to the Global Top 100 in the latest edition of Container Port Performance Index (CPPI), 2023. This report is prepared by the World Bank and S&P Global Marketing Intelligence). The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal gave credit to the ambitious Sagarmala programme, envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for modernisation of the ports and improving their efficiency.

Cabinet Green Signals Greenfield Major Port at Vadhavan, Maharashtra

The Indian government has approved the construction of a new major port at Vadhavan in the Dahanu taluka of Palghar district, Maharashtra. This project, aligned with the PM Gatishakti programme, aims to boost India's foreign trade capabilities and local economy. The Union Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, sanctioned this on June 19, 2024.

Cabinet approves development of Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, Varanasi

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the proposal of Airports Authority of India (AAI) for development of Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, Varanasi with an outlay of Rs 2,870 crore. It includes Construction of New Terminal Building, Apron Extension, Runway Extension, Parallel Taxi Track & Allied works.

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DGCA Advisory Circular On Gender Equality In The Civil Aviation Sector

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued an advisory circular titled 'Gender Equality in the Civil Aviation Sector' aimed at increasing women's representation in aviation to 25% by 2025. This initiative aligns with the gender equality principles enshrined in the Indian Constitution and the International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) vision for equal opportunities in aviation.

Central Railway Has Installed a Floating Solar Plant

The Central Railway has installed a floating solar plant of 10 MWp capacity in the Igatpuri lake located in the Western Ghats, a first-of-its-kind initiative by the Indian Railways. Central Railway has always played an active role in opting for clean & renewable energy for its traction requirements and has taken various bold and revolutionary steps to fulfil the same.

53rd GST Council Meeting Overview

The 53rd GST Council met under the Chairpersonship of Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi. The meeting was attended by key officials, including Union Minister of State for Finance Shri Pankaj Chaudhary, Chief Ministers of Goa and Meghalaya, Deputy Chief Ministers of Bihar, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha, Finance Ministers of States & UTs (with legislature), and senior officers of the Ministry of Finance & States/ UTs.

India to Launch E-Medical Visa Facility for Bangladesh Nationals

A meeting between the two delegations in the national capital on June 22, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India will start an e-medical visa facility for Bangladeshi nationals. For those who are coming to India for medical treatment, India will open a new consulate in Rangpur, Bangladesh, to facilitate services for people in the northwest region of the country.

Centre Notifies Anti-Paper Leak Law Amid NEET, NET Row

The Centre has introduced a stringent anti-paper leak law amid controversies surrounding the NEET and UGC-NET exams. The law, which came into force on June 21, 2024, imposes severe penalties, including up to 10 years of imprisonment and a fine of Rs 1 crore, to curb malpractices in competitive examinations.

Govt Appoints Girija Subramanian as CMD of New India Assurance Company

The government has appointed Girija Subramanian as chairman and managing director (CMD) of New India

Assurance, the largest general insurer in India. She will hold this position from June 19, 2024, until she attains the age of superannuation or until further orders.

Srinagar Named 4th Indian 'World Craft City' by World Craft Council

Srinagar has become the fourth Indian city to be recognised as a 'World Craft City' by the World Craft Council (WCC). Three years after it was designated as part of the UNESCO Creative City Network (UCCN) for crafts and folk arts.

J.P. Nadda Appointed as Leader of The House in Rajya Sabha

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president and Union Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda has been named Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha. Mr. Nadda replaces Union Minister Piyush Goyal, who recently won the Lok Sabha election and took oath on June 24, as a member of the Lower House of Parliament.

Union Territory of Ladakh Achieves Full Functional Literacy Under ULLAS

According to the Union Ministry of Education, the Union Territory of Ladakh has achieved full functional literacy under the ULLAS-Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram. Ladakh now boasts over 97 percent literacy. Lieutenant Governor Dr. B.D Mishra shared this milestone on June 25, 2024, at a function in Sindhu Sanskritik Kendra (SSK), Leh.

International News

Historic Election in Mexico: Claudia Sheinbaum Becomes First Woman President

In a historic moment for Mexico, Claudia Sheinbaum has been elected as the country's first woman president, according to the provisional results announced by the Mexican election commission. Sheinbaum, from the ruling Morena party, has taken an unassailable lead over her nearest rivals in the presidential contest held on June 2, 2024. Outgoing Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, who mentored Sheinbaum, has congratulated her on her victory. The elections also saw the renewal of more than 20,000 political positions, including all seats in the lower house, the senate, and regional and municipal offices.

Pakistan Launches PAKSAT MM1 Satellite With China's Assistance

Pakistan has launched its second satellite, the Multi-Mission Communication Satellite (PAKSAT MM1), in collaboration with China. This satellite aims to enhance internet connectivity across Pakistan and improve various communication services.

Russian Cosmonaut Becomes 1st Person To Spend 1,000 Cumulative Days In Space

Roscosmos state corporation cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko, who currently works at the International Space Station has booked a record of 1,000 days for the first time in the world in terms of total spaceflight duration.

India, S. Korea, US, Japan, EU Launch Biopharmaceutical Alliance

India, the United States, South Korea, Japan, and the European Union have launched a Biopharmaceuticals Alliance, with its first meeting held in San Diego, USA, during the Bio International Convention 2024, the world's largest pharmaceutical exhibition.

Nepal: 900 MW Hydropower Project Constructed With Indian Assistance Makes Major Breakthrough

The main tunnel of the 900 MW Arun III Hydropower Project, being constructed with Indian assistance has achieved a breakthrough, with Nepal Prime Minister Pushpakamal Dahal 'Prachanda' on June 5, triggering the last blast to mark the completion of heading excavation. Prime Minister 'Prachanda' attended an event to mark the completion of heading excavation for the 11.8 km-long Head Race Tunnel of the 900 MW Arun- 3 Hydro Electric Project in the Sankhuwasabha District in eastern Nepal.

Hungary Unveils 700-Metre Pedestrian 'Bridge Of National Unity'

A 700-metre pedestrian bridge, inaugurated on June 4. The Bridge of National Unity is one of the longest bridges in the world. The eastern Hungarian city of Satoraljaujhely has a new tourist attraction.

Peru And Slovakia Sign The Artemis Accords For Peaceful Moon Exploration

Peru and Slovakia on May 30, signed NASA's Artemis Accords, making them the latest in a rapid number of countries to join the U.S.-led agreement on the safe exploration of space. Both countries signed the accords at NASA's Washington headquarters, but in separate ceremonies with Peru the first to add its name to the accords on May 30 followed by Slovakia. Peru became 41st and Slovakia 42nd countries to do so.

India Exim Bank Opens Nairobi Office To Boost East Africa Trade

The Export-Import Bank of India (India Exim Bank) inaugurated its East Africa Representative Office in Nairobi, Kenya, aiming to expand India's business footprint in the resource-rich and demographically young continent of East Africa. This initiative seeks to enhance trade and investment ties between India, Kenya, and the broader East African region.

European Commission Excludes Tanzania From Conservation Grant

The European Commission (EC) has made a significant decision regarding Tanzania's eligibility for a conservation grant under its NaturAfrica initiative. This decision has implications for conservation efforts in East Africa, particularly concerning the Eastern Rift Savannahs and Watersheds (ERiSaWa) component of the initiative.

Portugal To Use Golden Visa Scheme To Help Migrants

Portugal plans to adapt its golden visa scheme to allow wealthy foreigners seeking residency rights to invest in affordable housing for locals or accommodation for migrants.

French President Dissolves Parliament After EU Election Defeat

In response to his party's heavy loss in the European Parliamentary elections, French President Emmanuel Macron has dissolved the National Assembly and called for snap parliamentary elections. The far-right Rassemblement National (RN) secured a significant victory, winning 31.5% of the vote compared to Macron's Renaissance Party's 15.2%. Macron announced the dissolution of the National Assembly in an hour-long national address, citing the need to restore trust in the French electoral process.

India & UAE Forge New Path With Local Currency Settlement System

India and the UAE have embarked on a groundbreaking initiative with the introduction of the Local Currency Settlement System (LCSS), aimed at transforming their economic relations. This system allows transactions between the two nations to be conducted in their respective domestic currencies—Indian Rupees and UAE Dirhams—thus reducing reliance on intermediary currencies like the US Dollar. The LCSS promises to significantly cut transaction costs and settlement times, fostering a more streamlined and efficient trade environment.

WHO Recognises 3rd Indian Institute For Traditional Medicine Research

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has designated the National Institute of Indian Medical Heritage (NIIMH) in Hyderabad, under the Ministry of Ayush, as a WHO Collaborating Centre (CC) for traditional medicine research. Established in 1956, NIIMH has been a pioneer in various digital initiatives of Ayush. This recognition, announced on Friday, has been granted for a period of four years, marking NIIMH as the third Indian institute to receive such an honor.

Peter Pellegrini Sworn In As Slovakia's President Amid Political Tensions

In a ceremony marked by heightened security following an assassination attempt on Prime Minister Robert Fico, Peter Pellegrini has been inaugurated as Slovakia's sixth president. His victory in the runoff election solidified Fico's influence, maintaining control over strategic positions in the government. Pellegrini, known for his advocacy of a strong state role, previously served as Parliament's speaker and aligned closely with Fico's policies.

Chinese Scientists Discover New Pattern Of Solar Rotation

Chinese scientists have made a significant breakthrough in solar research through the use of their solar exploration satellite, the Chinese H-alpha Solar Explorer (CHASE), which has led to the discovery of a new pattern of solar atmospheric rotation.

Israeli Navy Receives Second Of New US-Built Landing Craft

The Israeli Navy on June 16, received the second of two new landing craft from a shipyard in the United States, with the vessel mooring at the Haifa Naval Base after making a lengthy voyage to the country. The US-built INS Komemiyut was the Navy's second landing craft, after the INS Nahshon, which was received in early October last year.

Tajikistan Government Bans Hijab and Other 'Alien Garments'

On June 19, the upper house of the Tajikistan parliament, Majlisi Milli, passed a law prohibiting "alien garments," which primarily targets the hijab and other traditional Islamic clothing. The lower chamber, Majlisi Namoyandagon, had passed the bill on May 8. This move has sparked debate among Tajikistan's predominantly Muslim population in the tightly governed ex-Soviet republic.

South Korea, US, And Japan Launch First Trilateral Multi-Domain Exercise

Japan, the Republic of Korea, and United States began the inaugural execution of exercise Freedom Edge, a trilateral multi-domain exercise, June 27. The execution of the exercise was announced at the Camp David Summit in August 2023 and at the Japan, ROK, and U.S. defense ministerial meeting, which took place in June during the Shangri-La Dialogue.

State News**Telangana Formation Day: Celebrating the Birth of a New State**

Telangana Formation Day is a momentous occasion celebrated annually on June 2 in the Indian state of

Telangana. This day marks the official establishment of Telangana as the 28th state of India on June 2, 2014, after years of struggle and aspirations for a separate state identity.

BJP and SKM Triumph in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim Assembly Elections

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Sikkim Kantikari Morcha (SKM) emerged as the clear winners in the recently concluded legislative assembly elections in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, respectively. According to the Election Commission of India, the BJP clinched an impressive 46 out of 60 seats in Arunachal Pradesh, while the SKM swept the Sikkim polls, securing a remarkable 31 out of 32 seats.

Hyderabad's Tenure as Joint Capital of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh Ends

On 2 June 2024, the city of Hyderabad officially ceases to be the joint capital of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. This milestone marks the end of a ten-year period during which Hyderabad served as the shared capital for the two states. In 2014, the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act was passed by the Parliament of India under Article 3 of the Constitution. This Act led to the bifurcation of the erstwhile state of Andhra Pradesh, resulting in the creation of Telangana as the 29th state of India.

Uttarakhand Unveils India's First Astro-Tourism Initiative

The Uttarakhand government organized India's first-ever astro-tourism event called 'Nakshatra Sabha' in Mussoorie, the 'Queen of Hills', on June 1 and 2, 2024. The inaugural event was held at the George Everest Peak, famous for its breathtaking views of the Doon Valley and the snow-capped Himalayas.

TDP President N. Chandrababu Naidu Set To Reclaim Andhra Pradesh CM Office

After a decade-long hiatus, TDP leader N. Chandrababu Naidu is poised to reclaim the Chief Minister's position in Andhra Pradesh, with his swearing-in ceremony scheduled for June 12 at Kesarapalli IT Park near Gannavaram airport.

Prem Singh Tamang Sworn In As Sikkim Chief Minister

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM) supremo Prem Singh Tamang on June 10 took oath as the Chief Minister of the Himalayan state for the second consecutive term. The 56-year-old politician was administered the oath of office and secrecy by Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya at a function held in Paljor Stadium in Gangtok.

Chandrababu Naidu Reaffirms Amaravati as Sole Capital of Andhra Pradesh

A day before his swearing-in as the chief minister of Andhra Pradesh, TDP supremo N Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday announced that Amaravati will be the sole capital of the state.

Chandrababu Naidu Sworn In as Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister for 4th Term

Three years after vowing to enter the Assembly only as Chief Minister, N. Chandrababu Naidu has been sworn in for his fourth term as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. The oath-taking ceremony, held near Gannavaram Airport in Kesarapalli on the outskirts of Vijayawada, saw the attendance of key figures including PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah.

Assam Launches 'Mukhya Mantri Nijut Moina' Scheme to Promote Girl Education

The Assam government has taken a commendable step towards promoting girl education and addressing the issue of child marriage in the state. On June 12, 2024, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced the launch of the Mukhya Mantri Nijut Moina (MMNM) scheme, which was approved by the Assam government cabinet.

Punjab Police Launch 'Mission Nishchay'

Punjab Police in association with the Border Security Force (BSF) and Village Defence Committees (VDCs) will carry out a one-week drive against drugs in Fazilka district. They will reach out to residents of as many as 42 villages along the India-Pakistan border to gather actionable intelligence about the demand and supply of drugs.

Tesam Pongte Elected As The New Speaker Of Arunachal Pradesh Assembly

Tesam Pongte was unanimously elected as the Speaker of the 8th Arunachal Pradesh Assembly on June 15. Pro-tem Speaker Ninong Ering announced that Pongte was elected unopposed as the Speaker of the Assembly.

Hemis Festival 2024: Celebrating Buddhist Culture in Ladakh

The Hemis Festival, a vibrant celebration of Tibetan Buddhism, takes place annually in Ladakh, India. In 2024, this important cultural event will be held on June 16th and 17th. The Hemis Festival, also known as Hemis Tsechu, commemorates the birth anniversary of Guru Padmasambhava, a revered figure in Tibetan Buddhism. This two-day celebration brings the Hemis Monastery, Ladakh's largest Buddhist monastery, to life with color, music, and spiritual energy.

Uttar Pradesh's Pioneering Bioplastic Park, A Step Towards Sustainable Future

The Uttar Pradesh government has announced an ambitious plan to establish a bioplastic park in the Lakhimpur Kheri district. This innovative project aims to address environmental concerns while boosting the local economy. Let's explore the details of this groundbreaking initiative.

Kozhikode, India's First UNESCO City of Literature

On June 23, 2024, Kozhikode made history by becoming the first UNESCO City of Literature in India. This prestigious recognition highlights the city's rich literary heritage and cultural significance.

Maharashtra Governor Unveils Maritime History Book: 'Gateways to the Sea'

On June 22, 2024, a significant literary event took place at Raj Bhavan Mumbai, highlighting the rich maritime heritage of the Mumbai region. The Governor of Maharashtra, Shri Ramesh Bais, released a book titled 'Gateways to the Sea: Historic Ports and Docks of Mumbai Region', shedding light on the area's ancient and modern maritime history.

Madhya Pradesh Ministers to Pay Income Tax on Salaries and Allowances

The Madhya Pradesh cabinet, led by Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, decided on June 25, 2024, that state ministers will now be responsible for paying income tax on their salaries and allowances out of their own pockets. This marks a significant change from a 1972 rule under which the state government bore the tax burden. This decision was approved unanimously during a cabinet meeting held in Bhopal.

Economy News**Indian Economy Grew By 8.2% In FY 24: NSO**

India's GDP growth rate jumped to 7.8% in Q4 of FY24, leading to an annual growth rate of 8.2%, as reported by the National Statistical Office (NSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

India's Fiscal Deficit For FY24: Government Data Analysis

India's fiscal deficit for FY24 improved to 5.6% of GDP, down from the Revised Estimates of 5.8%, owing to higher-than-expected tax receipts. The deficit stood at Rs 16.54 trillion against the budgetary target of Rs 17.86 trillion. Net tax receipts surpassed projections at Rs 23.27 trillion, while total expenditure reached Rs 44.43 trillion, constituting 99% of the budgeted amount.

Gross GST Revenue Collection In May 2024: ₹1.73 Lakh Crore, Records 10% YoY Growth

In May 2024, the gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue reached ₹1.73 lakh crore, marking a notable 10% year-on-year growth. This surge was primarily fueled by a robust uptick in domestic transactions, which rose by 15.3%, while imports experienced a slight decline of 4.3%. The net GST revenue for May 2024, after factoring in refunds, amounted to ₹1.44 lakh crore, showcasing a growth of 6.9% compared to the same period last year.

Moody's Maintains Stable Outlook On Three Indian PSU Banks' Ratings

Moody's Ratings (Moody's) on Friday affirmed the Baa3 ratings on three Indian public sector banks — Bank of Baroda (BOB), Canara Bank, and Punjab National Bank (PNB). The rating agency maintained stable outlooks on the long-term ratings of all three banks, citing improved credit metrics, strong profitability, and adequate liquidity buffers. Moody's believes that India's strong operating environment will continue to support their credit fundamentals over the next 12-18 months.

World Bank Retains India's FY25 Growth Forecast At 6.6%

In its latest biannual Global Economic Prospects, the World Bank maintains India's growth projection at 6.6% for FY25, affirming its status as the fastest-growing among the largest economies. The forecast reflects a moderate pace of expansion following a high growth rate in FY 2023/24. Over the subsequent three fiscal years, India is expected to sustain an average growth of 6.7%, with projections of 6.7% for FY26 and 6.8% for FY27.

FDI to India Drops by 43% in 2023, Ranked 15th Globally: UNCTAD

According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), foreign direct investment (FDI) to India in 2023 decreased by 43% compared to 2022, dropping India's rank to 15th among global FDI recipients. This decline mirrors a global trend where overall FDI fell by 2%.

Rankings & Reports News**Gautam Adani Reclaims the Title of Asia's Richest Person**

In a significant development, Gautam Adani, the chairman of the Adani Group, has regained the title of Asia's richest person, surpassing Mukesh Ambani, the head of Reliance Industries. This milestone was achieved after a surge in the stock prices of the listed companies within Adani's apples-to-airport conglomerate.

QS World University Rankings 2025 Announced

The much-awaited QS World University Rankings 2025 have been announced, featuring an impressive 1,500 universities across 105 higher education systems. This year's ranking stands as the largest ever, underscoring the global commitment to academic excellence and innovation.

Aquaculture Overtakes Wild Fisheries For First Time: UN Report

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations released The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2024, its flagship report providing a

comprehensive analysis of the global and regional status and trends in fisheries and aquaculture. It shows, for the first time in 2022, that aquaculture production exceeded fisheries.

Infosys Ranks Among Top 100 Most Valuable Global Brands

Infosys, a leading information technology company, has secured its position among the 100 most valuable brands in the world for the third consecutive year. This recognition comes from Kantar, a prominent marketing data and analytics business, further solidifying Infosys' reputation as a global brand powerhouse.

India Slips to 129th Rank on Global Gender Gap Index 2024

India has slipped two places to rank 129th on the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Gender Gap index, while Iceland retained its top position in the rankings published on June 12. Within South Asia, India was ranked fifth after Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Bhutan, while Pakistan was ranked last. Iceland was followed by Finland, Norway, New Zealand, and Sweden in the top five, while the U.K. was ranked 14th, and the USA was at 43rd place.

Visakhapatnam Port Achieves Top 20 Ranking In World Bank's CPPI

The Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) has secured the 18th position in the World Bank's Container Port Performance Index (CPPI), marking a significant milestone for India's maritime industry. This achievement underscores the exemplary efforts of Terminal Operator M/s. Visakha Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd. (VCTPL) in enhancing operational efficiency and service delivery.

Global Peace Index 2024: An Overview

The Global Peace Index (GPI) 2024, published by the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), provides a comprehensive measure of global peacefulness, evaluating 163 independent states and territories. This report highlights the trends, results, and economic impacts of violence across the world, offering valuable insights into the current state of peace and the factors influencing it.

Mumbai Retains Top Spot As India's Most Expensive City For Expats: Mercer Report

In Mercer's 2024 Cost of Living Survey released on June 17, Mumbai solidifies its position as India's most expensive city for expatriates, climbing to 136th globally and 21st in Asia. New Delhi follows at 30th within Asia, showcasing a notable shift in cost dynamics across Indian cities. Despite economic challenges, India remains resilient, offering affordability advantages for global talent recruitment. The survey

highlights varying cost increases in housing and consumer goods across major Indian cities, with Delhi experiencing the highest rise. Mumbai leads in transportation and personal care costs, while Kolkata emerges as the most economical for essentials. Globally, Hong Kong retains its status as the priciest city for expats, underscoring diverse cost-of-living trends worldwide.

India's Environment Performance in 2024

India's latest ranking in the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) for 2024 places it at 176th out of 180 countries, reflecting slight improvement from previous years but still positioning it among the world's lowest performers. The index, prepared by Yale and Columbia universities, highlights India's struggles in crucial areas like air quality, biodiversity, and greenhouse gas emissions.

Sweden Tops, India at 63rd Rank on Global Energy Transition Index: WEF

According to the Global Energy Transition Index released by the World Economic Forum (WEF) on 19 June 2024, India has been ranked 63rd out of 120 countries, improving three ranks from last year's 67th position. Sweden has again topped the Index, reflecting its continued leadership in energy transition. The WEF highlighted India's significant advancements in energy equity, security, and sustainability.

India Ranks Third in Global Domestic Airline Market

India has achieved significant milestones in its domestic aviation sector over the past decade, emerging as the world's third-largest market for domestic airlines by April 2024. This marks a remarkable ascent from its fifth position ten years ago, driven by robust growth and strategic developments under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

Business News

SEBI Forms Committee To Review Clearing Corporations

In response to the dynamic growth of Indian securities markets, SEBI has established a committee, chaired by Usha Thorat, former Deputy Governor of the RBI, to assess and propose enhancements to the ownership and economic framework of clearing corporations.

RIL To Build Global Economic Hub In Navi Mumbai

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is set to develop a global economic hub in Navi Mumbai, having secured sub-leases on approximately 3,750 acres of land for Rs 13,400 crore. The lease spans 43 years and stems from a memorandum of understanding signed with the Maharashtra government in 2018.

GAIL To Set Up India's Largest Ethane Cracker Project With Rs 60,000 Crore Investment In MP

GAIL (India) plans to establish a 1500 KTA Ethane Cracker Project in Sehore, Madhya Pradesh, with an estimated capex of Rs 60,000 crore. The project aims to produce a range of ethylene derivatives, bolstering the petrochemical infrastructure in the region.

Tata Communications Secures Five-Year Broadcasting Deal With World Athletics

Tata Communications has finalized a significant five-year agreement with World Athletics to provide broadcasting services, enhancing global coverage of premier events starting from the Tokyo World Championships. This partnership marks Tata Communications as a pivotal supplier, committed to innovation and audience engagement.

IFC Investment in Brookfield's Bikaner Solar Power Project

The International Finance Corporation (IFC), part of the World Bank Group, has committed \$105 million (approximately Rs 871 crore) to Brookfield's Bikaner Solar Power project in Rajasthan. This investment will be in the form of non-convertible debentures, supporting the expansion of renewable energy infrastructure in India.

Agreement News**MeitY And UNESCO Host National Workshop On Safe, Trusted, Ethical AI**

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) South Asia Regional Office, in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, organized the National Stakeholder Workshop on Safe, Trusted, and Ethical AI at the Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi. This event, following the approval of the IndiaAI Mission by the Government of India, marks a significant step towards enhancing India's AI ecosystem, with a substantial allocation exceeding Rs 10,000 crore.

Health And Defence Ministries Collaborate To Establish Tele MANAS Cell For Armed Forces

In a significant move aimed at addressing the mental health needs of armed forces personnel and their families, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the Ministry of Defence (MoD) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This collaboration establishes a dedicated Tele MANAS cell, the digital extension of the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP), to provide comprehensive, integrated, and inclusive 24/7 tele-mental health services.

G7 Agrees \$50bn Loan For Ukraine Using Russian Assets

The G7 has agreed to leverage frozen Russian assets to secure a \$50 billion loan for Ukraine to aid in its defense against Russian invasion. US President Joe Biden emphasized this move as a firm stance against Russia, while President Vladimir Putin condemned it as theft.

MEA And SBI Sign MoU To Enhance Digital Payments For Migrant Workers Via EMigrate Portal

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the State Bank of India (SBI) have formalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to integrate SBI's payment gateway, SBIPay, with the eMigrate portal. This collaboration aims to bolster digital payment services for Indian migrant workers, recruiting agents, and users of the portal.

NHAI Signs MoU with IIIT Delhi to Enhance Road Safety Using Artificial Intelligence

In a bid to enhance road safety, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Delhi, a technical university established by the Government of National Capital Territory (NCT). This collaboration aims to leverage Artificial Intelligence (AI) to improve the availability and condition of road signs on National Highways, covering approximately 25,000 kilometers.

Appointment News**PV Sindhu Invests in and Becomes Brand Ambassador for Greenday's 'Better Nutrition'**

In a significant move, PV Sindhu, the two-time Olympic medallist and World Champion in badminton, has invested in Greenday's 'Better Nutrition' brand. Sindhu has also joined the startup as its brand ambassador, further solidifying her commitment to the cause of tackling micronutrient deficiencies in India.



Deendayal Port Trust Gets New Chairperson

In a significant move, the Centre has appointed Sushil Kumar Singh, an officer from the Indian Railway Service of Mechanical Engineering (IRSME) of the 1993 batch, as the Chairman of Deendayal Port Trust in Kandla, Gujarat. One of the largest state-owned ports in the country, Deendayal Port Trust will be under Singh's leadership until his superannuation in January 2027.

Om Birla Becomes First Lok Sabha Speaker In 20 Years To Be Re-Elected As MP

Om Birla, the incumbent Lok Sabha Speaker, has achieved a remarkable feat by winning the Kota parliamentary seat on June 4, 2024. With a resounding margin of 41,139 votes, Birla has become the first presiding officer in 20 years to be re-elected to the Lower House of Parliament.

Rakesh Mohan Joshi Appointed As Vice-Chancellor Of IIFT

Rakesh Mohan Joshi, an international trade and management expert, has been appointed as the Vice-Chancellor of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), a prestigious business school under the Ministry of Commerce.

Raj Priy Singh Appointed Director In Department Of Rural Development

Raj Priy Singh, an Indian Forest Service (IFoS) officer of the 2010 batch, has been appointed as the Director in the Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Rural Development. His appointment follows a recommendation for Central deputation by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and is governed by the Central Staffing Scheme (CSS).

InderPal Singh Bindra Appointed As CCI Secretary

Indian Revenue Service officer InderPal Singh Bindra will soon take charge as the Secretary of the Competition Commission of India (CCI). Bindra will replace IRS officer Anupama Anand, who has resigned within eight months of joining the regulator.

Lt General Upendra Dwivedi Named New Army Chief

Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi take over as the next Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) on June 30. In his career of over 39 years, he has served as Northern Army Commander and Director General (DG) infantry amongst other appointments.

Lt Gen Waker-Uz-Zaman Appointed Army Chief Of Bangladesh

Jun 11, Lieutenant General Waker-Uz-Zaman was named Bangladesh's next Army chief for a three-year term and will assume charge on June 23. Lt Gen Zaman, 58, would concurrently be upgraded to the rank of a four-star general on the day he assumed charge.

Prem Prabhakar Appointed MD And CEO Of SBICAP Ventures Limited

SBICAP Ventures Limited (SVL) has named Prem Prabhakar as its new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, effective from June 4, 2024. With over 24 years of extensive banking experience, Prabhakar joins SVL from State Bank of India (SBI), where he held various senior roles including General Manager and Chief Dealer. His expertise in treasury operations and strategic leadership will guide SVL in achieving its growth objectives and enhancing investor relations.

Ajit Doval Reappointed National Security Adviser (NSA)

The Centre on June 13 reappointed former IPS officer Ajit Doval as the National Security Adviser (NSA). His appointment will be co-terminus with the term of Prime Minister Narendra Modi or until further orders.

S. Tripathy Appointed as the First Director of UVCE

On this significant day for higher education in Karnataka, the State government has made a crucial appointment that marks a new era for the University of Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE). This appointment represents an important step in the institution's history and development.

UNHCR Welcomes Theo James as New Goodwill Ambassador

On this significant day for global humanitarian efforts, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) proudly announces the appointment of British actor Theo James as its newest Goodwill Ambassador. This appointment marks a crucial step in amplifying the voices of displaced people around the world.

Global Wind Energy Council India Appoints Girish Tanti from Suzlon Group As New Chairman

As Global Wind Day (June 17) is celebrated across the world. GWEC India has announced that Mr Girish Tanti, Vice-Chairman of Suzlon Group, has been appointed as the Chairman. The position plays a key role in driving GWEC India's work with national and state government's that assist government and industry's efforts for building the right momentum and establishing policy frameworks that will ensure India delivers on its enormous wind energy and supply chain potential, both onshore and offshore.

Indian Armed Forces Unveil Unified Cyberspace Doctrine

Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan released the Joint Doctrine for Cyberspace Operations during the Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC) meeting held on June 18, 2024, in New Delhi. The Joint Doctrine is a keystone publication that will guide Commanders in conducting Cyberspace Operations in today's complex military operating environment.

Government Appoints Atul Kumar Chaudhary As Secretary Of Telecom Regulatory Authority Of India

The government (on 20 June) has appointed Atul Kumar Chaudhary, as the new Secretary, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), the position which was lying vacant after the superannuation of V Raghunandan on May 31.

President Appoints Bhartruhari Mahtab As Pro-Tem Speaker Of Lok Sabha

In a significant development, Bhartruhari Mahtab, a seven-term Lok Sabha member, has been appointed as the pro tem Speaker of the Lower House. The announcement was made by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on June 20.

Rear Adm Nelson D'Souza Takes Over as Commandant, Military Institute of Technology, Pune

Rear Admiral Nelson D'Souza has taken over as Commandant of Military Institute of Technology (MILIT), Pune from Air Vice Marshal Vivek Blouria. An accomplished alumnus of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington and Naval War College, Goa, Rear Admiral D'Souza has served in numerous key positions within the Indian Navy since his commissioning in March 1991.

Vikram Misri Appointed India's New Foreign Secretary

Deputy National Security Advisor Vikram Misri will take charge as the Foreign Secretary on July 15, the Government announced on June 28. Mr. Misri, who is a former Indian ambassador to China, will succeed current Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra.

Pradeep Singh Kharola Has Been Assigned The Additional Charge of NTA DG

The Director General of the National Testing Agency, Subodh Kumar Singh, was removed from the post on June 22, amid controversy over irregularities in exams. Subodh Kumar Singh's services were put on a "compulsory wait" in the Department of Personnel and Training, the government said in a letter. India Trade Promotion Organisation Chairman and MD Pradeep Singh Kharola was assigned additional charge of NTA DG till the appointment of a regular incumbent or until further orders.

Anuj Tyagi Appointed MD and CEO of HDFC ERGO General Insurance

Private sector general insurer HDFC ERGO General Insurance announced the appointment of Anuj Tyagi as its new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective July 1, 2024. Tyagi, who has been with the company since 2008 and currently serves as Deputy MD, will succeed Ritesh Kumar, the MD & CEO since 2008. This leadership transition has received all necessary regulatory approvals.

Banking News**Reserve Bank Of India Cancels 10-Year Green Bond Auction For The First Time**

In a first, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the auction of 10-year green bonds as traders refused to pay the greenium, the premium for sustainability impact. This move highlights the market's reluctance to invest at the desired yields, leading to significant financial implications.

UPI Breaks Record With 14.04 Billion Transactions In May, Sees 49% Year-On-Year Growth

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) achieved a record-breaking 14.04 billion transactions in May, marking a significant increase from the 13.30 billion transactions recorded in April. This reflects a 49% year-on-year growth. The total transaction value reached Rs 20.45 lakh crore, with an average daily transaction count of 453 million and an average daily transaction value of Rs 65,966 crore.

Adani One Launches Two Variants Of Co-Branded Credit Cards With ICICI Bank

Adani One, the digital platform of the Adani Group, and ICICI Bank have introduced two variants of co-branded credit cards in partnership with Visa. This launch signifies Adani Group's entry into the retail financial sector, offering cardholders up to 7% Adani reward points on spending within the Adani ecosystem.

Bank Clinic: Your Guide To Complaint Resolution

The Bank Clinic, spearheaded by the All India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA), aims to empower retail customers by providing guidance on addressing their grievances in the rapidly evolving landscape of banking technology and regulatory standards set by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Axis Bank And Bajaj Allianz Forge Bancassurance Alliance

Axis Bank and Bajaj Allianz General Insurance have joined forces in a strategic bancassurance partnership aimed at boosting insurance penetration and financial inclusion in India. Through this collaboration, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance products will be distributed across Axis Bank's extensive network of over 5,250 branches.

NPCI International And Reserve Bank Of Peru Forge Landmark Partnership For UPI Payments

NPCI International and the Reserve Bank of Peru have joined forces to introduce a UPI-like real-time payments system in Peru, marking a pioneering move for South America. This collaboration aims to revolutionize Peru's financial landscape, fostering economic growth and financial inclusion by leveraging.

RBI Monetary Policy June 2024, Repo Rate Unchanged At 6.5%

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced that the Monetary Policy Committee has chosen to maintain the policy repo rate at 6.5%, with a 4:2 majority decision. Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate remains unchanged at 6.25%, while both the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the bank rate stand firm at 6.75%.

TDP President N. Chandrababu Naidu Set To Reclaim Andhra Pradesh CM Office

After a decade-long hiatus, TDP leader N. Chandrababu Naidu is poised to reclaim the Chief Minister's position in Andhra Pradesh, with his swearing-in ceremony scheduled for June 12 at Kesarapalli IT Park near Gannavaram airport.

RBI Raises Bulk Fixed Deposit Limit To Rs 3 Crore From Rs 2 Crore

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced a revision in the threshold for bulk fixed deposits, increasing the limit from Rs 2 crore to Rs 3 crore. This adjustment reflects the RBI's strategy to refine liquidity management and align deposit classifications with current economic needs.

Bank Of India Acquires 6.1% Stake In CCIL IFSC

The Bank of India has acquired a 6.125% stake in the Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. (IFSC) for ₹6.125 crore, aiming to enhance its strategic presence in GIFT City IFSC. This acquisition reflects the bank's commitment to the growth and development of GIFT City as a global financial hub.

RBI Initiatives To Combat Online Payment Frauds And Streamline Financial Operations

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has initiated several measures to address the increasing risks of payment frauds and to enhance operational efficiencies in the banking sector. To combat the rising incidence of domestic payment frauds, which surged by 70.64% to Rs 2,604 crore in the six-month period ended March 2024, the RBI plans to set up a Digital Payments Intelligence Platform. This platform will utilize advanced technologies to mitigate fraud risks. A committee headed by A.P. Hota, former MD & CEO of NPCI, has been formed to examine the setup of this digital infrastructure, with recommendations expected within two months.

SBI Revolutionizes SME Lending With 'SME Digital Business Loans'

In a groundbreaking move, the State Bank of India (SBI) has launched 'SME Digital Business Loans', aiming to sanction loans within an astonishing 45 minutes. Recognizing the pivotal role of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in its growth strategy, SBI has streamlined the borrowing process, eliminating traditional credit underwriting and appraisal procedures.

Finance Ministry Caps Arbitration Value At ₹10 Core

In a bid to streamline dispute resolution involving government or public sector enterprises (PSEs), the Finance Ministry has set a cap of ₹10 crore for arbitration cases. This move aims to mitigate the perceived challenges of lengthy proceedings and potential misconduct among arbitrators. The Ministry also advises against automatically including arbitration clauses in large government contracts, emphasizing mediation and judicial adjudication as viable alternatives.

RBI Cancels Purvanchal Cooperative Bank's Licence

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revoked the licence of Purvanchal Co-operative Bank, located in Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, citing inadequate capital and bleak earning prospects. Consequently, the Commissioner for Cooperation and Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Uttar Pradesh, has been instructed to initiate the bank's winding-up process and appoint a liquidator. Upon liquidation, depositors will be eligible to receive up to Rs 5 lakh from the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) as per their deposit insurance coverage.

Dhanlaxmi Bank Appoints Ajith Kumar KK as MD & CEO

Ajith Kumar KK has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of Dhanlaxmi Bank for a three-year term starting June 20, 2024. The announcement was made in a regulatory filing by the Kerala-based private sector bank. Ajith Kumar KK brings extensive experience from his tenure at Federal Bank, spanning 36 years across key banking domains including Credit, Human Resources, Business, and Branch Operations. Currently serving as the Chief Human Resources Officer at Federal Bank, he holds the rank of president.

RBI grants Payment Aggregator License to SabPaisa

SabPaisa (SRS Live Technologies Private Limited), a payment solutions provider, has announced that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted final approval to operate as a Payment Aggregator (PA) under the Payments and Settlement Systems Act of 2007.

Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank Gets National Award for APY Implementation

Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), a regional rural bank sponsored by Canara Bank, has been honoured with a national award by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for significant enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY).

Reserve Bank of India Updates URL for 'Database on Indian Economy' Portal

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced a significant update to its 'Database on Indian Economy' (DBIE) portal,

effective immediately. The portal's domain address will now be accessed through <https://data.rbi.org.in>, consolidating its services and ensuring seamless access for users. Previously used URLs, such as <https://dbie.rbi.org.in> and <https://cimsdbie.rbi.org.in>, will automatically redirect to the new address.

SBI Distributes Rs 6,959 Crore Dividend to Government

In a significant financial gesture, the State Bank of India (SBI) has distributed a dividend of Rs 6,959 crore to the Indian government for the financial year 2023-24. This marks an increase from the previous year's dividend of Rs 11.30 per share to Rs 13.70 per share. The dividend cheque was presented by SBI Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in the presence of Financial Services Secretary Vivek Joshi. SBI reported a record consolidated net profit of Rs 67,085 crore for the year, up from Rs 55,648 crore the previous year.

ICICI Bank M-Cap Tops \$100 bn; Becomes Only Sixth Indian Co to Hit Milestone

ICICI Bank's market capitalisation(m-cap) on June 25 crossed the \$100-billion mark for the first time, becoming only the sixth company to do so. The private sector lender joins the likes of Reliance Industries, Tata Consultancy Services, HDFC Bank, and Bharti Airtel. The four other domestically listed companies with a market value of more than \$100 billion.

Science & Technology News

Lunar Timekeeping: How NASA Plans to Synchronize Moon Missions

As part of the Artemis program, which intends to bring humans back to the lunar surface, NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA) are working together to create a common time system for the moon. The project aims to meet the requirement for a common timekeeping system to manage missions from various nations and private organizations.

Boeing's Starliner Crewed Mission: June 5 Launch

Boeing and NASA are gearing up for the highly anticipated launch of the Starliner spacecraft's first crewed flight test, scheduled for June 5 from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida. This historic event marks a significant milestone in space exploration, with veteran NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams aboard the spacecraft.

ISRO Develops PraVaHa Software For Aerodynamic Design And Analysis

ISRO, through its Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), has introduced the PraVaHa software, a Computational Fluid

Dynamics. PraVaHa, acronym for "Parallel RANS Solver for Aerospace Vehicle Aero-thermo-dynamic Analysis," is tailored to simulate both external and internal flows on various types of vehicles, including launch vehicles, winged, and non-winged re-entry vehicles.

IIT Dharwad Unveils Innovative Fire Rescue Drone

A group of teachers and students at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Dharwad, directed by Profs. Sudheer Siddapureddy and Ameer Mulla, with funding from the TiHAN Foundation, IIT Hyderabad (NMICPS, Indian government), has created a drone for fire rescue assistance. During the two-day workshop on Drone design and autonomous navigation in fire rescue (DDANFR 2024), organized by the Fire and Thermal Research Laboratory (FLRL) and the Control System and Robotics Laboratory at IIT Dharwad on May 31 and June 1, there was an unveiling and demonstration of what is purported to be the first fire rescue assistance drone.

Nvidia Surpasses Apple To Become Second Most Valuable Company

Nvidia's remarkable rally to record highs on Wednesday saw the artificial intelligence chipmaker's valuation soar past the \$3 trillion mark, eclipsing Apple and securing its position as the world's second most valuable company. This significant shift marks a departure from Silicon Valley's traditional dominance by Apple, particularly since the launch of the iPhone in 2007.

ISRO Gives Details On Indo-French TRISHNA Mission

Space agency ISRO has announced a joint Indo-French infrared earth observation satellite mission, TRISHNA (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for High-Resolution Natural Resource Assessment), to monitor surface temperature and water management around the world.

Scientists Discover Smallest Great Ape That Only Grew To Size Of Toddler

Scientists have discovered a new species of great ape which lived 11 million years ago and only ever grew to the size of a human toddler, making it the smallest known to science. The now-extinct ape species, which has been named *Burionius manfredschmidi*.

Three Craters On Mars Named For Physicist Devendra Lal, Towns In UP, Bihar

'Lal', 'Mursan' and 'Hilsa'. These are the names given to three craters on the surface of Mars recently discovered by Ahmedabad-based Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), that hint at the red planet's wet past. Lal has been named after legendary cosmic ray physicist from Varanasi, the late Professor Devendra Lal. The other two have been named after Mursan town in UP's Hathras district, and Hilsa town in Nalanda district of Bihar.

Woman Entrepreneur Successfully Develops AI Tool 'Divya Drishti'

A woman-led start-up has successfully developed an AI-based tool that creates a "robust and multi-faceted authentication system" by combining facial recognition with gait analysis. This innovative solution marks a "significant advancement" in biometric authentication technology, offering "enhanced accuracy and reliability".

Dhruva Space's Thybolt Satellites Complete 15,000 Orbits

Dhruva Space, a Hyderabad-based space tech startup, has successfully completed its maiden mission with the Thybolt-1 and Thybolt-2 satellites. These satellites have securely deorbited after completing 15,000 orbits around Earth. Launched aboard ISRO's PSLV C54 in November 2022, this achievement marks a significant milestone for the company.

Schemes and Committees News**Over 1 Lakh Farmers Voluntarily Gave Up Their PM-Kisan Benefits Last Year(2023)**

Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan lead the chart of 1.16 lakh farmers who have voluntarily given up the benefits of the annual Rs 6,000 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) scheme across the country from June 2023 to May 2024. The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare had introduced a module in the PM-Kisan mobile app and website last year which enables farmers to voluntarily exit the scheme.

Cabinet approves Viability Gap Funding (VGF) Scheme for Implementation of Offshore Wind Energy Projects

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme for the implementation of offshore wind energy projects in India. This decision marks a significant step towards harnessing the vast offshore wind energy potential within the country's exclusive economic zone. The total financial outlay for this scheme is ₹7,453 crore.

Dr. Jitendra Singh Launches "One Week One Theme" (OWOT) Campaign

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Dr. Jitendra Singh on June 24, launched "One Week One Theme" (OWOT) campaign showcasing recent success stories of India in different streams of science and technology.

PM Gati Shakti Scheme is Transforming India's Infrastructure: Morgan Stanley

In a recent report American multi-national investment bank and financial company Morgan Stanley has all praise for PM Gati Shakti scheme. The report highlights increased and more targeted investments, suggesting a continued emphasis on infrastructure spending in India's future.

Summits & Conference News**KAZA Summit 2024 and Wildlife Product Trade**

The KAZA 2024 Heads of State Summit ended in the Zambian resort town of Livingstone on May 31, with leaders of the five member countries agreeing to argue their case for lifting of the ban on ivory trade at the 20th meeting of the Conference of Parties (CoP20) of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) due next year in Geneva, Switzerland.

3rd Indian Analytical Congress Explores 'Green Transitions'

Analytical science refers to the art of measurement and its interpretation. It involves improving the means of measuring the chemical composition, structure, and morphology of natural and man-made substances or entities and interpreting the data obtained.

Indian Tripartite Delegation At The 112th Session Of International Labour Conference (ILC)

The Indian tripartite delegation led by Secretary (Labour & Employment), Ms. Sumita Dawra, participated in the 112th session of the International Labour Conference (ILC) of International Labour Organisation (ILO) being held in Geneva, Switzerland.

G7 Summit: PM Modi Leaves For Italy On June13,1st Foreign Trip This Term

Prime Minister Narendra Modi leaves for Italy to attend the 50th G7 leaders' summit. It will be his first trip abroad after assuming charge as the Prime Minister for the third term. Modi, accompanied by a high-level delegation, will attend an outreach session on the summit on June 14. The session will be focused on issues relating to artificial intelligence, energy, Africa and the Mediterranean.

India-IORA Cruise Tourism Conference Concludes In New Delhi

The two day India-IORA Cruise Tourism Conference concluded in New Delhi on June 14. Officials and experts from the Indian Ocean Rim Association, IORA Member States including Bangladesh, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mozambique, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Seychelles and Tanzania participated in the Conference.

Highlights Of G7 Summit, 2024

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 14, held a series of bilateral meetings with world leaders. The countries including UK counterpart Rishi Sunak, French President Emmanuel Macron, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, and others, on the sidelines of the G7 Summit, in southern Italy's Apulia. Later, the Prime Minister also met Pope Francis of the Vatican. The theme of this year's summit, which will be attended by President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan of the Republic of Türkiye, as a special guest, has been set as "rules-based international system."

India Participates In The Summit On Peace In Ukraine

Shri Pavan Kapoor, Secretary (West) in the Ministry of External Affairs, represented India at the Summit on Peace in Ukraine, hosted by Switzerland at Burgenstock on June 15-16, 2024. India attended the Opening and Closing Plenary Sessions of the Summit but did not align itself with any communique or document that emerged. This highlights India's consistent and independent approach to achieving a peaceful resolution to the conflict through dialogue and diplomacy.

Bonn Climate Conference 2024 Concludes in Bonn, Germany

The mid-year climate discussions in Bonn, Germany, concluded recently with limited progress, raising concerns for a potentially challenging road ahead to the COP29 summit to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, later this year.

112th International Labour Conference at Geneva, Switzerland

The 112th International Labour Organization (ILO) was held in Geneva from 3-14 June 2024. It was attended by more than 4,900 delegates - representing Governments, and Employers' and Workers' organizations. The 113rd ILC will be held in June 2025.

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CCRYN in Collaboration with Svyasa Organizes Conference on "Yoga for Space" in Bengaluru

The Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (CCRYN), in collaboration with Svyasa, Deemed to be University, organized a Conference on "Yoga for Space" at S-Vyasa University, Bengaluru, in observance of International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2024 with the theme "Yoga for Self & Society." This conference brought together experts from various fields to enhance societal health, including astronauts, by exploring the benefits of yoga in extreme conditions and space environments.

EAM Jaishankar to Represent India at SCO Summit in Astana

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will represent India at the annual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in Astana next week. The summit, to be held on July 3 and 4, is expected to focus on the regional security situation and ways to boost connectivity and trade.

64th International Sugar Organisation Council Meeting in New Delhi

The 64th International Sugar Organisation (ISO) Council meeting commenced on 25th June 2024 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, bringing together delegates from over 30 countries and representatives of various international organizations. The meeting, held from 25-27 June 2024, aims to discuss issues related to the sugar industry and biofuels sectors.

Awards & Honors News

Sanya Malhotra's "Mrs" Triumph at New York Indian Film Festival

At the prestigious New York Indian Film Festival 2024, Sanya Malhotra has etched her name in glory by winning the Best Actress award for her captivating performance in the film "Mrs." This triumph marks a significant milestone in Malhotra's burgeoning career and underscores her exceptional talent as an actress.

Mumbai's Super Cop Krishna Prakash Honored With Hindi Sahitya Bharati Award

The famous Annual Hindi Sahitya Bharati Award has been given to Krishna Prakash, who is well-known for leading Mumbai Police's special counterterrorism team, Force One. The award was given out at Mumbai's multicultural Sab Me Ram Shashwat Shri Ram event.

Siddhalinga Pattanashetti Wins Gudleppa Hallikeri Award 2024

Poet and playwright Siddhalinga Pattanashetti has been chosen for the prestigious Gudleppa Hallikeri Award for 2024 by the Gudleppa Hallikeri Memorial Foundation,

Hosaritti (Haveri District). Veeranna Chekki, senior trustee of the Gudleppa Hallikeri Memorial foundation of Hosaritti, haveri District announced. This is the 19th award and will be presented in the honour of the birth anniversary of Gudleppa Hallikeri on 6 June.

C-DOT Wins UN WSIS Award for Disaster Resilience Technology

The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), established on August 24, 1984, by the Government of India, is a premier telecom research and development centre. Its mission is to revolutionize the telecom sector in India by developing cutting-edge technologies and products tailored to Indian conditions.

Nar Singh, Rohini Lokhande Win Dilip Bose Lifetime Achievement Award

The All India Tennis Association (AITA) has announced the Dilip Bose award for lifetime achievement to coach Nar Singh. The first award would be presented to the 69-year-old Rohini Lokhande who was a member of the national team along with Kiran Bedi, Nirupama Mankad, Susan Das and Udaya Kumar, before she took to coaching at a young age.

Vellayan Subbiah Named EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year 2024

Vellayan Subbiah, Executive Vice Chairman of Tube Investments of India (TII) and Chairman of Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Co Ltd., secured the prestigious EY World Entrepreneur of the Year 2024 award, marking the fourth time an entrepreneur from India has won this global title. His visionary leadership and transformative strategies have propelled both TII and Chola to unprecedented success, earning him recognition on the global stage.

SEBI Honoured With 'Best Conduct Of Business Regulator' Award By The Asian Banker

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has been awarded the Asia-Pacific region's 'Best Conduct of Business Regulator' by The Asian Banker. The award was received by SEBI's Whole Time Member, Kamlesh Chandra Varshney, at a ceremony held in Hong Kong.

Siddhesh Sakore, Farmer From Maharashtra, Named Land Hero By UN Agency

Siddhesh Sakore, a farmer and the founder of AGRO RANGERS from Maharashtra, has been recognized as a Land Hero by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) on World Desertification and Drought Day. The announcement was made during a programme in Bonn, Germany, honoring 10 Land Heroes from around the globe.

RBI bags 'Risk Manager of the Year Award 2024' by London's Central Banking publication

In a remarkable achievement, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been awarded the prestigious "Risk Manager of the Year Award 2024" by Central Banking, a renowned publication headquartered in London. This accolade recognizes the RBI's significant strides in cultivating a robust risk culture and heightened awareness, solidifying its essential role in maintaining the stability of India's financial system.

Filmmaker Vinod Ganatra Honoured with Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award

Eminent children's filmmaker Vinod Ganatra has become the first Indian to be conferred with South Africa's prestigious 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award' for his outstanding contribution to children's cinema. The award was presented to him at the 7th Nelson Mandela Children's Film Festival.

Wildlife Filmmaker Subbiah Nallamuthu Honored with V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award.

The renowned wildlife filmmaker Subbiah Nallamuthu has been conferred with the prestigious 18th V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions to the field of non-feature and wildlife documentary filmmaking. The award was presented to him by the Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, L. Murugan, at the inaugural ceremony of the 18th Mumbai International Film Festival in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Dr. Usha Thakur Receives Prestigious 12th Vishwa Hindi Samman

In a heartwarming celebration of linguistic and cultural ties between India and Nepal, Dr. Usha Thakur has been honoured with the 12th Vishwa Hindi Samman. This prestigious award recognizes her outstanding contributions to Hindi literature and her efforts in strengthening the bonds between Hindi and Nepali languages.

GRSE Wins Sustainable Governance Champion Award

Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) Ltd. has been honoured with the "Sustainable Governance Champion Award" at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024. This recognition highlights GRSE's unwavering commitment to sustainable practices and governance excellence.

Sanjana Thakur Wins 2024 Commonwealth Short Story Prize

Sanjana Thakur 26 years old, writer from Mumbai, beat competition from over 7,359 entrants worldwide to be named the winner of the GBP 5,000 Commonwealth Short

Story Prize 2024 in London on June 27. Sanjana's story entitled Aishwarya Rai takes its name from the famed Bollywood actress to reimagine and reverse the traditional adoption story.

Important Dates News

International Sex Workers' Day 2024: Raising Awareness for Dignity and Rights

On June 2, 2024, the world observes International Sex Workers' Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness about the challenges and exploitation faced by sex workers worldwide. This annual event serves as a reminder of the importance of healthy working conditions, respect, and human rights for those engaged in the sex industry.

International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression 2024

Every year, the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed on June 4. This year, it falls on a Tuesday. On August 19, 1982, the UN General Assembly's special session focused on the plight that Palestinian and Lebanese children faced due to Israeli aggression during the Lebanon war.

World Environment Day 2024, Date, Theme and History

On June 5th of each year, the world observes World Environment Day (WED), a significant global event aimed at raising awareness and promoting action towards environmental protection. Established by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) in 1972, this day serves as a platform to highlight pressing ecological issues faced by our planet and foster sustainable practices. This year, the theme for World Environment Day is 'Land restoration, desertification, and drought resilience' under the slogan 'Our land. Our future. We are #GenerationRestoration'.

World Food Safety Day 2024: Date, History and Theme

World Food Safety Day is an annual event celebrated on June 7th. It aims to raise awareness about the importance of food safety and promote actions to prevent, detect, and manage foodborne risks. This day highlights the critical role that food safety plays in ensuring everyone has access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food. The theme for World Food Safety Day 2024 is "Food Safety: Prepare for the Unexpected".

World Oceans Day 2024 Observed on June 8th

World Oceans Day on June 8, 2024, it's crucial to recognize the vital role our oceans play in sustaining life on Earth. Covering nearly 70% of the planet's surface, these vast bodies of water are not only home to countless marine species but also produce around 50% of the world's oxygen.

World Day Against Child Labor 2024, Date, Theme, History and Significance

On June 12, the World Day Against Child Labour is observed globally. Its objective is to spark the growing global movement against child labour. The United Nations believes that child labour could be eradicated if people and governments focused on the primary cause and recognized the connection between social justice and child labor. "Let's act on our commitments: End Child Labour" is the theme of World Day Against Child Labour 2024.

United Nations Declares 2025 as the Year to Focus on Quantum Advancements

The United Nations General Assembly has officially declared 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology. On June 7, 2024, the 193-member Assembly passed a resolution co-sponsored by Ghana and six other countries, acknowledging the significance of this groundbreaking field of study.

World Blood Donor Day 2024- Date, Theme and History

On June 14, 2024, the world will unite to commemorate World Blood Donor Day, an annual event that recognizes the incredible contributions of voluntary blood donors. This year's theme, "20 years of celebrating giving: thank you blood donors!" marks a significant milestone, highlighting two decades of gratitude and appreciation for those who have generously given the gift of life.

World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2024

On June 17th, the world celebrates the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought. This important day aims to raise awareness about the pressing issue of land degradation and its devastating effects on the environment and communities around the globe. This year's theme, "United for Land. Our Legacy. Our Future," emphasizes the critical importance of land stewardship as a shared responsibility for all.

International Day for Countering Hate Speech 2024

On June 18th, countries around the world observe the International Day for Countering Hate Speech. This important day aims to raise awareness about the harmful effects of hate speech and promote strategies to identify, address, and counter it.

World Refugee Day 2024, Date, Theme and History

Every year on June 20th, the world comes together to observe World Refugee Day. This day is dedicated to the millions of people who have been forced to flee their homes due to war, persecution, or natural disasters. It serves as a powerful reminder of their plight and a call to action to support and welcome refugees into our communities. The theme for World Refugee Day 2024 is "Everyone is Welcome".

Neeraj Chopra Shines at Paavo Nurmi Games 2024

Indian javelin star Neeraj Chopra added another feather to his cap by clinching the gold medal in the men's javelin throw event at the Paavo Nurmi Games 2024 in Turku, Finland. The Paavo Nurmi Games is a prestigious World Athletics Continental Tour (Gold level) event, and Neeraj's victory further solidifies his position as a dominant force in the sport.

Trent Boult Announces Retirement from International Cricket

New Zealand's left-arm fast bowler, Trent Boult, has announced his retirement from international cricket after New Zealand's final Group C match against Papua New Guinea at the 2024 T20 ICC Cricket World Cup. The match was played at the Brian Lara Stadium in Tarouba.

International Day of Yoga 2024 Celebrates on 21st June Globally

International Yoga Day is a worldwide celebration of yoga, an ancient Indian practice that promotes physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. Observed annually on June 21st, this special day brings together millions of people across the globe for yoga classes, workshops, and talks. From serene mountain retreats to bustling city squares, people unite in their pursuit of holistic health and inner peace. This year's theme, "Yoga for Self and Society," highlights the transformative power of yoga at both personal and community levels.

World Music Day 2024: Date, History, and Significance

World Music Day, also known as 'Fête de la Musique', is an annual global celebration held in June to promote music and its universal language. On this special day, musicians from around the world perform in public spaces, sharing their talents and passion for music. The day's purpose is to provide a platform for both professional and amateur artists to express themselves through music. The inspiring tagline "Faites de la musique" (Make music) encapsulates the spirit of this event.

World Hydrography Day 2024 Celebrates on June 21st

Every year on June 21st, the world celebrates World Hydrography Day. This important day, organized by the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO), aims to raise awareness about hydrography and its crucial role in understanding our seas and oceans. The theme for World Hydrography Day 2024 is: "Hydrographic Information – Enhancing Safety, Efficiency and Sustainability in Marine Activities".

International Day of the Tropics 2024, Date, History and Importance

The International Day of the Tropics, observed annually on June 29, is a day dedicated to recognizing the incredible

diversity and importance of the world's tropical regions. This special day aims to raise global awareness about the unique challenges and opportunities faced by tropical areas, while highlighting their crucial role in our planet's ecosystem and human society.

International Day of Parliamentarism 2024 Observed on June 30th

The International Day of Parliamentarism is observed annually on June 30th. This day celebrates the role of parliaments in democratic governance and highlights their importance in building peace and understanding between nations. In 2024, the focus is on "Parliamentary diplomacy: Building bridges for peace and understanding." This theme emphasizes how parliamentarians can contribute to international cooperation and conflict resolution.

National Statistics Day 2024, Honoring the Father of Indian Statistics

National Statistics Day is celebrated in India every year on June 29th. This day honors the birth anniversary of Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, a renowned statistician and economist. The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of statistics in socio-economic planning and policy-making. For the 18th National Statistics Day in 2024, the theme is "Use of data for decision-making".

International Olympic Day 2024, Date, Theme and History

International Olympic Day is celebrated on June 23rd every year. It marks the founding of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 1894. This day celebrates the Olympic spirit and encourages people to get involved in sports. The theme for International Olympic Day 2024 is "Let's Move and Celebrate." This theme encourages everyone to be active and enjoy the joy of movement.

International Day in Support of Victims of Torture 2024

Every year on June 26th, the world observes the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. This important day was established by the United Nations in 1997 to raise awareness about the terrible practice of torture and to show support for those who have suffered from it.

International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking 2024

Every year on June 26th, people around the world come together to observe the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, also known as World Drug Day. This important day was established by the United Nations in 1987 to raise awareness about the dangers of drug abuse and to encourage cooperation in creating a world free from this problem.

Sports News

Dinesh Karthik Announces Retirement from Representative Cricket

In a decision that marked the end of an era, Dinesh Karthik, the veteran wicketkeeper-batter, announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. The writing was on the wall after his emotional farewell from the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) franchise in the recently concluded Indian Premier League (IPL) season.

Indian Athletes Shine at Taiwan Athletics Open 2024

Nayana James, an Asian Athletics Championships bronze medalist, etched her name in glory by clinching the gold medal in the women's long jump event at the Taiwan Athletics Open 2024 held in Chinese Taipei. Braving rainy conditions at the Taipei Municipal Stadium, Nayana recorded an impressive distance of 6.43m to secure the top spot on the podium.

Record Prize Money for 2024 ICC Men's T20 World Cup

The ninth edition of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup promises to be a thrilling spectacle, with the winners set to take home a record-breaking prize money of at least \$2.45 million. This staggering figure represents the highest prize money in the history of the tournament, making the coveted trophy even more prestigious.

Former Indian All-Rounder Kedar Jadhav Announces Retirement

The cricketing world witnessed another veteran hanging up his boots as Kedar Jadhav, the 39-year-old former Indian all-rounder, announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. Jadhav's decision comes shortly after former Indian wicketkeeper-batsman Dinesh Karthik bid farewell to the game after his last outing in the Indian Premier League (IPL) for the Royal Challengers Bangalore.

Rohit Sharma Rewrites Cricket Records at 9th ICC T20 World Cup

The Indian cricket team, led by captain Rohit Sharma, kicked off their campaign at the 9th ICC T20 World Cup with a resounding 8-wicket victory over Ireland. The match, played at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York, USA, saw Jasprit Bumrah's magnificent bowling performance of 2 for 6 runs earn him the 'Man of the Match' award.

Sarabjot Singh Shines at the ISSF World Cup in Munich

The International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup, a prestigious shooting tournament, is currently underway in Munich, Germany, from May 31 to June 8, 2024. Amidst the intense competition, Indian shooter Sarabjot Singh has etched his name in history by claiming India's first medal at the event.

Sumit Nagpal Wins his 6th ATP Challenger Tennis Title

Indian tennis sensation Sumit Nagpal has etched his name in history by winning the prestigious Heilbronn Neckarcup 2024 ATP Challenger Tennis tournament in Germany. This remarkable achievement marks Nagpal's sixth ATP Challenger title, a feat that solidifies his position as India's top-ranked men's singles player.

Puja Tomar Becomes First Indian To Win In UFC

Indian strawweight Puja Tomar became the first ever Indian to win a bout in the UFC as she defeated Brazil's Rayanne Amanda dos Santos via split decision at the UFC Louisville on June 8. Puja Tomar beat Rayanne Amanda dos Santos 30-27, 30-27, 29-28.

India Named Hosts For 2025 FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup

In a landmark decision, the Executive Board of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) has designated India as the host country for the inaugural FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup featuring 24 teams, set to take place in December 2025. This decision underscores FIH's commitment to expanding opportunities for National Associations and promoting diversity in the sport.

Gudakes Motie and Chamari Athapaththu Named ICC Players of the Month for May

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has named Gudakesh Motie of the West Indies as the ICC Men's Player of the Month for May 2024. Chamari Athapaththu of Sri Lanka has been named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for May 2024.

Shruti Vora First Indian To Win 3 Star GP In Dressage, Closes In On Paris Dream

Shruti Vora, astride Magnanimous, has become the first Indian rider to win a three-star Grand Prix event- a historic achievement for the Indian equestrian. Shruti scored 67.761 points in the CDI-3 event in Lipica, Slovenia from June 7-9. The Indian finished ahead of Moldova's Tatiana Antonenco (Aachen), who scored 66.522. Austria's Juliane Jerich (Quarter Girl) completed the top 3 with a score of 66.087.

Divya Deshmukh and Kazybek Nogerbek Triumph at FIDE U-20 World Chess Championship 2024

The 2024 FIDE U-20 World Chess Championship, organized by the International Chess Federation (FIDE), witnessed a remarkable achievement as 18-year-old Divya Deshmukh from Nagpur, India, clinched the FIDE Under-20 Girl's World Chess Championship title. Deshmukh's triumph marks her as the fourth Indian woman to win this prestigious title, following in the footsteps of chess legends Koneru Humpy, Harika Dronavalli, and Soumya Swaminathan.

Lee Zii Jia Triumphs at BWF Australian Open 2024

In a thrilling final at the BWF Australian Open 2024 in Sydney on Sunday (16 June), Lee Zii Jia from Malaysia emerged victorious against Naraoka Kodai of Japan, securing his second title of the season.

Virat Kohli Reclaims Top Spot as India's Most Valued Celebrity Brand

According to the Celebrity Brand Valuation Report 2023 released by global consulting firm Kroll, cricketer Virat Kohli has reclaimed the top spot as India's most valued celebrity brand with a brand value of \$227.9 million. This marks a 30% jump from his brand value of \$176.9 million in 2022.

Pat Cummins Takes First Hat-Trick of T20 World Cup 2024

Pat Cummins, the fast bowler, spearheaded the bowling attack by claiming a hat-trick, while David Warner's unbeaten fifty guaranteed a smooth chase as Australia comfortably defeated Bangladesh in their 'Super 8s' Group 1 encounter of the T20 World Cup. The match, held in Antigua on June 21, was under the threat of rain that disrupted proceedings twice.

Global Chess League to Hold Second Edition in London in October

After a successful first season in Dubai, the Global Chess League will return for another edition, this time in London. The highly anticipated second edition of Tech Mahindra Global Chess League will take place in London, England from 3rd to 12th October 2024. It will take place at Friends House in central London.

Shafali Verma's Double Century Leads India to Record-Breaking Day in Women's Test Cricket

On a remarkable Friday at Chennai's Chepauk Stadium, young Indian opener Shafali Verma etched her name in the annals of cricket history with a record-breaking double century against South Africa in the one-off Test match.

Verstappen Triumphs at Spanish Grand Prix 2024

In a thrilling display of skill and strategy, Max Verstappen secured victory at the Spanish Grand Prix on Sunday, further solidifying his position atop the Formula 1 drivers championship.

Indian Archers Triumph at Archery World Cup 2024 Stage 3

The Archery World Cup 2024 Stage 3 in Antalya, Turkey concluded on June 23, 2024, with Indian archers showcasing their exceptional skills and bringing home multiple medals. This prestigious event, organized by World Archery from June 18-23, 2024, saw India's team finish with an impressive tally of four medals – one gold, one silver, and two bronze.

India Wins 11 Medals at the U-17 Asian Wrestling Championship 2024

Indian wrestlers ended their campaign in the Under-17 Asian Wrestling Championship 2024 with an impressive tally of 11 medals, including four gold, two silver, and five bronze. The event was held in Amman, Jordan, from 22-24 June 2024. Following the U-17 competition, the U-23 championship commenced.

Smriti Mandhana, The First Indian Woman Cricketer To Score Consecutive Centuries in ODIs

Smriti Mandhana became the first Indian woman to record two consecutive ODI hundreds during the second ODI against South Africa at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on June 19. She scripted history on June 23, after she registered the record for the most runs by an Indian woman in a bilateral One-Day International series.

David Warner Retires From International Cricket

The cricketing world bid farewell to one of its most dynamic players as David Warner officially retired from international cricket. Warner's illustrious 15-year career with the Australian national team came to an end following Australia's elimination from the T20 World Cup in the Super Eight phase.

Cricket Legend Kapil Dev Takes Helm of Indian Professional Golf

In a momentous development for Indian golf, Kapil Dev, the legendary cricketer and passionate amateur golfer, has been elected as the new president of the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI). This significant appointment marks a new chapter in the history of professional golf in India.

Obituaries News**A.J.T. Johnsingh, a renowned wildlife field biologist and conservationist, Passes Away**

The world of wildlife conservation has lost a pioneering figure with the passing of A.J.T. Johnsingh, a renowned wildlife field biologist and conservationist, in Bengaluru at the age of 78.

William Anders, Apollo 8 Astronaut Who Took 'Earthrise' Photo From Space, Killed In Plane Crash

Retired astronaut William Anders, one of the first three humans to orbit the moon, who captured the "Earthrise" photo during NASA's Apollo 8 mission, died on June 7 when the small plane, he was piloting, crashed in Washington state.

Tragic Plane Crash Claims Lives of Malawi's Vice President and Others

Malawi Vice President Saulos Chilima and nine other people, including his wife, were killed as the plane they were

onboard crashed in the Chikangawa mountain range, said President Lazarus Chakwera. The aircraft carrying Chilima, who was being seen as the presidential candidate in next year's general elections in Malawi, went missing.

Mumbai Cricket Association Honorary President Amol Kale Passes Away During India-Pak Match

Mumbai Cricket Association president Amol Kale has passed away due to cardiac arrest in New York. Kale had travelled to United States and watched the India vs Pakistan match live from the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium along with MCA secretary Ajinkya Naik and apex council member Suraj Samat on June 9.

Legendary Sarod Maestro Pandit Rajeev Taranath Passes Away at 91

The Indian classical music fraternity mourns the loss of the illustrious Sarod maestro Pandit Rajeev Taranath, who breathed his last on June 11, 2024, at the age of 91. The veteran musician, who was undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Mysuru for a fracture, passed away around 6:30 PM.

Former Odisha Governor Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare Passes Away

The state of Odisha mourns the loss of Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, the former Governor of the state, who passed away on June 15 at the age of 95.

Former Indian pacer David Johnson Passes Away at 52

Former Indian pacer David Johnson has passed away at the age of 52. Johnson tragically fell from the balcony of his fourth-floor apartment in Bengaluru, leaving the cricket community in mourning.

Defence News

Indian Air Force and Navy Participate in Mega Multinational War Games

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has deployed its formidable Rafale fighter jets for the two-week multinational air exercise Red Flag, which commenced on May 30 in Alaska. The IAF contingent, supported by IL-78 air-to-air refuelers and C-17 transport aircraft, arrived at the Eielson Air Force Base in the United States for the advanced aerial combat training exercise.

Army Launches Integrated Generator Monitoring, Control System 'Vidyut Rakshak'

A tech-based innovation, an integrated generator monitoring, protection and control system, developed by the Indian Army was launched on June 5. 'Vidyut Rakshak', developed by the Army Design Bureau (ADB) was launched by the Army's Vice Chief Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi.

Japan-India Maritime Exercise JIMEX-24 Kicks Off In Yokosuka

The 8th edition of the Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX-24) has commenced at Yokosuka, Japan, hosted by the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF). Indian Navy's INS Shivalik and Japan's JS Yugiri are participating.

Adani Defence And EDGE Group Forge Global Defence Partnership

Adani Defence and Aerospace has announced a strategic cooperation agreement with UAE-based EDGE Group, aimed at integrating their defence and aerospace capabilities. This partnership will leverage their combined product portfolios to cater to global and regional defence needs, emphasizing advancements in technology and bilateral cooperation between India and the UAE.

Launch Of LSAM 13 (Yard 81) Fifth Barge Of 08 X Missile Cum Ammunition (MCA) Barge Project

The launch of 'Missile Cum Ammunition Barge, LSAM 13 (Yard 81)', the fifth Barge of 08 x Missile Cum Ammunition Barge project, built by MSME Shipyard. M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd (SEPPL), Visakhapatnam for Indian Navy, was undertaken on 10 Jun 24 at M/s Vinayaga Marine Petro Ltd, Mira Bhayandar, Maharashtra (launch site of M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd). The launching Ceremony was presided over by Cmde Manish Vig, General Manager (QA), ND(Mbi).

India Advances In Drone Warfare With Nagastra-1 Deployment

India has achieved a significant milestone in its defense capabilities with the induction of the indigenous Nagastra-1 kamikaze drones developed by Solar Industries, based in Nagpur. This deployment addresses the escalating drone-related incidents along India's Northern borders, highlighting the critical need for advanced indigenous drone technologies in combat applications.

India To Host Its First Multinational Air Exercise Tarang Shakti In August

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to make history this August by hosting its first-ever multinational air exercise, Tarang Shakti-2024. The exercise is slated to be held in two phases, with the initial phase commencing in the first two weeks of August in southern India, followed by the second phase in the western sector from late August to mid-September.

Indian Army Inducts Indigenous ASMI Submachine Gun

In a significant move towards self-reliance, the Northern Command of the Indian Army has ordered 550 indigenously designed, developed, and manufactured ASMI submachine guns worth Rs 4.26 crores from Hyderabad-based Lokesh Machine Limited. This marks the first time an indigenously designed and manufactured weapon has been inducted into the Indian Army.

Thales Inks Pact With Adani Defence To Manufacture 70mm Rockets In India

Adani Defence & Aerospace has signed an agreement with Thales Group to manufacture 70mm rockets locally. This strategic collaboration aligns with the Indian government's "Make in India" initiative, aiming to enhance self-reliance in defence production.

Indian Army Opened Khalubar War Memorial To Tourists in Ladakh

In Ladakh, as a tribute to the heroes of the Kargil War, the Indian Army has opened the Khalubar War Memorial to tourists. This opening ceremony was part of the 'Forever in Operations' Division's Pre-Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrations as this year, the country will celebrate the 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas on 26 July. Located in the renowned Aryan Valley this memorial commemorates the bravery and sacrifices of soldiers who fought to reclaim the valley during the war.

India's Defence Exports: US Has Grown To Account Over 50%

India's defence exports to the United States (US) has grown to account for over 50 per cent of the total exports, exceeding \$2.8 billion during the last 5 years, said Ranjana Khanna, Director General and CEO – American Chamber of Commerce in India (Amcham).

DG, RPF Launches Sangyaan App – A Comprehensive Legal Reference Application

The Director General of Railway Protection Force (RPF) Manoj Yadava today launched the Sangyaan App, designed by the RPF Tech Team to provide in-depth information on three new Criminal Acts: the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) 2023, and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA) 2023. The app aims to educate and empower RPF personnel with comprehensive information on both new and old criminal laws, emphasizing their relevance to RPF operations. Available for Android and iOS, the app features user-friendly navigation, a searchable database, and offline access, making it a practical tool for staying informed about the latest legal developments in India.

Jaipur Military Station: 2nd Military Station to Have Plastic Waste Road

Jaipur Military Station has become the second military station in India to have a road made from plastic waste. The road, inaugurated on June 26, 2024, by Major General R.S. Godara, General Officer Commanding of 61 Sub Area, is 100 meters long and stretches from Sagat Singh Road under bridge to Cubs Corner complex. This initiative aligns with the Indian Army's policy to create sustainable and green military

stations, and it was constructed under the aegis of GE (South), CE Jaipur Zone, with assistance from Deep Constructions Pvt. Ltd. Compared to conventional roads, plastic waste roads are more durable, suffer less wear and tear, reduce water induction, and increase sustainability.

INS Sunayna Entered Port Victoria, Seychelles

The deployment marks sustained participation of an Indian Military Contingent in military parade organized as part of Seychelles National Day since 1976. INS Sunayna entered Port Victoria, Seychelles on 26 Jun 24 as part of her long range deployment in the South West Indian Ocean Region.

Books & Authors News**Bill Gates Unveils "Source Code": A Memoir Revealing His Remarkable Journey**

Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates has revealed plans to release his highly anticipated memoir, titled "Source Code: My Beginnings." Set to hit the shelves on February 4, 2025, this literary endeavour promises to offer an intimate glimpse into the life and experiences that shaped one of the world's most influential tech pioneers.

Miscellaneous News**Oxford University Agrees To Return Stolen 500-Year-Old Bronze Idol To India**

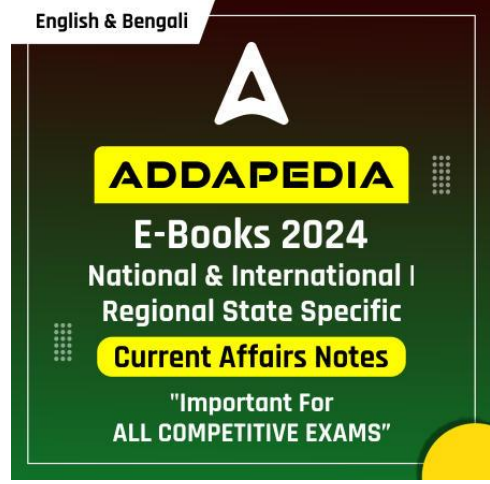
Oxford University's Ashmolean Museum has decided to return a 16th-century bronze sculpture of Saint Tirumankai Alvar to India, following a formal request from the Indian government. The 60cm-tall statue, believed to have been stolen from a temple in Tamil Nadu, was acquired by the museum in 1967 from Sotheby's auction house. The decision comes after an independent researcher alerted the museum to the statue's origins, prompting the museum to notify the Indian High Commission.

Pench Tiger Reserve Embraces AI for Enhanced Forest Fire Protection

The Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra has taken a significant step forward in wildlife protection by introducing an advanced Artificial Intelligence (AI) system for early forest fire detection. This innovative approach marks a new chapter in conservation efforts, combining cutting-edge technology with traditional wildlife management practices.

Chenab Bridge: Indian Railways Conducts Trial Run On World's Highest Steel Arch Rail Bridge

The Indian Railways completed a successful trial of an electric engine from Sangaldan to Reasi, crossing the world's highest steel arch rail bridge, the Chenab Bridge.



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