

THE HINDU REVIEW

MAY 2023



MONTHLY CAPSULE | CURRENT AFFAIRS



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The Most Important Current Affairs May 2023

IPL 2023 final: Chennai Super Kings Beats Gujarat Titans

IPL 2023 final

Chennai Super Kings (CSK) clinched their fifth **Indian Premier League (IPL) title**, equaling a record with **Mumbai Indians**. They secured a five-wicket victory over the Gujarat Titans (GT) amidst a backdrop of fireworks and jubilant celebrations. CSK's captain, Dhoni, received the IPL trophy and subsequently handed it over to Rayudu and Jadeja. Opting to bat first, the Gujarat Titans managed to score 214 for four, with B Sai Sudharsan playing an outstanding innings of 96 runs off 47 balls. However, due to the rain interruption, CSK's target was adjusted to 171 runs to be chased in 15 overs.

IPL 2023-Full list of Award Winners

- Eden Gardens and Wankhede Stadium share the award for the Best Venues of the Season.
- Shubman Gill wins Orange Cap (890) award.
- Mohammad Shami wins Purple Cap (28) award.
- Ajinkya Rahane wins Fairplay of the Season award.
- Rashid Khan wins Catch of the Season award.
- Faf du Plessis wins Longest Six of the Season (115m) award.
- Shubman Gill wins Most Fours (84) award.
- Shubman Gill wins Most Valuable Player of the Season award.
- Shubman Gill wins Dream11 Gamechanger of the Season award.
- Glenn Maxwell wins Super Striker of the Season award.
- Yashasvi Jaiswal wins Emerging Player of the Year award.

IPL Final Match awardee's:

- Devon Conway wins Player of the Match award
- MS Dhoni wins Catch of the Match award
- Sai Sudharsan wins Longest Six award
- Sai Sudharsan wins the Maximum Fours award
- Sai Sudharsan wins Most Valuable Asset of the Match award
- Sai Sudharsan wins Gamechanger of the Match award
- Ajinkya Rahane wins Electric Striker of the Match award

IIFA Awards 2023 Announced: Check The Complete List Of Winners

The **23rd season** of the **International Indian Film Academy Awards**, also known as IIFA, has made its return. Produced by Wizcraft International Entertainment Pvt. Ltd., this annual award ceremony recognizes outstanding contributions in the Bollywood film industry, including films, stars, filmmakers, and technicians. Since its establishment in 2000, the IIFA awards have been held in different countries worldwide. The inaugural ceremony took place on June 24, 2000, at the Millennium Dome in London, and the 22nd edition was held in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Actor Sidharth Malhotra hosted the ceremony, and his film "Shershaah" received 21 nominations, making it the most nominated film at IIFA 2022. It emerged as the most awarded film, winning in six categories, including Best Film and Best Director.

Introduced in 2016, the south segment of the IIFA event is known as IIFA Utsavam. The current edition of the International Indian Film Academy Awards celebrates the best movies of 2022 across various categories.

Check out the winners from IIFA 2023

Category	Winner
Best Film	Drishyam 2
Best Director	R Madhavan for Rocketry: The Nambi Effect
Best Actor in a Leading Role (Female)	Alia Bhatt for Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Actor in a Leading Role (Male)	Hrithik Roshan for Vikram Vedha
Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Female)	Mouni Roy for Brahmastra: Part One – Shiva
Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Male)	Anil Kapoor for Jugg Jugg Jeeyo
Outstanding Achievement for Fashion in Cinema	Manish Malhotra
Outstanding Achievement in Indian Cinema	Kamal Haasan
Best Adapted Story	Aamil Keeyan Khan and Abhishek Pathak for Drishyam 2
Best Original Story	Perveez Sheikh and Jasmeet Reen for Darlings
Outstanding Achievement in Regional Cinema	Marathi film Ved directed by Riteish Deshmukh
Best Debut (Male)	Shantanu Maheshwari for Gangubai Kathiawadi and Babil Khan for Qala

Category	Winner
Best Debut (Female)	Khushali Kumar for Dhoka Around the Corner
Best Playback Singer (Female)	Shreya Ghoshal for the song Rasiya from Brahmastra: Part One – Shiva
Best Playback Singer (Male)	Arijit Singh for the song Kesariya from Brahmastra: Part One – Shiva
Best Music Direction	Pritam for Brahmastra: Part One – Shiva
Best Lyricist	Amitabh Bhattacharya for the song Kesariya from Brahmastra: Part One – Shiva
Best Cinematography	Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Screenplay	Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Dialogue	Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Choreography for title track	Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2
Best Sound Design	Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2
Best Editing	Drishyam 2
Best Special Effects (Visual)	Brahmastra: Part one – Shiva
Best Background Score	Vikram Vedha
Best Sound Mixing	Monica O My Darling

Goan writer Damodar Mauzo gets 57th Jnanpith Award

57th Jnanpith Award

Damodar Mauzo, a Goan short story writer, novelist, critic, and scriptwriter in Konkani, has been awarded the **57th Jnanpith Award**, India's highest literary honor. Mauzo is the second Goan to receive the award, after Ravindra Kelekar in 2008. Mauzo's 25 books have been published in Konkani and one in English. Many of his books have also been translated in different languages. Mauzo's famous novel 'Karmelin' received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1983. Renowned poet Gulzar was present during the function held at the Raj Bhavan near Goa capital Panaji.

About the Damodar Mauzo

- Mauzo was born in 1944 in the village of Aldona, Goa. He began writing short stories in the early 1960s, and his work has been translated into English, French, Portuguese, and other languages.
- Mauzo's work often deals with the lives of ordinary people in Goa, and he is known for his realistic portrayal of social and economic issues. His stories have been praised for their insightfulness and compassion.
- He studied at the University of Bombay, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. After graduating, he worked as a journalist for a few years before becoming a full-time writer.
- Mauzo's first short story, "The End of the Night," was published in 1965. Since then, he has published over 25 books, including novels, short story collections, and essays. His work has been translated into English, French, Portuguese, and other languages.

- Mauzo is a recipient of numerous awards, including the **Sahitya Akademi Award**, the **Padma Shri**, and the **Padma Bhushan**. He is also a member of the Sahitya Akademi and the Goa Konkani Academy.
- Mauzo's work is a valuable contribution to the world of literature. His stories are insightful, compassionate, and beautifully written. He is a true master of the short story, and he is a worthy recipient of the Jnanpith Award.

Cannes Film Festival 2023 awardee's list

Cannes Film Festival 2023

The **2023 Cannes Film Festival** has come to a close, with the **76th annual celebration of cinema** awarding the coveted Palme d'Or to **Justine Triet's** crime drama Anatomy of a Fall. French director Justine Triet became the third female director to win the Cannes Film Festival's Palme d'Or for her film Anatomy of a Fall, beating out 20 other films in competition for the top prize at Cannes Film Festival 2023.



Justine Triet, who had previously been nominated for Sibyl in 2019, won the prize over veteran directors like Hirokazu Kore-eda, Ken Loach and Wim Wenders, all of whom have at least one Palme d'Or under their belts. She joins New Zealand's Jane Campion and France's Julia Ducournau as only the third woman to have won the competition that this year included a record seven female directors.

Full list of Cannes 2023 winners

- Palme d'Or: Anatomy Of A Fall, directed by Justine Triet
- Grand Prix: The Zone Of Interest Director: Jonathan Glazer
- Jury Prize: Fallen Leaves, directed by Aki Kaurismäki
- Best Director: Tran Anh Hung for The Pot-Au-Feu
- Best Screenplay: Monster, written by Yuji Sakamoto
- Best Actress: Merve Dizdar, About Dry Grasses
- Best Actor: Kōji Yakusho, Perfect Days
- Camera d'Or: Inside the Yellow Cocoon Shell, directed by Thien An Pham

- Short Film Palme d'Or: 27, directed by Flóra Anna Buda
- Queer Palm: Monster
- Honorary Palme d'Or: Michael Douglas

Pulitzer Prizes 2023 Announced: Check The Complete List Of Winners

Pulitzer Prizes 2023

The **2023 Pulitzer Prize** winners were announced, with four of the 16 awards for journalism across 15 categories going to local outlets reporting on corruption among local officials. The Pulitzers are regarded as the highest honor that a U.S.-based journalist or organization can receive. The awards were announced by **Marjorie Miller**, the administrator of the Pulitzer Prizes. There are 22 Pulitzer categories. In 21 of those categories the winners receive a **\$15,000 cash award** and a certificate.

2023 Pulitzer Prizes: JOURNALISM

Category	Winner	Description
Public Service	Associated Press, for the work of Mstyslav Chernov, Evgeniy Maloletka, Vasilisa Stepanenko and Lori Hinnant	Courageous reporting from the besieged city of Mariupol that bore witness to the slaughter of civilians in Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
Breaking News Reporting	Staff of the Los Angeles Times	For revealing a secretly recorded conversation among city officials that included racist comments, followed by coverage of the rapidly resulting turmoil and deeply reported pieces that delved further into the racial issues affecting local politics.
Investigative Reporting	Staff of The Wall Street Journal	For sharp accountability reporting on financial conflicts of interest among officials at 50 federal agencies, revealing those who bought and sold stocks they regulated and other ethical violations by individuals charged with safeguarding the public's interest.
Explanatory Reporting	Caitlin Dickerson of The Atlantic	For deeply reported and compelling accounting of the Trump administration policy that forcefully separated migrant children from their parents, resulting in abuses that have persisted under the current administration.
Local Reporting	Anna Wolfe of Mississippi Today, Ridgeland, Miss.	For reporting that revealed how a former Mississippi governor used his office to steer millions of state welfare dollars to benefit his family and friends, including NFL quarterback Brett Favre. John Archibald, Ashley Remkus, Ramsey Archibald and Challen Stephens of AL.com, Birmingham For a series exposing how the police force in the town of Brookside preyed on residents to inflate revenue, coverage that prompted the resignation of the police chief, four new laws and a state audit.
National Reporting	Caroline Kitchener of The Washington Post	For unflinching reporting that captured the complex consequences of life after Roe v. Wade, including the story of a Texas teenager who gave birth to twins after new restrictions denied her an abortion.
International Reporting	Staff of The New York Times	For their unflinching coverage of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, including an eight-month investigation into Ukrainian deaths in the town of Bucha and the Russian unit responsible for the killings.
Feature Writing	Eli Saslow of The Washington Post	For evocative individual narratives about people struggling with the pandemic, homelessness, addiction and inequality that collectively form a sharply-observed portrait of contemporary America.

Category	Winner	Description
Commentary	Kyle Whitmire of AL.com, Birmingham	For measured and persuasive columns that document how Alabama's Confederate heritage still colors the present with racism and exclusion, told through tours of its first capital, its mansions and monuments—and through the history that has been omitted.
Criticism	Andrea Long Chu of New York magazine	For book reviews that scrutinize authors as well as their works, using multiple cultural lenses to explore some of society's most fraught topics.
Editorial Writing	Nancy Ancrum, Amy Driscoll, Luisa Yanez, Isadora Rangel and Lauren Costantino of the Miami Herald	For a series of editorials on the failure of Florida public officials to deliver on many taxpayer-funded amenities and services promised to residents over decades.
Illustrated Reporting and Commentary	Mona Chalabi, contributor, The New York Times	For striking illustrations that combine statistical reporting with keen analysis to help readers understand the immense wealth and economic power of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos.
Breaking News Photography	Photography Staff of Associated Press	For unique and urgent images from the first weeks of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, including the devastation of Mariupol after other news organizations left, victims of the targeting of civilian infrastructure and the resilience of the Ukrainian people who were able to flee.
Feature Photography	Christina House of the Los Angeles Times	For an intimate look into the life of a pregnant 22-year-old woman living on the street in a tent—images that show
Audio Reporting	Staff of Gimlet Media, notably Connie Walker	Whose investigation into her father's troubled past revealed a larger story of abuse of hundreds of Indigenous children at an Indian residential school in Canada, including other members of Walker's extended family, a personal search for answers expertly blended with rigorous investigative reporting.

2023 Pulitzer Prizes: BOOKS, DRAMA & MUSIC

Category	Title and Author
Fiction	"Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver (Harper)
Fiction	"Trust" by Hernan Diaz (Riverhead Books)
Drama	"English" by Sanaz Toossi
History	"Freedom's Dominion: A Saga of White Resistance to Federal Power" by Jefferson Cowie (Basic Books)
Biography	"G-Man: J. Edgar Hoover and the Making of the American Century" by Beverly Gage (Viking)
Memoir or Autobiography	"Stay True" by Hua Hsu (Doubleday)
Poetry	"Then the War: And Selected Poems, 2007-2020" by Carl Phillips (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
General Nonfiction	"His Name Is George Floyd: One Man's Life and the Struggle for Racial Justice" by Robert Samuels and Toluse Olorunnipa (Viking) (Moved by the Board from the Biography category.)
Music	"Omar" by Rhiannon Giddens and Michael Abels

Madrid Open 2023: Carlos Alcaraz successfully defended Madrid Open trophy

Madrid Open 2023:

Carlos Alcaraz has successfully defended his **Madrid Open** tennis trophy by beating a very good Jann-Lennard Struff in three sets 6-4 3-6 6-3. The victory in just over an hour took the 19-year-old's winning streak to 10 matches and gave him a second consecutive title after victory last month in Barcelona. Alcaraz beat Rafael Nadal and world No. 1 Novak Djokovic on

his way to the Madrid final a first in a clay court tournament and will climb to No. 6 in the world.

Here are the winners of different categories:

Category	Winner
Men's singles:	C. Alcaraz Garfia
Women's singles:	A. Sabalenka
Men's doubles:	K. Khachanov & A. Rublev
Women's doubles:	V. Azarenka & B. Haddad Maia

About the Madrid Open:

The Madrid Open is a professional tennis tournament that takes place annually in Madrid, Spain. The tournament is part of the ATP Tour and the WTA Tour, which are the men's and women's professional tennis circuits, respectively. The Madrid Open is one of the most prestigious tennis events in the world, and it is held at the Caja Magica, which is a multi-purpose stadium with three clay courts.

The Madrid Open features both men's and women's singles and doubles competitions. The event is known for attracting the best players in the world, including top-ranked players like Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic, and Serena Williams. The tournament is played on clay courts, which is a surface that is commonly used in many European tennis tournaments.

The Madrid Open was first held in 2002, and it has since become one of the most significant tennis events in the world. The tournament is known for its state-of-the-art facilities, including the Caja Magica stadium, which has retractable roofs on all three courts. The Madrid Open has also introduced innovative initiatives, such as using blue clay courts in 2012, which generated controversy among players and fans alike.

Argentina's Lionel Messi wins Laureus sportsman of the year 2023

Laureus World Sports Awards 2023

Lionel Messi, who led Argentina to victory in the 2022 World Cup as their captain, was honored with the **Laureus Sportsman of the Year award** at a ceremony held in Paris. In addition to that, Messi accepted the World Team of the Year award on behalf of the Argentina men's football team, who won the championship in Qatar. Messi also became the first athlete to scoop both the World Sportsman of the Year Award and the World Team of the Year Award in the same year.

Laureus World Sports Awards: Full awards list

Award	Winner
World Sportsman of the Year Award	Lionel Messi
World Sportswoman of the Year Award	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce
World Team of the Year Award	Argentina Men's Football Team
World Breakthrough of the Year Award	Carlos Alcaraz
World Comeback of the Year Award	Christian Eriksen
World Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability Award	Catherine Debrunner
World Action Sportsperson of the Year Award	Eileen Gu
Laureus Sport for Good Award	TeamUp

Fakhar Zaman, Naruemol Chaiwai crowned ICC players of the month for April

The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** announced the winners of the ICC Player of the Month awards for April 2023. **Fakhar Zaman of Pakistan** wins the ICC Men's Player of the Month award, and Thailand skipper **Naruemol Chaiwai** secures the ICC Women's Player of the Month after both produced dominant match-winning performances for their countries in the One-Day International (ODI) format.

Why Fakhar Zaman?

Following a quiet T20I series, Fakhar was at the forefront of his side's success in the subsequent ODI showdowns. Chasing 289 in the first match in Rawalpindi, the batter enjoyed a 124-run opening stand with Imam-ul-Haq in a supreme display of control and counter-attacking play, eventually securing a five-wicket win thanks to 117 runs in 114 balls. Fakhar overcame fellow nominees Mark Chapman (New Zealand) and Prabath Jayasuriya (Sri Lanka) in the global vote, and commenting on his success in April.

Why Naruemol Chaiwai?

Naruemol Chaiwai celebrates winning the ICC Women's Player of the Month for April following a consistent spell of high scoring across Thailand's historic ODI series victory against Zimbabwe, which the hosts won 3-0. Chaiwai emerged victorious from Kavisha Egodage of UAE, and Kelis Ndhlovu of Zimbabwe in the voting process, and becomes the first Thai player to be named ICC Player of the Month.

Mann Ki Baat 100th Episode: PM Modi addresses 100th episode of Mann Ki Baat

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi's** monthly radio program '**Mann Ki Baat**' reached a significant milestone on Sunday, April 30th, with the broadcast of its **100th episode**. The program, which started in October 2014, has become an essential component of the Indian government's outreach program and has addressed various social groups, including women, youth, and farmers.

Broadcast at the UN Headquarters in New York:

The 100th episode of 'Mann ki Baat' was historic as it was broadcast live in the **United Nations** headquarters in New York. This program's significance has spurred community action and has become a key pillar of the government's citizen outreach program.

Arrangements for mass outreach:

The ruling **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** made elaborate arrangements for the Sunday special episode, and ministries of the Central government and state units have planned several programs to mark the historic feat. The party left no stone unturned to make the **100th episode of Mann Ki Baat** an unprecedented mass outreach program.

Broadcast arrangements in India and overseas:

The BJP has made arrangements at around four lakh places across the country for people to hear PM Modi's address. The party president, J P Nadda, has overseen the entire exercise to make it a historic success. Overseas Indians around the world also listened to 'Mann Ki Baat', the party said in a statement.

'Non-political' event:

The BJP made arrangements for the broadcast of the 100th episode of PM Modi's 'Mann ki Baat' in 2000 enclosures at the booth level across Odisha and appealed to people and other political parties, like the BJD and Congress, to listen to it. The party emphasized that 'Mann ki Baat' is purely non-political.

Celebrations marking the occasion:

To celebrate the 100th episode of 'Mann ki Baat', the Union Ministry of Tourism has planned "100 days of action" through its Yuva Tourism Clubs. Additionally, the Uttar Pradesh unit of the BJP made elaborate arrangements for its airing at 55,000 centers at the booth level. Union Home Minister Amit Shah rolled out a commemorative postage stamp to mark the 100th edition of 'Mann Ki Baat,' and a commemorative Rs 100 coin was unveiled to mark the momentous event in the valedictory session.

Survey reveals popularity:

Ahead of the 100th episode, an IIM Survey found that nearly 96 percent of the population is aware of PM Modi's monthly radio program 'Mann ki Baat.' The program has reached 100 crore people who are aware and have listened to the program at least once. The report states there are 23 crore regular listeners of the program and it has cited powerful and decisive leadership and emotional connection with the audience as reasons for its popularity.

World Press Freedom Index 2023: India ranks 161 out of 180 countries

World Press Freedom Index 2023

According to the latest report from global media watchdog **Reporters Without Borders (RSF)**, India has slipped to the **161st position** out of 180 countries in the 2023 World Press Freedom Index. The report was released by RSF, and it indicates a decline in India's ranking for press freedom.

There are more than 100,000 newspapers (including 36,000 weeklies) and 380 TV news channels currently operating in the country. Since January 1, 2023 one journalist was killed in the country while 10 journalists are behind bars. This year's report shows the number of countries deemed "satisfactory" for their treatment of journalists rising slightly, but so does the number where the situation is "very serious".

What is World Press Freedom Index?

The World Press Freedom Index is based on five different factors that are used to calculate scores and rank countries. These five sub-indicators include the Political indicator, Economic indicator, Legislative indicator, Social indicator, and Security indicator. Scores are calculated for each of these indicators and used to determine the overall ranking of countries in terms of press freedom.

World Press Freedom Index 2023: India

- India's rank in the Security indicator category is particularly concerning, as it has fallen to 172 out of 180 countries in the 2023 World Press Freedom Index. This means that only eight countries have a worse ranking than India when it comes to ensuring the safety and security of journalists.
- In terms of this parameter, India is ranked worse than all other countries except for China, Mexico, Iran, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen, Ukraine, and Myanmar, with Myanmar having the lowest ranking.
- India's performance in the World Press Freedom Index is also poor compared to other countries in South Asia. Bangladesh ranks slightly worse than India at 163, while **Pakistan ranks ahead of India at 150.**
- Surprisingly, even **Afghanistan, where the Taliban government is known to restrict independent journalism, has a better ranking than India, at 152. Bhutan has a much better ranking at 90, while Sri Lanka is ranked at 135.**

World Press Freedom Index 2023: Globally

- Nordic countries like **Norway, Ireland, and Denmark** ranked top three respectively while **Vietnam, China, and North Korea** were the bottom three countries on the index.
- Russia**, where the government has largely completed its quelling of independent media, fell nine places to **164th**. Despite the Russian invasion and its own issues with oligarchs, **Ukraine rose 27 places to 79th.**

Top 10 Countries in the List:

Rank	Countries
1	Norway
2	Ireland
3	Denmark
4	Sweden
5	Finland
6	Netherlands
7	Lithuania
8	Estonia
9	Portugal
10	East Timor

Bottom 10 Countries in the List:

Rank	Countries
171	Bahrain
172	Cuba
173	Myanmar
174	Eritrea
175	Syria
176	Turkmenistan
177	Iran
178	Vietnam
179	China
180	North Korea

The World's 10 Highest-Paid Athletes 2023 by Forbes

International soccer stars **Cristiano Ronaldo (\$136 million)**, **Lionel Messi (\$130 million)** and **Kylian Mbappe (\$120 million)** are the top three highest-paid athletes. **Ronaldo** leads the way with an estimated haul of \$136 million, including \$46 million from his playing salary and bonuses and \$90 million from endorsements, appearances, licensing income and other business endeavors. **Mbappé**, who at age 24 comes in at No. 3 with \$120 million, and Johnson, who lands at No. 6 with \$107 million, make eye-popping debuts in the top ten.

Forbes calculates on-field earnings based on prize money, salaries and bonuses, while off-field earnings are an estimate of sponsorship deals, appearance fees and memorabilia and licensing income. It also includes cash returns from businesses that are operated by the athlete. The world's ten highest-paid athletes collectively made **\$1.11 billion** before taxes and agents' fees over the last 12 months, the highest total ever.

The Top Ten

Athlete	Earnings (USD)
Cristiano Ronaldo	\$136 million
Lionel Messi	\$130 million
Kylian Mbappé	\$120 million
LeBron James	\$119.5 million
Canelo Álvarez	\$110 million
Dustin Johnson	\$107 million
Phil Mickelson	\$106 million
Stephen Curry	\$100.4 million
Roger Federer	\$95.1 million
Kevin Durant	\$89.1 million

RBI Announces Withdrawal of ₹2000 Banknotes from Circulation

RBI Announces Withdrawal of ₹2000 Banknotes from Circulation

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has made a significant decision to withdraw the ₹2000 denomination banknotes from circulation. Although these banknotes will no longer be issued, they will retain their status as legal tender. The move comes as the objective of introducing the ₹2000 banknotes has been fulfilled, and other denominations now adequately meet the currency requirements of the economy.

Reasons for Withdrawal

The introduction of **₹2000 banknotes** in November 2016 was a response to the withdrawal of legal tender status for ₹500 and ₹1000 banknotes. This measure aimed to fulfill the urgent currency requirements at the time. However, the printing of ₹2000 banknotes was halted in 2018-19 as their purpose had been served. Furthermore, the RBI noted that the usage of ₹2000 banknotes for transactions was not common.

Declining Circulation

Approximately **89% of the ₹2000 banknotes** were issued before March 2017 and have now reached their estimated life-span of 4-5 years. Consequently, the total value of ₹2000 banknotes in circulation has decreased from ₹6.73 lakh crore at its peak on March 31, 2018, to ₹3.62 lakh crore, constituting only 10.8% of the total notes in circulation as of March 31, 2023. The reduction in circulation and limited usage further prompted the decision to withdraw the ₹2000 banknotes.

Clean Note Policy

The withdrawal of ₹2000 banknotes aligns with the RBI's "Clean Note Policy." This policy aims to maintain the quality of currency in circulation and promote efficiency in the banking system. The RBI had previously undertaken a similar withdrawal of notes from circulation in 2013-2014.

Procedures for the Public

To facilitate the withdrawal process, the RBI has provided guidelines for the public. Individuals can deposit ₹2000 banknotes into their bank accounts or exchange them for banknotes of other denominations at any bank branch. Deposits can be made in the usual manner, without any restrictions, subject to existing instructions and statutory provisions.

Exchange Process

In order to ensure operational convenience and minimize disruption to regular banking activities, individuals can exchange their ₹2000 banknotes for banknotes of other denominations. This exchange can be done up to a limit of ₹20,000/- at a time at any bank, starting from May 23, 2023. The RBI's 19 regional offices and other banks will be involved in this exchange process.

Timeline and Legal Tender Status

While the RBI has initiated the withdrawal process, it emphasizes that the ₹2000 banknotes will remain legal tender. Individuals have until September 30, 2023, to exchange or deposit their ₹2000 banknotes in their bank accounts. After this date, banks may stop accepting ₹2000 banknotes for exchange, although they can still be deposited into bank accounts.

South Asian Youth TT Championship 2023: India bags 16 gold medals

South Asian Youth TT Championship 2023

The **South Asian Youth Table Tennis Championship 2023**, a three-day international event, came to a close on May 17 in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh. Over 100 athletes from six countries, including Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Sri Lanka, and Nepal, participated in the championship. Lt. General KT Parnaik (Retd.), the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, graced the closing ceremony as the Chief Guest at the Dorjee Khandu Indoor Stadium in Itanagar. On the final day, the host nation India achieved a remarkable feat by winning all the available gold medals at the tournament.

South Asian Youth Table Tennis Championship 2023 Results (All Finals)

Event	Winners	Runners-Up
U-19 Boys Singles	Ankur Bhattacharjee (India)	Payas Jain (India)
U-19 Boys Doubles	Divyansh Srivastava/Jash Modi (India)	Ridoy Mohutasin Ahmed/Bawm Ramhim Lian (Bangladesh)
U-19 Girls Singles	Suhana Saini (India)	Yashashwini Ghorpade (India)
U-19 Girls Doubles	Yashaswini Ghorpade/Suhana Saini (India)	Mishka Mohamed Ibrahim/Fathimath Dheema Ali (Maldives)
U-19 Mixed Doubles	Payas Jain/Yashaswini Ghorpade (India)	Akhyar Ahmed Khalid/Fathimath Dheema Ali (Maldives)
U-15 Boys Singles	Priyanuj Bhattacharya (India)	Abhinand (India)
U-15 Boys Doubles	PB Abhinand/Priyanuj Bhattacharya (India)	Hasib Abul Hashem/Rahman Mohd. Mahtabur (Bangladesh)
U-15 Girls Singles	Jennifer Varghese (India)	Avisha Karmakar (India)
U-15 Girls Doubles	Jennifer Varghese/Avisha Karmakar (India)	Sushmita Khadka/Subhashree Shrestha (Nepal)
U-15 Mixed Doubles	Abhinand/Jennifer Varghese (India)	Mohammed Akram Md. Shafiullah/Kavindya Tamadi Alagiyawadu

Italian Open 2023: Daniil Medvedev Triumphs

Italian Open 2023

Daniil Medvedev defeated **Holger Rune** 7-5, 7-5 in the final of the 2023 Italian Open. Medvedev, the world No. 2, won his first clay-court title and sixth ATP Masters 1000 crown. Rune, the world No. 10, was playing in his first Masters 1000 final. In women's Singles, **Elena Rybakina** defeated **Anhelina Kalinina** 6-4, 1-0 (retired) in the final of the 2023 Italian Open. The match was delayed by rain for over four hours, and Kalinina was forced to retire after sustaining a left thigh injury while trailing 6-4, 1-0.

Here are the results of the 2023 Italian Open :

Category	Winner	Runner-up
Men's Singles	Daniil Medvedev	Holger Rune
Women's Singles	Elena Rybakina	Anhelina Kalinina
Men's Doubles	Hugo Nys and Jan Zieliński	Robin Haase and Botić van de Zandschulp
Women's Doubles	Storm Sanders and Elise Mertens	Coco Gauff and Jessica Pegula



Banking and Financial Current Affairs

Banks end FY23 with a robust 15.4 pc credit growth: RBI Data

Scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) reported a robust **credit growth** of 15.4% in FY23 compared to 9.7% in FY22. The growth was powered by personal loans, loans to the services sector, and agriculture and allied activities. Personal loans registered a growth of 20.6% in FY23 as compared to 12.6% in the year-ago period, primarily driven by housing loans, according to RBI data on sectoral deployment of bank credit. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Tamil Nadu tops market borrowing for third consecutive year, RBI Data Revealed

For the third year in a row, **Tamil Nadu** has emerged as the State with the highest market borrowings according to data from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. During the April-February period of FY23, Tamil Nadu's gross market borrowings through **State Development Loans (SDLs)** stood at ₹68,000 crore. The State's Finance Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan announced in his budget speech last month that Tamil Nadu planned to borrow ₹1,43,197.93 crore during 2023-24 and make repayments of ₹51,331.79 crore, resulting in net borrowings of ₹91,866.14 crore. ([Click here to read the article](#))

NPCI International Payments partners with PPRO to expand reach of RuPay and UPI

NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), a subsidiary of the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**, has signed a definitive agreement with **PPRO**, a global digital payments infrastructure provider, to expand the reach of RuPay cards and **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)**. PPRO's global clients include payment service providers (PSPs) and global merchant acquirers around the world. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India and Russia to Explore Acceptance of RuPay and Mir Payment Cards for Cross-Border Transactions

India and Russia have agreed to explore the possibility of accepting each other's payment cards, **RuPay** and **Mir**, for hassle-free payments between the two countries. The decision was made during the latest meeting of the Internal Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological, and Cultural Cooperation (**IRIGC-TEC**), which was jointly chaired by External Affairs Minister of India **S Jaishankar** and Russia's Deputy Prime Minister **Denis Manturov**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

UPI transactions decline in volume & value terms in April

The National Payments Corporation of India's "UPI Monthly Product Statistics" reported a decline in the volume and value of **UPI transactions** in April 2023, following a peak in the previous month. The transaction volume declined 7.96% month-on-month (m-o-m) to 796.29 crore, while the transaction value declined 9.51% m-o-m to ₹12.71 lakh crore. ([Click here to read the article](#))

HDFC Bank launches digital distribution platform for its agents and partners

HDFC Bank, one of India's leading private sector banks, has introduced its digital distribution platform, **HDFC Bank Smart Saathi**, to connect business correspondents (BCs) and business facilitators (BFs) to the bank. The platform aims to take banking products and services to the last mile, and contribute to the development of the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India's Merchant Payments through UPI Anticipated to Reach \$1 Trillion by FY26

Merchant payments over the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in India are expected to grow by 40 to 50 percent to reach \$1 trillion by the fiscal year (FY) 2026, according to a report by **Bain & Company**. This growth will be driven by greater awareness, increased merchant adoption of UPI, new payment capabilities like UPI Lite and UPI 123 Pay, and the introduction of international payment lanes on the domestic payment railroad. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Airtel Payments Bank Introduces Face Authentication for Aadhaar-enabled Payment System(AePS)

Airtel Payments Bank has collaborated with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** to introduce face authentication for the **Aadhaar-enabled Payment System (AePS)** at its five lakh banking points. The move comes as one of the first initiatives of its kind in India, where four banks have partnered with NPCI to offer face authentication for AePS. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI, BIS launch fourth edition of G20 TechSprint competition

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** and the **Bank for International Settlements (BIS)** have announced the launch of the **G20 TechSprint 2023**, a global competition aimed at improving cross-border payments through innovative technology solutions. The fourth edition of the competition was unveiled on May 4, and it is open to global innovators. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Mandates Complete Information for Money Transfers to Curb Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has issued new instructions to all banks and financial institutions in the country to ensure that all **wire transfers**, whether domestic or international, contain complete information about the originator and beneficiary. The move is aimed at preventing wire transfers from being used as a channel for **money laundering and financing terrorism**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Visa Launches CVV-Free Payments for Tokenised Cards in India

Visa, the global card transaction company, has launched a new feature in India that allows users to make online payments without the need for a **CVV number**. The feature applies to **tokenised credit and debit cards** and is only available for domestic transactions in India. When a user tokenises their card, it is secured with a unique code and transactions are completed using a two-factor authentication process, which does not require the 16-digit card number or any other card details. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Study: India's Green Financing Requirement Estimated At 2.5% Of GDP

As per the **Reserve Bank of India's (RBI)** report on **Currency and Finance (RCF)** for the year 2022-23, India would require at least 2.5% of GDP annually until 2030 for green financing. The report addresses various areas such as the extensive and rapid impact of climate change, implications for financial stability, and policy choices to mitigate climate-related risks. ([Click here to read the article](#))

GetVantage secures NBFC licence from RBI

GetVantage, a fintech platform offering alternative financing solutions, has obtained an NBFC licence from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. Its lending operations will be managed by its NBFC subsidiary, **GetGrowth Capital**. The platform plans to raise a total of ₹200 crore to expand its lending operations, with ₹50 crore already invested by backers such as **Chiratae Ventures, InCred and Sony and DI**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

HDFC Bank launched programme for Bharat, to onboard 1 lakh customers

HDFC Bank has launched a retail banking initiative called '**Vishesh**' aimed at customers in **semi-urban and rural areas**. The bank is hoping to attract around 100,000 new customers through the programme, which involves increasing its branch network and developing bespoke financial products for the market segment. ([Click here to read the article](#))

SEBI has introduced the Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) system

The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has introduced the **Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) system** for issuers that have listed or are planning to list non-convertible securities, securitized debt instruments, and security receipts. This unique global identifier for legal entities participating in financial transactions aims to create a global reference data system that uniquely identifies every legal entity that is a party to a financial transaction. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Invests Incremental Reserves in US Treasuries and Other Sovereign Securities

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has announced that it has deployed its incremental reserves in **bonds and securities**, with a particular focus on **US Treasuries** and debt issued by other top-rated sovereigns. This move is part of the bank's ongoing efforts to manage its foreign currency assets and ensure the stability of the Indian economy. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Reserve Bank's gold reserves rose 4.5% to 794.64 tonnes in 2022-23

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has increased its **gold reserves** by 4.5% to 794.64 metric tonnes in the fiscal year that ended on March 31, 2023. The bank added 34.22 metric tonnes of gold during this period, which brought its total gold reserves up from 760.42 metric tonnes at the end of the previous fiscal year. The RBI has been building up its gold reserves for the last five to six years. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Imposes Rs 1.73 Crore Penalty On HSBC Bank

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1.73 crore on the **Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd (HSBC Bank)** for violating the **Credit Information Companies Rules, 2006**. The RBI stated that during their examination of the Risk Assessment Report and all related correspondences pertaining to the same, it was discovered that the bank had breached the aforementioned rules. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Union Finance Minister chairs the 27th Meeting of Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)

Union Finance Minister Smt. **Nirmala Sitharaman** chaired the 27th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) in New Delhi. This was the first meeting held after the announcement of the Budget 2023-24. The council discussed the policy and legislative reform measures needed to develop the financial sector further and increase financial access for the people. ([Click here to read the article](#))

AIBEA Introduces "Bank Clinic" to Assist Bank Customers with Grievance Redressal

The **All India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA)** has announced plans to establish an online **"Bank Clinic"** to assist retail bank customers with grievance redressal. AIBEA General Secretary CH Venkatachalam stated that once a customer files a complaint with the Bank Clinic, AIBEA's team will work with the bank to address the issue. ([Click here to read the article](#))

AU Small Finance Bank introduces RuPay credit card for self-employed Customers

AU Small Finance Bank has teamed up with **RuPay** to introduce the **Business Cashback RuPay credit card**, a novel solution designed to fulfill the financial requirements of self-employed clients. The latest product is intended to provide a wide range of advantages to small enterprises. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI collaborates with GFIN to prevent 'greenwashing'

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has joined forces with the **Global Financial Innovation Network (GFIN)** to participate in the Greenwashing TechSprint. The event aims to address concerns surrounding exaggerated, misleading, or unsubstantiated claims related to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) credentials. The TechSprint will bring together 13 international regulators, firms, and innovators to develop a tool that could help regulators and the market more effectively tackle the risks of greenwashing in financial services. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Launches 100 Days Campaign to Settle Unclaimed Deposits

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has announced the launch of a special **100-day campaign** to trace and settle **unclaimed deposits** in every district of the country. Under the campaign, which will begin on June 1, 2023, banks will trace and settle their **top 100 unclaimed deposits** in each district. The move is aimed at reducing the quantum of unclaimed deposits in the banking system and returning such deposits to their rightful owners. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI expects banks to completely stop using LIBOR by July

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has instructed financial institutions and banks to adopt an Alternative Reference Rate, primarily the **Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)**, and end their reliance on the scandal-shrouded **London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR)** and **Mumbai Interbank Forward Outright**

Bank of Baroda launches Electronic Bank Guarantee on its Digital Platform

Bank of Baroda, a public sector bank, has announced its partnership with **National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)**, a government-backed information utility appointed by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India, to launch the **Electronic Bank Guarantee (BG) system**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Cancels Certificate of Registration of 7 NBFCs and Surrender Permits of 14 NBFCs

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has taken significant actions in the financial sector, canceling the certificate of registration of seven **non-banking finance companies (NBFCs)** and accepting the surrender permits of 14 NBFCs. These moves aim to regulate and maintain the stability of the non-banking financial institution (NBFI) sector. ([Click here to read the article](#))

SBI Records Highest-Ever Quarterly Profit in Q4 2022-23: Key Highlights from Earnings Report

The **State Bank of India (SBI)**, the country's largest public-sector lender, has reported impressive financial results for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2023. The bank's net profit witnessed a significant surge of 83 percent, reaching a record high of Rs 16,694 crore. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Paytm Launches Paytm SBI Card on RuPay Network with NPCI

Paytm's parent company, **One97 Communications Ltd**, has announced a new partnership with SBI Card and the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** to launch the **Paytm SBI Card** on the RuPay network. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Approves Rs 87,416 Crore Surplus Transfer to Government for FY23

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved the transfer of **Rs 87,416 crore surplus** to the government for the financial year 2022-23. This amount is nearly three times higher than the previous year's transfer of Rs 30,307 crore. The surge in surplus is attributed to increased income from the sale of foreign exchange reserves. ([Click here to read the article](#))

IDBI, BOB, and SBI Capital Chosen to Manage IREDA IPO for Renewable Energy Development

The **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)** is set to go public with an **initial public offering (IPO)** in the near future. To oversee this significant event, the government has appointed IDBI Capital, BOB Capital, and SBI Capital as the lead managers for the IPO. The IPO is expected to consist of a 10% stake sale by the government and a 15% fresh equity issuance by IREDA, aimed at funding the growth of the renewable energy project financier. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Credit Suisse Group AG and UBS Group AG's proposed merger approved by CCI

The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** has granted approval to the proposed merger of **Credit Suisse Group AG** and **UBS Group AG**. **UBS Group AG**, a Swiss-based multinational investment bank and financial services company with global operations, provides wealth management, asset management, investment banking services, retail and corporate banking. In India, UBS primarily focuses on brokerage services. ([Click here to read the article](#))

PSU Banks' Profit Crosses Rs 1 Lakh Crore Mark in FY23

Public sector banks (PSBs) in India have achieved a significant milestone in the financial year ended March 2023, with their cumulative profit crossing the Rs 1 lakh crore-mark. This achievement marks a remarkable turnaround for the PSBs, which had collectively reported a net loss of Rs 85,390 crore in 2017-18. ([Click here to read the article](#))

IRDAI Relaxes Norms for Surety Bonds, Boosting India's Insurance Market

The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** has recently announced the relaxation of norms for **surety bonds**, a type of insurance policy that protects parties involved in transactions or contracts from potential financial losses resulting from breaches or non-performance. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Projects Robust Economic Growth in India, Expects Q1 GDP Growth at 7.6%

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has announced its economic activity index nowcast, forecasting a strong **GDP growth rate** of 7.6% for the first quarter of the fiscal year 2023-2024 (Q1 FY24). ([Click here to read the article](#))

Paytm Money Launches Bonds Platform, Making Investing Easier for Retail Investors

Paytm Money, a subsidiary of One97 Communications, the parent entity of Paytm, has recently announced the launch of a **bonds platform** for retail investors in India. This new platform aims to provide investors with a comprehensive and user-friendly interface to invest in government, corporate, and tax-free bonds. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Axis Bank Introduces 'Sarathi' – A Digital Onboarding Platform for PoS Terminals

Axis Bank has launched '**Sarathi**,' a revolutionary digital onboarding platform aimed at simplifying the process for merchants to adopt Electronic Data Capture (EDC) or **Point of Sale (PoS)** terminals. By eliminating the need for lengthy paperwork and long waiting periods, Sarathi offers a streamlined and hassle-free experience to merchants, enabling them to begin accepting digital payments quickly and efficiently. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Approves Merger of Maratha Co-op Bank with Cosmos Co-op Bank

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has granted approval for the voluntary Scheme of Amalgamation of Maratha Sahakari Bank with The Cosmos Co-operative Bank. The merger is set to take effect from May 29, 2023, as announced by the RBI. ([Click here to read the article](#))

HDFC Bank partners Manipal Global to build up a talent pipeline

HDFC Bank, one of India's premier private sector lenders, has announced a strategic partnership with Manipal Global Skills Academy to launch the Leadership Excellence Program (LXP). The program aims to hire and train women branch managers and enhance gender diversity within the organization. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Publishes 2022-23 'Currency and Finance' Report with Focus on Climate Change

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** recently released a report for the fiscal year **2022-23**, with a focus on **sustainable growth** and **reducing carbon emissions**. The report addresses the four critical aspects of climate change, including its **macroeconomic impacts**, **financial stability implications**, and **strategies to mitigate climate risks**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Bank of Maharashtra Emerges as Top Performer in NPA Management during FY23

Bank of Maharashtra (BoM), a Pune-based state-owned lender, has been recognized as the best bank in managing bad loans, achieving a remarkably low net **non-performing assets (NPAs)** ratio of 0.25% during the financial year that ended in March 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indian Bank Joins ICCL as Clearing and Settlement Bank

Indian Bank announced that it has been selected as a Clearing and Settlement Bank by the **Indian Clearing Corporation Ltd (ICCL)**. As a result, this public sector bank is now authorized to provide banking services to members of the **Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)** for clearing and settlement operations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Govt Approves Digital Communication Framework Between Banks and CEIB

The **government** has approved a new **digital reporting and communication system** to address loan defaults exceeding Rs 50 crore. Instead of relying on paper-based communication, the Union government has introduced a digital mechanism. Under this system, the **Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB)** will send digital reports to public sector banks within 15 days of a loan request at the pre-approval stage. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Imposes Rs 84.50 Lakh Penalty on Central Bank of India for Non-Compliance with Fraud Reporting Norms

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has announced a penalty of Rs 84.50 lakh on **Central Bank of India** for its failure to comply with certain provisions related to fraud classification and reporting. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Rise in Fake Rs 500 Notes Detected in India, RBI Annual Report Reveals

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** annual report for the fiscal year 2022-23 has shed light on the increasing number of counterfeit banknotes in circulation in India. According to the **RBI annual report**, the number of counterfeit Rs 500 notes detected in FY23 saw a 14 percent increase compared to the previous fiscal year. In FY23, a total of 91,110 pieces of fake Rs 500 notes were identified, while 79,669 counterfeit notes were detected in FY22. This surge in fake Rs 500 notes raises concerns regarding the security and integrity of India's currency system. ([Click here to read the article](#))

RBI Annual Report 2022-23: General Government Deficit and Debt Moderate to 9.4%

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has released its annual report for the fiscal year 2022-23, highlighting significant improvements in the general government deficit and debt. The report notes that the general government deficit moderated to 9.4% of GDP, while the government debt stood at 86.5% of GDP. These figures represent a decline from the peak levels of 13.1% and 89.4% recorded in 2020-21, respectively. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Equitas SFB Collaborates with IBM to Build a Digital Banking Platform

Equitas Small Finance Bank has entered into a partnership with IBM Consulting to develop and construct a digital banking platform. This collaboration aims to enhance Equitas' digital product offerings and service capabilities, as the bank adapts its business for the digital-first generation. ([Click here to read the article](#))

YES Bank unveils New Logo

YES Bank announced the unveiling of its new logo, which forms part of its "refreshed brand identity." According to MD and CEO **Prashant Kumar**, the bank aims to roll it out across its branch network in the next three months. During an event to launch the new campaign, "Life Ko Banao Rich,". ([Click here to read the article](#))



Economy Current Affairs

India's GST Revenues Hit Record High in April At ₹1.87 lakh crore

India's gross GST revenues for April 2023 reached a record high of ₹1,87,035 crore, which is a 12% increase from last year's highest tax tally of ₹1.67 lakh crore for the same month. This article discusses the breakdown of the revenue collected and highlights the key factors contributing to the rise. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India's manufacturing PMI at 4-month high in April on output & new orders' growth

India's manufacturing purchasing manager's index (PMI) surged to a four-month high of 57.2 in April, according to the S&P Global **India Manufacturing PMI report**. This figure is an increase from March's 56.2 PMI, February's 55.3 PMI, and January's 53.7 PMI. A reading above 50 indicates an overall increase in output compared to the previous month. ([Click here to read the article](#))

New GST regulations for businesses with turnover of over ₹100 crore

Starting from May 1, 2023, businesses with an annual turnover of Rs 100 crore or more will be required to abide by a new GST rule. This rule mandates the uploading of electronic invoices on the **Invoice Registration Portal (IRP)** within seven days of their issue. The IRP is utilized to validate that these invoices are actually genuine and to assign them a unique **Invoice Reference Number** for GST purposes. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India's unemployment rate in April rises to 8.11% from 7.8% in March

India's unemployment rate climbed to a four-month high of 8.11% in April 2023, according to data from the research firm Centre for Monitoring India Economy. The nationwide **joblessness rate** rose from 7.8% in March, with urban unemployment increasing to 9.81% from 8.51% in the same period. **Rural unemployment**, however, fell marginally to 7.34% in April from 7.47% a month ago. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Fitch Retains India's 'BBB-' Rating with Stable Outlook as Growth Potential Fights High Deficit Concerns

Fitch Ratings has affirmed India's long-term foreign-currency **issuer default rating (IDR)** at 'BBB-' with a stable outlook. The rating agency cited **India's robust growth** outlook and resilient external finances as key factors in supporting its decision, despite concerns over weak public finances and lagging structural indicators. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Export lender Exim Bank Plans to Raise Record \$4 Billion in FY24 for Trade Finance and Term Loans

Export Import Bank of India, commonly known as Exim Bank, plans to raise up to a record \$4 billion in financial year 2023-24 (FY24) for extending trade finance and term loans. The amount will depend on market conditions and Exim, which raised \$3.47 billion in FY23, has a broad investor base and will look at different currencies. **Harsha Bangari**, managing director of the export credit agency, stated that the funds will be used to support the bank's growth plans. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Deadline for Linking PAN with Aadhaar Extended to 30 June 2023: PFRDA

The **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** has extended the deadline for linking Permanent Account Number (PAN) with Aadhaar to 30 June 2023. The **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** has also extended the date for PAN-Aadhaar linking till this date. ([Click here to read the article](#))

GST e-invoicing required for companies with a turnover of at least Rs 5 crore

Businesses with a turnover of **Rs 5 crore** or more will be obligated to generate GST e-invoicing for all **business-to-business (B2B)** transactions starting from August 1, according to a new mandate notified by the **Ministry of Finance**. The previous requirement for e-invoicing was for companies with a turnover of Rs 10 crore or more. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Retail Inflation Sees Significant Drop in April, Hits 4.7%

According to government data released, **India's retail inflation** based on the consumer price index decreased to 4.7% in April from 5.66% in the previous month due to lower food and fuel prices. This is the lowest inflation rate in 18 months and falls within the **Reserve Bank of India's** acceptable range of 2-6% for the second consecutive month. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India's IIP growth falls to 5-month low of 1.1% in March on poor manufacturing performance

India's industrial production growth fell to a five-month low of 1.1% in March 2023, according to government data released. The poor performance of the power and **manufacturing sectors** was primarily responsible for this decline, with the manufacturing sector growing only 0.5% compared to 1.4% a year ago. Power generation declined by 1.6% in March 2023, compared to a growth of 6.1% last year. ([Click here to read the article](#))

London stock exchange group to set up technology centre in Hyderabad

The **London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG)** has announced its plan to set up a technology centre of excellence in **Hyderabad, India**. This move is expected to create about 1,000 jobs a year and boost the **Banking, Financial Services, and Insurance (BFSI)** sector in the city. The announcement was made after Telangana IT and Industries Minister **KT Rama Rao's** meeting with LSEG Group CIO Anthony McCarthy in London. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India's foreign exchange reserve soar to an 11-month high of \$595.9

India's foreign exchange reserves increased by **\$7.196 billion** in the week ending May 5, 2023, reaching **\$595.976 billion**, which is an 11-month high. This follows a previous rise of \$4.532 billion the week before. **Foreign currency assets (FCA)** saw the most significant growth, rising by **\$6.536 billion** to **\$526.021 billion** during the week. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Wholesale price index Continues Downward Trend, Drops to -0.92% in April

In April, **wholesale price-based inflation** dropped to **-0.92%** on a yearly basis, down from 1.34% in March, according to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India to contribute 16% to global GDP growth over 2023-24: Morgan Stanley

India's economic recovery has gained significant momentum, positioning the country as a key contributor to **global GDP growth**, according to a recent report by Morgan Stanley. As the Indian economy continues to outperform its counterparts in Asia and defy the weakness seen outside the region, the country is benefitting from a combination of cyclical and structural factors. With various indicators pointing towards a robust and broad-based recovery, India is expected to contribute 16% to global GDP growth over the period of 2023-2024. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India remains a bright spot, economy expected to grow 6.7% in 2024: United Nations

According to the **World Economic Situation and Prospects report** released by the **United Nations**, **India's economy** is projected to grow by 6.7% in the calendar year 2024. The report highlights India's resilient domestic demand as a key factor driving this growth. However, it also cautions that higher interest rates and weaker external demand may continue to impact investment and exports in 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))

No TDS on Interest from Mahila Samman Savings Certificate

The **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** recently issued a notification clarifying that interest earned from **Mahila**

Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) will not be subject to Tax Deducted at Source (TDS). This announcement brings relief to individuals investing in the scheme, as the interest income will now be taxed in the hands of the recipient as per their eligible tax slab. Here's an overview of the scheme and the implications of the CBDT's notification. ([Click here to read the article](#))

No TCS on LRS transactions upto Rs 7 lakh via international debit, credit cards from July 1, 2023

The Indian government has recently announced a relaxation in the **Tax Collected At Source (TCS)** rules for international transactions made using debit or credit cards. Starting from July 1, 2023, individuals conducting international transactions up to Rs 7 lakh will be exempt from the 20 percent TCS levy. ([Click here to read the article](#))

SEBI approves HDFC Bank as new owner of HDFC AMC

The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has granted approval for a change in control of HDFC Asset Management Company (HDFC AMC) due to the amalgamation of HDFC Ltd and HDFC Bank Ltd. This move paves the way for HDFC Bank to become the new owner of HDFC AMC, subject to compliance with applicable regulations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Forex reserves dip \$6.1 billion to \$593.48 billion

India's total forex reserves reached **\$593.48 billion** during the week ending on May 19, 2023, representing a decrease of **\$6.052 billion** from the previous week. ([Click here to read the article](#))

GDP expected to grow 6-6.5 per cent in FY24

India's GDP is expected to grow in the **6-6.5 per cent** range in FY24, with agriculture growth continuing at a healthy pace, a recovery in industrial growth and the services sector remaining resilient, according to **Bank of Baroda's economic research department (ERD)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India's GDP Growth Projected at 7.1% in FY23: SBI Ecowrap Report

The latest report by SBI Ecowrap indicates that **India's GDP** (gross domestic product) is expected to grow at a rate of 7.1% in FY23, aligning with the second advance estimates released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in February. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Urban unemployment lowest in 5 years in 2022-23

The **urban unemployment rate in India** has continued its downward trajectory, reaching 6.8% in the January to March 2023 quarter. This marks the seventh consecutive quarter of decline and indicates a positive trend in the urban labor market's recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Business Current Affairs

Microsoft Launches Two New Initiatives to Support Indian SMBs

Microsoft India has announced two new initiatives aimed at supporting **small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs)** in their digital transformation journey. The tech giant has launched a dedicated helpline and a comprehensive website, specifically designed to help **Indian SMBs** address their business challenges, improve operations, increase efficiency, and drive growth. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Adani Ports completes sale of Myanmar port for \$30 million

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) announced that it has completed the sale of its Myanmar port, Coastal International Terminals Pte Limited, for \$30 million. The decision to exit the project was made based on recommendations by the Risk Committee in October 2021. ([Click here to read the article](#))

BharatPe rebrands PAYBACK India as 'Zillion'

BharatPe, a leading fintech company in India, has announced the rebranding of **PAYBACK India**, the country's largest multi-brand loyalty program, as '**Zillion**.' This move aligns with the company's vision to make Zillion a ubiquitous loyalty and rewards program across the nation. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Cashfree Payments partners with YES Bank to offer Global Collections service for exporters

Cashfree Payments and YES Bank have joined hands to launch '**Global Collections**', an international collection service for **exporters** who hold an account with YES Bank. This partnership enables the bank's account holders to collect payments in over 30 foreign currencies using the Global Collections service. Additionally, the funds collected can be converted into INR and settled into their local bank account within one business day. ([Click here to read the article](#))



Mastercard Takes Over as ICC's Global Sponsor, Replacing BharatPe

Mastercard has reportedly taken over from **BharatPe** as the global sponsor of the **International Cricket Council (ICC)**, a multinational financial services corporation based in the United States. Over the past year, **Mastercard** has been actively seeking to secure lucrative sponsorship deals and has already secured the title sponsorship rights for the **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** international and domestic home fixtures from **Paytm**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

EU regulators approve Microsoft's \$69 billion acquisition of Activision Blizzard

European Union regulators gave the green light for **Microsoft's** \$69 billion acquisition of **Activision Blizzard**, one of the world's largest gaming firms. The EU's executive arm, the European Commission, approved the deal after Microsoft offered remedies in the emerging area of cloud gaming that would allay antitrust concerns. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Zomato Partners with ICICI Bank to Launch Zomato UPI, Streamlining Payments for Users

Food and grocery delivery company **Zomato** has announced its partnership with **ICICI Bank** to introduce its own **unified payments interface (UPI)** offering called **Zomato UPI**. With this new feature, Zomato aims to enhance the payment experience for its users by allowing them to complete orders and make payments seamlessly within the Zomato app, without the need to switch to a separate payment app. ([Click here to read the article](#))

METRO sells India Cash & Carry to Reliance Retail for Rs 2,850cr

The German retailer, **METRO AG**, has announced the full completion of the sale of its Indian cash and Carry business to **Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL)**, which operates the retail empire of Reliance Industries Ltd. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Amazon Web Services Announces \$12.7 Billion Investment in India's Cloud Infrastructure by 2030

Amazon Web Services (AWS) has revealed plans to invest \$12.7 billion into cloud infrastructure in India by 2030, aiming to meet the increasing demand for cloud services in the country. The investment is projected to contribute \$23.3 billion to India's economy over the same period, building upon AWS's previous investment of \$3.7 billion between 2016 and 2022. ([Click here to read the article](#))

TCS Announces Generative AI Partnership with Google Cloud and New Offering for Enterprise Customers

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), a leading global IT services company, has expanded its partnership with **Google Cloud** and unveiled a new offering called **TCS Generative AI**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

TCS, ITI get ₹15,700 crore advance orders for 1 lakh BSNL 4G sites

In a significant development, **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL)** has awarded advance purchase orders worth ₹15,700 crore to **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** and **ITI Ltd** for the deployment of 100,000 4G sites. The long-awaited announcement brings an end to months of speculation, with TCS emerging as the favored candidate for the contract. ([Click here to read the article](#))

World's Largest Car Exporter Title Shifts from Japan to China

According to data from **China's General Administration of Customs**, in the first quarter of this year, **China** exported 1.07 million vehicles, a 58% increase compared to the same period in 2022, becoming the world's largest exporter of cars, surpassing **Japan**. In contrast, **Japan** exported 954,185 vehicles, an increase of 6% from the previous year. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Google Pay Introduces Support for RuPay Credit Cards on UPI, Expanding Digital Payment Options

Google Pay, in collaboration with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**, has announced the integration of RuPay credit cards onto the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform. This new feature allows users to link their RuPay credit cards with Google Pay, enabling them to make payments at both online and offline merchants that accept RuPay credit cards. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Gupshup Launches UPI Payments for Feature Phone Users, Bringing Financial Inclusion to All

Gupshup.io, a conversational engagement platform, has unveiled a groundbreaking solution that enables UPI payments for feature phone users through its native app called GSPay. This innovative approach allows seamless payment experiences

using SMS, eliminating the need for internet connectivity. ([Click here to read the article](#))

ADB and India Sign \$141.12 Million Loan for Industrial Corridor Development in Andhra Pradesh

The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and the Indian government have recently signed a loan agreement worth \$141.12 million to support the development of high-quality internal infrastructure in **Andhra Pradesh (AP)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

PhonePe: The First Payment App to Link 2 Lakh Rupay Credit Cards to UPI

PhonePe, a Digital payment service provider announced that it has become the first digital payments app to enable the linkage of 2 lakh Rupay credit cards to the **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)**. It has also processed a Total Payment Value (TPV) of Rs 150 crore through Rupay Credit on UPI. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Blackstone acquires International Gemological Institute

International Gemological Institute (IGI), the world's largest certification player for lab grown diamonds and the second largest certification player for natural diamonds, has been fully acquired by global private equity firm **Blackstone**. The \$535m deal sees **Blackstone** taking over the 80% stake held by China-based investment firm Fosun, as well as the 20% stake held by **Roland Lorie**, a member of the founding family. ([Click here to read the article](#))



International Current Affairs

Santiago Pena Wins Paraguay Vote, Keeps Rightwing Party In Power

Paraguayans went to the polls to elect their next president. In a surprising turn of events, **Santiago Pena** of the **right-wing Colorado Party** emerged as the winner, defeating center-left challenger **Efrain Alegre**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Australian High Commission In India Announces Government Grant For Project In Kargil

The **Australian High Commission in India** has recently announced its government grant for a project in Kargil. This is a first-time initiative in the history of Ladakh, and it is expected to provide immense benefits to the region. The announcement was made during a special meeting at Srinagar, which was chaired by the Australian high commissioner to India, **Barry O'Farrell**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

AI 'Godfather' Geoffrey Hinton Quits Google

Geoffrey Hinton, the man who won the '**Nobel Prize of computing**' for his work on neural networks and is known as the **godfather of AI**, is now speaking against the dangers of artificial intelligence. ([Click here to read the article](#))

'Gigachat' Russia's Sberbank Launches AI To Compete With ChatGPT

Sberbank has developed a technology named **GigaChat** to compete with **ChatGPT** in the artificial intelligence chatbot race. Initially available in an invite-only testing mode, **GigaChat** stands out with its ability to communicate more intelligently in Russian than other foreign neural networks. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Russia-Ukraine Updates: Russia Accuses Ukraine Of Failed Drone Attack On Kremlin

The **Kremlin** announced on Tuesday, 2 April, that **Ukraine** had launched two drone attacks with the intent of assassinating **Russian President Vladimir Putin**. The attacks reportedly occurred overnight, and the Russian president was not in the Kremlin at the time. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Statue Unveiled By Devendra Fadnavis In Mauritius

Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra **Devendra Fadnavis** revealed a statue of **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** in **Mauritius**. He highlighted Maharashtra's potential as a leading industrial and investment destination in India at the Indo-Mauritius Business Forum and signed an MoU to promote trade between **Mauritius** and **Maharashtra**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

NTPC Group's Total Installed Capacity Reaches 72,304 MW With First Overseas Capacity Addition In Bangladesh

State-owned power conglomerate **NTPC Group** has achieved a significant milestone in the **power sector** by expanding its installed capacity to 72,304 MW. This growth includes the recent integration of the 660 MW Unit-1 of the **Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant (MSTPP)** in Rampal, Bangladesh, marking NTPC's first overseas capacity addition. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Sri Lanka's Dialog Axiata And Bharti Airtel Sign Binding Term Sheet

Dialog Axiata, Sri Lanka's largest telecommunications provider and a subsidiary of Malaysian Axiata, has announced a binding term sheet with India's **Bharti Airtel** for the merger of their Sri Lankan subsidiaries. The proposed transaction will grant Airtel a stake in Dialog, representing the fair value of Airtel Lanka, and will allow Airtel access to a large customer base in the island nation. ([Click here to read the article](#))

JPMorgan Acquires First Republic Bank Amidst Recent Failures Of Major US Banks

American regulators announced that **First Republic Bank** had been taken over and that an agreement had been reached to sell the bank to JPMorgan Chase & Co. This marks the third major **U.S. financial institution** to fail in just two months. JPMorgan is set to acquire \$173 billion in loans and around \$30 billion in securities, which includes \$92 billion in deposits from First Republic Bank, but they are not taking on the bank's corporate debt or preferred stock. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ukraine's Defence Ministry Apologises For Offensive Tweet Depicting Hindu Goddess Kali

The **Ukrainian Defence Ministry** faced online backlash after posting an offensive tweet depicting the **Hindu Goddess Kali** in a distorted manner. The tweet was later deleted and Deputy Foreign Minister **Emine Dzhaparova** issued an apology. ([Click here to read the article](#))

First Border Haat Inaugurated At Bholaganj In Sylhet Division Between India And Bangladesh

The **first-ever border haat** in Sylhet division along the India border was opened at **Bholaganj** in Companiganj upazila. Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister **Imran Ahmad** and Indian High Commissioner in Sylhet **Niraj Kumar Jaiswal** jointly inaugurated the haat, which is located between East Khasi Hills of India's Meghalaya and Sylhet's Bholaganj. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Emmanuel Macron Names Elisabeth Borne As France's New Prime Minister

The Ministry of External Affairs announced that French President **Emmanuel Macron** had extended an invitation to Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** to be the Guest of Honour at the Bastille Day Parade in Paris on July 14, and that Mr. Modi had accepted. According to an official press release, a contingent from the Indian armed forces will also take part in the parade, which celebrates "liberty, equality and fraternity." ([Click here to read the article](#))

Russia Stages The 78th Victory Day Parade At Red Square, Moscow

Russia held the **78th Victory Day parade** anniversary on May 9th, at Red Square in Moscow to celebrate the historic victory of the **Soviet Union in 1945**, when they defeated Nazi Germany in World War II, also known as the Great Patriotic War. This year's parade featured more than 10,000 individuals and 125 pieces of weaponry, which were all showcased by the **Russian Defense Minister, Sergey Shoigu**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India Leads As Top Source Market For Sri Lanka's Tourism For April 2023

India led as the top source market for **Sri Lanka's tourism sector for the month of April 2023**. India regained the top spot after six months as almost 20,000 Indian tourists arrived in the island nation last month. Sri Lanka's Tourism Authority figures showed that 19,915 Indians had visited the island in April over 14,656 Russian tourist arrivals. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Sri Lanka Supreme Court Clears Way To Decriminalise Homosexuality

The **Supreme Court** of **Sri Lanka** has approved a bill seeking to decriminalize **homosexuality**, according to the Speaker of Parliament, in a move welcomed by **LGBTQ+** rights campaigners. Under current laws, **homosexuality** is punishable by imprisonment and fines, but activists have long campaigned for change. After hearing submissions from both sides, the **Supreme Court** ruled that the proposed legislation was not unconstitutional. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Pakistan's Economic Crisis: Hajj Quota Given Up To Saudi Arabia

For the first time in 75 years, **Pakistan** has made the decision to surrender its **Hajj quota** to **Saudi Arabia**. This move was prompted by the rising inflation in the country, which has caused thousands of Pakistanis to forgo the pilgrimage this year. In total, **Pakistan** has returned 8,000 unused seats, which will save the government a considerable amount of money totalling \$24 million. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India Extends \$1 Billion Credit Line To Sri Lanka Amid Economic Crisis

In the midst of an economic crisis, India has decided to extend a **\$1 billion credit line** to Sri Lanka for another year, providing the much-needed funds to pay for essential imports. The credit line is part of the \$4 billion emergency assistance extended by India to Sri Lanka during its peak crisis time last year. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Saudi Arabia Becomes Shanghai Cooperation Organization Dialogue Partner

Saudi Arabia has introduced a new e-visa system to replace traditional visa stickers on passports. The initiative, which began in May 2023, is aimed at digitizing consular services and creating a new way to issue work, residency, and visit visas in seven countries: **Jordan, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Egypt, India, Bangladesh, the Philippines, and Indonesia**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

China And Pakistan Agree To Extend CPEC To Afghanistan

Pakistan, China, and Afghanistan have agreed to enhance their economic relations by extending the **China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)**, which is supported by **Beijing**, to **Afghanistan**. This move aims to fully exploit the potential of Afghanistan as a regional connectivity hub. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Syria's Readmitted To Arab League As Relations With Assad Normalize

After more than a decade of being suspended from the **Arab League** due to a government crackdown on anti-Assad protesters that led to war, **Syria** has been readmitted to the organization. This move comes as President **Bashar al-Assad** seeks to normalize relationships with other Arab nations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Raghuram Rajan Concerned About Domino Effect, And Reckless Capitalism In US

Raghuram Rajan, the former **Reserve Bank of India Governor**, has shared his concerns regarding the state of the global economy and the challenges it presently faces. According to **Raghuram Rajan**, despite already experiencing the collapse of three major banks, the world's largest economy, the **United States of America**, is still set to face many more challenges. In particular, Rajan expressed alarm at the domino effect, reckless capitalism, simmering time bombs, and long-term issues. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ludovit Odor Assumes Office as Slovakia's Caretaker Prime Minister

Ludovit Odor, a former Vice-Governor of the National Bank of Slovakia, has been appointed as **Slovakia's new caretaker Prime Minister**. Following the resignation of former caretaker Prime Minister Eduard Heger on May 7, Slovak President **Zuzana Caputova** entrusted Odor with the responsibility of leading the country until the snap elections scheduled for September. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Brazil, top chicken exporter, confirms first ever avian flu cases in wild birds

Brazil, known as the world's leading chicken exporter, has recently confirmed cases of **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)** in wild birds. Although these cases mark the first-ever occurrence in the country, the Brazilian government emphasizes that the situation will not lead to a ban on the importation of **Brazilian poultry products**, in accordance with guidelines from the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH). ([Click here to read the article](#))

Libyan Parliament has expelled PM Fathi Bashagha

Libya's political scene has been thrown into turmoil as the nation's eastern-based parliament voted to remove **Prime Minister Fathi Bashagha**, referring him for investigation and appointing **Finance Minister Osama Hamad** as his replacement. The reasons for Bashagha's ousting are unclear. ([Click here to read the article](#))

World Bank Approves \$82 Million Loan For Controlling Zoonotic Diseases in India

The **World Bank's** Board of Executive Directors has approved an \$82 million loan to support **India's** efforts in adopting global best practices for **animal health management**. The loan aims to prevent, detect, and respond to endemic zoonotic, transboundary, and emerging infectious diseases, recognizing the interconnectedness of people, animals, and the environment. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indian-Origin Cop Is Highest-Ranking South Asian Woman In New York

Indian-origin Captain **Pratima Bhullar Maldonado** has become the highest-ranking South Asian woman in the **New York Police Department (NYPD)**. She was promoted to the rank of Captain last month. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Cannes Film festival 2023

The **76th edition of the Cannes Film Festival** will showcase a dazzling array of films. Scheduled to occur from May 16 to 27, 2023. Accomplished Swedish filmmaker **Ruben Östlund** has been chosen to preside over the jury for the occasion. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Nepal designates 2025 as a 'Special tourism year'

During the joint meeting of the federal parliament, President **Ram Chandra Paudel** announced that the decade of the 2080s in the **Bikram Samvat calendar** would be recognized as **'the Visit Nepal decade'** and that the year 2025 will be designated as a special year for tourism. These declarations were presented as part of the policies and programmes for the 2080/81 fiscal year. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Japan 'seriously looking' at joining India's UPI payments system

Japan is "seriously" evaluating adopting **India's UPI payments system** as both governments look at promoting digital cooperation by creating interoperability where the digital payments system could bring ease of cross-border payments. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indian Railways Hands Over 20 Broad Gauge Locomotives to Bangladesh

In a bid to strengthen bilateral relations, **Indian Railways** has handed over 20 broad gauge (BG) locomotives to **Bangladesh**. The virtual handing over ceremony, held at Rail Bhavan, was attended by Railway Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw** and Bangladesh's Minister of Railway, Md Nurul Islam Sujan. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Bangladesh-US Joint Naval Exercise held in Chattogram

The **'Tiger Shark 40' Joint Bangladesh-US Naval drill Exercise** commenced at **BNS Nirvik** in Chattogram. The main aim of the exercise is to enhance the strategic capabilities of both countries and promote mutual exchange of technical and procedural knowledge. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indian-Origin Sikh Becomes First Turban-Wearing Lord Mayor of UK City Coventry

Coventry, a city in the West Midlands of the **United Kingdom**, has appointed **Jaswant Singh Birdi** as its new **Lord Mayor**. As an Indian-origin Sikh councillor, Birdi's appointment marks a significant milestone in the city's history. Taking on the role of Lord Mayor also means assuming the position of chairman of the City Council. In his new position, Birdi will serve as the non-political and ceremonial head of Coventry. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ireland Set to Implement Alcohol Health Warnings, Leading Global Efforts

Ireland is on track to become the first country to enforce mandatory health advisories on alcohol products. The **Irish Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly**, has approved the new policy, which will be implemented starting from May 22, 2026. This three-year period aims to allow businesses enough time to adjust to the **new public health guidelines**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

WMO Approves Global Tracker for Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The World Meteorological Congress has made a groundbreaking decision to approve a new **greenhouse gas (GHG) monitoring initiative**, according to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). This initiative aims to support urgent action in reducing heat-trapping gases that contribute to rising global temperatures. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Nigeria: Bola Tinubu Sworn in as President

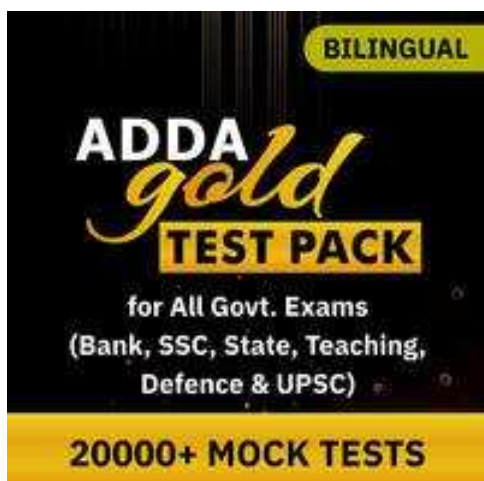
Bola Tinubu was sworn in as the **President of Nigeria** on May 29, amidst mounting pressure to address the country's persistent economic and security issues. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Tayyip Erdogan re-elected as President of Turkey

The Turkish President, **Recep Tayyip Erdogan**, has emerged victorious in the recent election following a tense run-off, according to unofficial data from the state-run **Anadolu Agency** and the country's **Supreme Election Council**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India extends Sri Lanka's credit line of USD 1 billion for an additional year

India announced an extension to its \$1 billion credit line to **Sri Lanka** for another year. The credit line was introduced in March 2020 to aid **Sri Lanka** in the face of an economic crisis, and has been used to provide urgent support for the procurement of essential items including food, medicine, and fuel. ([Click here to read the article](#))



National Current Affairs

Prime Minister Inaugurates 91 FM Radio Transmitters, To Benefit Border, Aspirational Districts

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has recently inaugurated **91 FM transmitters** in **18 states** and two union territories, aimed at improving **FM radio connectivity** in border regions and aspirational districts. The move is expected to benefit an additional two crore people who did not have access to the medium before. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar Launches 'Millets Experience Centre' At Dilli Haat

India's Agriculture Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** recently launched the **Millets Experience Centre (MEC)** at Dilli Haat in New Delhi. The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (**NAFED**) established the MEC in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture to promote the adoption of **millets** among the general public. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indian Army Inducts First Women Officers Into Regiment Of Artillery

In a historic first, the **Indian Army** has inducted **five women officers** into its **Regiment of Artillery**. Lt Mehak Saini, Lt Sakshi Dubey, Lt Aditi Yadav, Lt Pious Mudgil, and Lt Akanksha have joined the Army's premier artillery units after successfully completing their training at the Officers Training Academy (OTA) in Chennai. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Anji Khad Bridge, First Cable Stayed Rail Bridge In India

India's Union Railway Minister, **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, has shared a timelapse video showcasing the construction of the Anji Khad Bridge, the country's first cable-stayed rail bridge. With a total of 96 cables spanning a length of 653km, the bridge is part of the challenging **Udampur-Srinagar-Baramulla-Rail Link (USBRL)** Project in the Reasi district of **Jammu and Kashmir**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Home Ministry cancels LIFE's Foreign Contribution Registration Act (FCRA) licence

The **Centre for Policy Research (CPR)**, a think tank based in Delhi, has had its **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA)** registration suspended by the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** for 180 days. A government official reported that the suspension was imposed due to initial breaches of FCRA regulations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India To Join International Climate Action In Civil Aviation From 2027

India has announced that it will participate in the **International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO)** Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (**CORSIA**) and the Long-Term Aspirational Goals (LTAG) from 2027. The decision was made at a meeting of the Parliament's Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Civil Aviation held in New Delhi and chaired by the Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Supreme Court Allows Divorce On The Grounds Of "Irretrievable Breakdown Of Marriage"

The **Supreme Court of India** has granted couples the **right to divorce** on the grounds of "irretrievable breakdown of marriage" under **Article 142** of the Constitution. This ruling applies to cases where both parties seek a mutual consent divorce or where one partner seeks a divorce despite opposition from the other. ([Click here to read the article](#))

CBSE ready to introduce AI and coding from Classes 6 to 8

The **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)**, as part of the **New Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, has made the decision to include coding and **artificial intelligence (AI)** in the curriculum for Classes 6 to 8. This move recognizes the importance of mathematics and computational thinking in preparing students for future careers in AI, machine learning, and data science. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ministry Of Tourism Participates In The Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2023

The **Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2023**, one of the most prominent global events for the travel and tourism industry, kicked off in **Dubai, UAE**, on May 1, 2023, with a substantial presence from India. The Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India, is participating in the event to promote inbound travel to India from the **Middle East and North Africa (MENA)** region. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India's First Undersea Tunnel Nears Completion: Mumbai Coastal Road Project

The **Mumbai Coastal Road Project (MCRP)** is a Rs 12,721-crore initiative by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) to link Marine Drive to the **Bandra-Worli Sea Link**. The most significant feature of the project is the construction of **India's first undersea tunnel**, which is set to open by November 2023. The 2.07-kilometer twin tunnels run 17-20 meters below sea level, connecting Girgaon to Priyadarshini Park via the Arabian Sea, Girgaon Chowpatty, and Malabar Hill. ([Click here to read the article](#))

University Grants Commission Proposed 'Bharatiya Bhasha Diwas' To Be Celebrated On Dec 11

University Grant Commission (UGC) Chairman **M Jagadesh Kumar** launched a new recruitment portal called CU-Chayan for Central University faculty, declaring it to be completely user-friendly and suitable for the needs of all the stakeholders in the recruitment process. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India Considers Joining G7-Piloted 'Climate Club' To Boost Climate Action

India is reportedly considering joining the 'Climate Club,' an environmental initiative started by the **G7** to promote stronger climate action. The club's three pillars are advancing ambitious and transparent climate policies, supporting substantial industrial decarbonisation, and encouraging international cooperation towards a just transition. ([Click here to read the article](#))

'M.V. MSS Galena' The Vessel Flagged Off By Shantanu Thakur

The Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, **Shri Shantanu Thakur**, presided over a ceremony where he inaugurated the Direct Shipping Service between **Tuticorin** and **Maldives** by flagging off the vessel 'M.V. MSS Galena' from **V.O. Chidambaranar Port**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Rajnath Singh Inaugurates IAF Heritage Centre In Chandigarh

India's Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** opened the country's first **Indian Air Force Heritage Centre** in Chandigarh on 8 May, under a memorandum of understanding between the **Indian Air Force** and the **Union Territory of Chandigarh**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ministry Of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Launches 'Harit Sagar' Green Port Guidelines 2023

The **Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways** has launched '**Harit Sagar**' **Green Port Guidelines 2023** to achieve its vision of zero carbon emissions. The guidelines were launched by Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, **Shri Sarbananda Sonowal**, in the presence of other senior officials of the ministry in New Delhi. The guidelines aim to align with the 'Working with Nature' concept, minimize the impact on the biotic components of harbor ecosystems, and promote the use of clean/green energy in port operations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Supreme Court Rules Delhi Government Has Control Over IAS And All Services In Delhi Except Land, Police, And Law And Order

In a significant judgment, the **Supreme Court** has granted control over all services in the national capital, including the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), to the **Delhi government**, except for those related to land, police, and law and order. The Constitution Bench comprising **Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud** and Justices MR Shah, Krishna Murari, Hima Kohli, and PS Narasimha passed a unanimous judgment on the matter. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Anti-Dumping Duty On Optical Fiber Imports Proposed By DGTR

The **Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR)**, which is a branch of the commerce ministry, has proposed the implementation of an anti-dumping tax on a specific type of optical fiber imported from **China, Korea, and Indonesia** to protect the local industry from low-priced foreign shipments. ([Click here to read the article](#))

5th Edition Of Global Ayurveda Festival To Focus On Health Challenges

The fifth edition of the Global Ayurveda Festival (Gaf 2023) will be held from December 1 to 5 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The theme of the event is '**Emerging Challenges in Healthcare & A Resurgent Ayurveda**'. The event will bring together Ayurveda practitioners and stakeholders from around the world to showcase Ayurveda's potential in addressing health challenges. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ministry for Corporate Affairs Introduces C-PACE

The **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** has established the **Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE)** to streamline the process of removing companies from the **MCA Register**. The purpose of C-PACE is to reduce the burden on the registry and provide a convenient process for stakeholders to remove their company's name from the register. ([Click here to read the article](#))

National Medical Commission makes unique ID mandatory for doctors

Doctors will now have to get a Unique Identification Number (UID) to be able to practice medicine in the country, as per the new regulations by the **National Medical Commission (NMC)**. The UID will be generated centrally by the NMC ethics board and thereby grant the practitioner, registration in NMR and eligibility to practice medicine in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Amit Shah Inaugurates Training Program on Legislative Drafting in New Delhi

Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a training program on **legislative drafting** in New Delhi. The program aims to create a better understanding of the principles and practices of legislative drafting among officers of Parliament, State Legislatures, various ministries, statutory bodies, and other government departments. ([Click here to read the article](#))

UGC launches new website, UTSAH and PoP portals to promote quality education

The **University Grants Commission (UGC)** has launched a new website, the **UTSAH (Undertaking Transformative Strategies and Actions in Higher Education) Portal**, and the **Professor of Practice (PoP) Portal** to promote quality education in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Shri Bhupender Yadav launches Meri LiFE App

The **Meri LiFE app**, launched by Union Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, **Shri Bhupender Yadav**, is set to revolutionize the way individuals and communities track their progress in the global mass movement called **Mission LiFE**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh to Inaugurate 8th All India Pension Adalat in Delhi

Union Minister **Dr Jitendra Singh** is set to inaugurate the **8th All India Pension Adalat** in Delhi on May 17. This initiative, organized by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare, aims to resolve chronic pension-related cases. Additionally, the Minister will preside over the **50th pre-retirement counselling (PRC) workshop**, providing retiring civil employees with essential information and guidance for a smooth transition into retirement. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Government establishes the Accelerated Corporate Exit Processing Centre

The **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** has taken a significant step towards making the process of striking off defunct companies easier and more efficient. This has been achieved through the establishment of the **Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE)**, which will centralize the process of striking off companies. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Govt shuffles cabinet: Kiren Rijiju exited as Union Law Minister

Kiren Rijiju has exited as Union Law Minister and will now take up the portfolio of **Ministry of Earth Sciences**. **Arjun Ram Meghwal** has been assigned the independent charge as Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice in addition to his existing portfolios. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Dr. L Murugan inaugurates India Pavilion at Marché du Film at 76th Cannes International Film Festival

The **India Pavilion** was inaugurated by Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, **Dr. L Murugan**, at the **76th Cannes International Film Festival** in France. The pavilion showcases India's rich culture, heritage, and its thriving creative economy to the global audience. ([Click here to read the article](#))

ICAI and The Chartered Accountants of the Maldives Sign MOU

The Union Cabinet, under the leadership of Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi**, has approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** and The **Chartered Accountants of the Maldives (CA Maldives)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

PM Modi inaugurates International Museum Expo 2023

During the inauguration of the **International Museum Expo 2023** at Pragati Maidan, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** emphasized his government's commitment to safeguarding India's heritage. However, he regretted that insufficient efforts were taken towards this cause following Independence. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Bhopal becomes 1st city to measure Sustainable Development Goals progress

Bhopal, the capital of **Madhya Pradesh**, has become the first city in India to measure its progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The city has adopted a Voluntary Local Review (VLR) process, which is a tool that helps cities to assess their progress on the SDGs and identify areas where they need to improve. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Amit Shah Lays Foundation Stone of National Academy of Coastal Policing Campus in Dwaraka, Gujarat

Union Home and Cooperation Minister **Amit Shah** recently laid the foundation stone for the permanent campus of the National Academy of Coastal Policing in Dwaraka, Gujarat. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Bhupender Yadav Inaugurates Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Land Management

Union Minister **Bhupender Yadav** inaugurated the Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Land Management (CoE-SLM) at the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) in Dehradun. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Historic Scepter 'Sengol' Finds Home in New Parliament Building

The upcoming inauguration of the new parliament building will feature an important addition, as Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will place a significant golden sceptre near the Speaker's seat, announced Union Home Minister **Amit Shah**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Giriraj Singh Launches SAMARTH Campaign to Promote Digital Transactions at Gram Panchayat Level

The Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, **Shri Giriraj Singh**, recently launched the 'SAMARTH Campaign on Promoting Digital Transactions in 50,000 Gram Panchayats' under the AzadiKaAmritMahotsav in Lucknow. Under the SAMARTH Campaign, the government seeks to foster the adoption of digital transactions in 50,000 Gram Panchayats across India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ministry of Ayush and Minority Affairs Collaborate for Development Unani Medicine System

Ministry of Ayush and Minority Affairs have joined hands to promote and help the development of the Unani System of Medicine in India. The Ministry of Minorities Affairs has granted RS 45.34 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK), which is a centrally sponsored scheme. Unani Medicine will be upgraded with the support of this scheme in Hyderabad, Chennai, Lucknow, Silchar, and Bengaluru. ([Click here to read the article](#))

PM Modi Announced India to Open New Consulate in Brisbane

Prime Minister Narendra Modi informed that a new consulate would be constructed in Brisbane during his address at the Community Event in Sydney. He announced that India will establish a new consulate in Brisbane, Australia which aims to fulfill a long-standing demand of the Indian diaspora in Australia. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indian Govt Introduce 30% Subsidy for Sustainable Shipping Construction

The **Indian government** has introduced a series of measures aimed at promoting the adoption of environmentally friendly technology in the shipping sector. These initiatives include offering financial assistance and focusing on upgrading ports. The government's announcement was made during a two-day conference organized by the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW)** following their earlier plan to develop hydrogen ports in **India**. However, for green ships, the government intends to raise the support to 30 percent of the overall project cost. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Centre to Launch New ₹75 Coin to Mark New Parliament Inauguration

The Ministry of Finance has announced the launch of a special ₹75 coin to commemorate the inauguration of India's new parliament building. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will unveil the coin on Sunday, 28 May, coinciding with the celebration of India's 75 years of independence. ([Click here to read the article](#))

First Vande Bharat Express Train of Northeast to be Flagged Off by PM Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off Assam's first Vande Bharat Express train. The state-of-the-art Vande Bharat train will be flagged off by the Prime Minister through video conferencing. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India Secured Approval To Set Up Second Hydropower Project In Nepal

Nepal has decided to allow India's **Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN)** Limited to develop a second hydropower project in the country. At present SJVN is developing a 900-MW Arun -III hydroelectric project, a run-of-river located on the Arun River in Eastern Nepal, scheduled to be completed in 2024. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Revised Guidelines for SPG: Special Force Safeguarding PM to be Led by ADG

The security responsibility of the prime minister, currently undertaken by the **Special Protection Group (SPG)**, will now be overseen by an officer of the **Indian Police Service** holding the rank of at least an **additional director general (ADG)**. Junior officers will be appointed on deputation for an initial period of six years. ([Click here to read the article](#))



States Current Affairs

Telangana Government Launched 'Aasara' Pension For Poor

The **Telangana government** has announced a new insurance scheme for **toddy tappers** called '**Geetha Karmikula Bhima**.' The scheme is similar to the '**Rythu Bhima**' program for farmers and is aimed at providing financial assistance to the families of toddy tappers who die due to accidents while collecting toddy from palm trees in the fields. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Himachal Cabinet Approves Monthly Incentive Of Rs 1,500 For Women Of Spiti

The Himachal Pradesh Cabinet, under the leadership of Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu, has announced a **monthly incentive of Rs 1,500 for women** in the **Spiti Valley**. The incentive will be provided to all eligible women, including Buddhist nuns, above the age of 18 years. This initiative is called the Indira Gandhi Mahila Samman Nidhi. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Uttar Pradesh Govt Plans 'Ramaland' In Ayodhya Modelled On Disneyland

Ayodhya as a global tourism hotspot, the **Uttar Pradesh government** is planning to develop a theme park '**Ramaland**' modelled on **Disneyland** to narrate the story of Lord Ram. With Ramaland, the tourism department is looking to attract children and adults alike to showcase the legendary tales from Ramayan in the template of 'learning with entertainment'. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India's First International Multimodal Logistics Park Coming At Jogighopa, Assam

The construction of India's first International Multimodal Logistics Park in **Jogighopa, Assam**, is well underway, and the jetty is expected to be completed by the end of this year. The park, which is being built at a cost of Rs 693.97 crore, will provide direct connectivity to waterways, road, rail, and air, and is expected to be completed in 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Dawki Land Port In Meghalaya Inaugurated By Union Minister Nityanand Rai

To promote trade and commerce between **India** and **Bangladesh**, the **Dawki land port** was inaugurated by Union Minister Nityanand Rai in Meghalaya's West Jaintia Hills district. Meghalaya Deputy Chief Minister **Sniawbhalang Dhar** was also present during the inauguration. Rai stated that the land port will have an impact on the tourism and business sectors. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Uttar Pradesh to get its first Pharma Park in Lalitpur district

The **Uttar Pradesh government** has approved the establishment of the state's **first Pharma Park** in Lalitpur district of Bundelkhand. The project will require the transfer of 1500 hectares of land from the Animal Husbandry Department to the Industrial Development Department. The government has allocated a budget of Rs 1560 crore for the development and provision of necessary facilities to investors in **Lalitpur Pharma Park**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Uttar Pradesh Government To Provide A Unique Farm ID To The Farmers

The Higher Education Minister, **R. Bindu** has officially introduced the **Kerala Institutional Ranking Framework (KIRF)**, which is designed to evaluate the quality of higher education institutions in Kerala. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Telangana CM Lays Foundation For Hare Krishna Heritage Tower In Hyderabad

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao laid the foundation for the **Hare Krishna Heritage Tower in Hyderabad**. The 400 feet tall structure will be constructed on six acres of land in **Narsingi** at a cost of Rs 200 crore. The tower will house the temples of Sri Sri Radha Krishna and Sri Venkateswara Swamy. ([Click here to read the article](#))

New Lithium Deposits Discovered In Rajasthan After J&K

Lithium reserves have been discovered in **Rajasthan's Degana** following the recent discovery in **Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi**. The newly discovered reserves in Degana are believed to be larger than those found in Jammu and Kashmir and officials claim that they could meet up to 80% of India's demand for lithium. This is the first time that lithium reserves have been found in Degana. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Telangana govt launches first of its kind State Robotics Framework

The **Telangana government** introduced a new policy known as the State Robotics Framework. It is designed to establish a self-sustaining robotics ecosystem and to position the state as a leader in robotics in India. The policy aims to provide support for research and development, encourage collaboration between academia and industry, and promote the adoption of robotics technology across various sectors. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Uttar Pradesh Introduces "School Health Program" Digital Health Cards For Children

According to a recent statement by the State government of Uttar Pradesh, the Urban Development Department and Lucknow Smart City have collaborated to launch a pilot project called the "School Health Program" in Lucknow. The program aims to improve the health of students and has been implemented in three schools as a part of the pilot project. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami Inaugurates National Homoeopathic Convention 'Homeocon 2023' in Uttarakhand

Chief Minister **Pushkar Singh Dhami** recently inaugurated the **National Homoeopathic Convention 'Homeocon 2023'** at Doon University, Dehradun. The convention aimed to showcase the significance of homeopathy as the second most practiced system of medicine worldwide, particularly highlighting its role during the COVID-19 pandemic. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Uttar Pradesh Now Holds 2nd Position In GI Tagged Products

Uttar Pradesh now holds the second position in the country in terms of having the maximum number of **Geographical Indication (GI)-tagged goods**. The state has received GI tags for three more **One District One Product (ODOP)** crafts, taking the total number of GI-tagged products in the state to 48. ([Click here to read the article](#))

TN CM Stalin Inaugurates one of India's Biggest Skywalk Bridge

The recently inaugurated one of India's biggest Skywalk bridges, spanning 570 meters in length and 4.2 meters in width, was officially opened by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister **MK Stalin**. This skywalk bridge serves as a crucial connection between the Mambalam railway station and T Nagar bus terminus. The project is part of a larger multi-modal initiative aimed at facilitating pedestrian movement. ([Click here to read the article](#))

New Karnataka CM, Siddaramaiah, Sworn In as Chief Minister

Siddaramaiah was sworn in for his second term as the **Chief Minister of Karnataka**, alongside Deputy CM **D K Shivakumar** and eight politicians as ministers. The ministers were inducted after the **Congress party's** sweeping Assembly poll victory in Karnataka. The ceremony took place at Bengaluru's Kanteerava stadium and was attended by thousands of people. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Kerala Becomes India's First Fully E-Governed State, Achieving Total E-Governance

Kerala, the southern state of India, is set to make history by declaring itself as the country's first "total e-governed state." Building upon its reputation as the first fully-literate state in **India**, Kerala has achieved this milestone through a series of policy initiatives aimed at transforming the state into a digitally-empowered society. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Maharashtra Government Launches 'Shasan Aplya Dari' Initiative

The **Maharashtra** government, under the leadership of Chief Minister **Eknath Shinde**, is set to launch a new initiative called '**Shasan Aplya Dari**' (government at your doorstep). The primary objective of this initiative is to provide citizens with easy access to government schemes and documents, all in one place. ([Click here to read the article](#))

HP Government Aims to Formulate Green Hydrogen Policy

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister **Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu** has informed that a '**Green Hydrogen**' policy would be formulated to promote the use of green hydrogen and establish the state as a leading hub for its production. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Goa Statehood Day 2023 observed on 30th May

The smallest state by area, **Goa** is famous for its beaches and the relics of its colonial past. It got its statehood on **May 30, 1987**. It was a Portuguese territory since **Alfonso de Albuquerque** conquered it in 1510 by defeating **Adil Shah of Bijapur** who was ruling the region. 400 years later, India took back Goa from the Portuguese. This year Goa celebrates its **36th anniversary of statehood**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Sachin Tendulkar now 'smile ambassador' for Maharashtra govt

The Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena-Bharatiya Janata Party government named cricket great **Sachin Tendulkar** as Maharashtra's '**Smile Ambassador**' under the state's '**Swachh Mukh Abhiyan**' to spread awareness about oral health and hygiene across the state. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Justice Rao Sworn In As Himachal Pradesh High Court CJ

Justice **Mamidanna Satya Ratna Sri Ramachandra Rao** has officially become the 28th Chief Justice of the **Himachal Pradesh High Court**. In a ceremony held at the Raj Bhawan, Governor **Shiv Pratap Shukla** administered the oath of office to Justice Rao. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Schemes and Committees

PM Gati Shakti: India's Integrated Infrastructure Connectivity Plan for Economic Growth

The Indian government is pushing to onboard **social sector ministries** onto the **National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)** platform for socio-economic development. Special Secretary of Logistics Division, DPIIT, Sumita Dawra highlighted the potential for NMP adoption in social sector planning during a high-level meeting on PM Gati Shakti NMP adoption. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP): An Overview

India is in discussions with several countries, including **Ecuador, Panama, and Nigeria**, to offer affordable **generic medicines** to their populations, replicating the **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)** scheme. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ayushman Bharat Yojana: Comprehensive Healthcare for Underprivileged in India

Ayushman Bharat Diwas, celebrated annually on **April 30th**, is aimed at promoting the values of Ayushman Bharat Yojana. The scheme aligns with India's commitment to achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals** set by the **United Nations**. Ayushman Bharat Diwas signifies the Indian government's success in fulfilling its objectives through the Ayushman Bharat Yojana. ([Click here to read the article](#))

National SC-ST Hub Scheme: Supporting SC/ST Entrepreneurs

The **National SC-ST Hub Scheme** has received praise from **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** for crossing over **one lakh beneficiary** registrations. In response to the Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises **Narayan Rane**, the Prime Minister stated that strengthening the MSME sector amounts to strengthening every section of society. He further added that the success of the National SC-ST Hub Scheme is encouraging. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Smart Cities Mission in India: Objectives, Principles, and Characteristics

Officials announced on Monday that the deadline for the **Smart Cities Mission** will be extended until **June 2024**, as requested by some cities that require additional time to finish their ongoing projects. The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry decided to extend the existing deadline of **June 2023**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

FAME India Scheme: Objectives, Benefits, Challenges

Officials said that **India** could launch the next phase of its **primary subsidy scheme** for **electric vehicles - Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric vehicles**, only if the funds allocated for it remain unused at the end of the current financial year. The FAME India Scheme is divided into two phases: **Phase I and Phase II**. The first phase began in 2015 and was operational until March 31, 2019. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Anurag Thakur Launches Logo, Mascot, Torch, Anthem & Jersey of Khelo India University Games 2022

Launch of **Khelo India University Games 2022** Logo, Mascot, Jersey, and Anthem by Shri Anurag Singh Thakur in Uttar Pradesh Tomorrow. **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports'** flagship **Central Sector Scheme**, the **Khelo India Scheme**, aims to foster a sporting culture and achieve national sporting excellence by tapping into the transformative power of sports. ([Click here to read the article](#))

PM Gati Shakti: India's Integrated Infrastructure Connectivity Plan for Economic Growth

The Indian government is pushing to onboard **social sector ministries** onto the **National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)** platform for socio-economic development. Special Secretary of Logistics Division, DPIIT, Sumita Dawra highlighted the potential for NMP adoption in social sector planning during a high-level meeting on PM Gati Shakti NMP adoption. ([Click here to read the article](#))

National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG): An Overview

The **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)** and the **National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)** jointly held the '**River-Cities Alliance (RCA) Global Seminar: Partnership for Building International River-Sensitive Cities**' in New Delhi. The seminar aimed to facilitate discussions and exchange of best practices on urban river management among member cities and global stakeholders. ([Click here to read the article](#))

PM Jan Aushadhi Kendra inaugurated at Warasiguda in Secunderabad

Union Tourism Minister **G Kishan Reddy** inaugurated a **PM Jan Aushadhi Kendra** at **Warasiguda** in **Secunderabad**. During the inauguration, Mr Reddy highlighted the importance of these Jan Aushadhi Kendras in providing affordable healthcare and generating self-employment opportunities for youth. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Union Health Ministry launched SAKSHAM Learning Management Information System

The Learning Management Information System (LMIS) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) called **SAKSHAM (Stimulating Advanced Knowledge for Sustainable Health Management)** was launched by the Union Health Secretary. The digital platform was created by the National Institute of Health & Family Welfare (NIHFW) in New Delhi. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Govt Panel Recommends Banning Diesel 4-Wheeler Vehicles by 2027

A Report initiated by the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas** in **India** has proposed prohibiting the usage of diesel-fueled four-wheeled vehicles in cities with a population exceeding 10 lakhs by 2027, and instead, promoting electric and gas-based vehicles. The panel, led by former Oil Secretary **Tarun Kapoor**, also recommended gradually phasing out motorcycles, scooters, and three-wheelers with internal combustion engines by 2035. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India hosts the first-ever physical Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Startup Forum in New Delhi

India recently hosted the third edition of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Startup Forum** in the form of the first-ever physical event in New Delhi. The event was organized by **Startup India**, the Department of Promotion for Industry and Internal Trade under the Ministry of Commerce. The forum aimed to expand startup interactions among **SCO Member States** and encourage innovation, employment generation, and talent building. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Sanchar Saathi portal launched by Union Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw

The Union Minister for Communications, **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, launched the **Sanchar Saathi Portal** during a function held in **New Delhi**. This citizen-centric portal aims to empower mobile phone users by providing essential services, such as tracking and blocking lost mobile phones. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Union Cabinet Approves Rs 17,000 Crore PLI 2.0 Scheme for IT Hardware

In a significant development, Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Union Cabinet has given its approval to the **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme** for the **IT hardware segment**, with a substantial budget allocation of **Rs 17,000 crore**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ministry of Ayush and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Collaborate for "Integrative Health" Policy

The Ministry of Ayush and the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare have jointly announced their commitment to prioritize **"Integrative Health"** for the well-being of the public. This announcement was made at the **National Ayush Mission Conclave**, a two-day event inaugurated by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, the Union Cabinet Minister of Ayush and Ports, Shipping & Waterways. The conclave was attended by esteemed guests, including **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**, the Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana: Revolutionizing India's Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector

Shri Parshottam Rupala, the Union Minister of **Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying**, initiated the fifth phase of the **Sagar Parikrama Yatra** in **Karanja, Raigad, Maharashtra**. The upcoming leg of the **Sagar Parikrama Yatra Phase-V** will encompass various coastal areas such as Gateway of India, **Karanja (Raigad District)**, **Mirkarwada (Ratnagiri District)**, **Devgad (Sindhudurg District)**, **Malvan, Vasco, Mormugaon, and Canacona (South Goa)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Advance and EPCG Authorisation Scheme

The Advance Authorization Scheme (AAS) or Advance License Scheme, introduced by the Government of India under the **Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020**, has recently gained attention in the news. This scheme aims to promote the competitiveness of Indian products in the global market by providing duty exemptions on imported raw materials required for the manufacture of export products. By eliminating import duties on these materials, the cost of the final export products is reduced, making them more competitive in terms of pricing. The Advance Authorization Scheme is implemented by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), which operates under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** in the Government of India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

'75/25' initiative for people with hypertension, diabetes launched

The **Union Health Ministry** has launched a bold initiative to screen and provide standard care to 75 million individuals suffering from hypertension and diabetes by 2025. This significant announcement was made during the G20 co-branded event called "Accelerating the Prevention and Management of Hypertension and Diabetes," which was organized by the **Union Health Ministry** and the **World Health Organization (WHO)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Seher Campaign Gains Momentum

The “**Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Shehar**” campaign, launched by Union Minister Shri **Hardeep S. Puri** on 15th May 2023, has gained significant momentum across urban India. With the aim of transforming waste into wealth, this nationwide campaign encourages cities to establish Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (RRR) Centres. ([Click here to read the article](#))

An Insight into the Liberalized Remittance Scheme (LRS)

The government, in collaboration with the **RBI**, has proposed a modification to the **Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transaction) Rules**. This amendment involves including credit card transactions within the limit of \$250,000 under the **Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)**. Any foreign remittance or purchase exceeding this limit will require prior approval from the RBI. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Supreme Court appointed Sapre Committee submits report on Adani-Hindenburg issue

The **Supreme Court**-appointed Expert Committee recently made a significant announcement regarding the **Adani-Hindenburg controversy**. According to the committee, it is currently unable to determine whether SEBI's handling of the alleged securities law contravention by the **Adani Group** or other companies constitutes “regulatory failure.” ([Click here to read the article](#))

NEP SAARTHI and NEP 2020: A Transformative Vision for India's Education System

The **University Grants Commission (UGC)** has introduced a new program called ‘**NEP SAARTHI – Student Ambassador for Academic Reforms in Transforming Higher Education in India**’ with the aim of involving students in the implementation of the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**. ([Click here to read the article](#))



AFSPA in News: Assam CM Aims to Withdraw AFSPA by End of 2023

AFSPA, which stands for the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, is a controversial legislation in India that grants special powers and immunity to the armed forces deployed in “disturbed areas.” It was enacted by the Indian Parliament in 1958 to combat separatist movements and insurgencies in certain regions of the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Digital India Programme: National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA)

The **Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs** is planning to host a two-day National Workshop on the **National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA)** on May 24th and 25th, 2023. The workshop will take place at the Convention Hall, The Hotel Ashok, in **New Delhi**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

GRSE launch 'GAINS 2023' Startup Challenge in Kolkata

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, a leading defense shipyard in India, has launched a program called **GRSE Accelerated Innovation Nurturing Scheme – 2023 (GAINS 2023)** in **Kolkata**. The aim of this initiative is to identify and promote innovative solutions for technological advancements in shipbuilding by startups. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Mission Karmayogi: Annual Capacity Building Plan by MoHFW

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**, emphasized the significance of **Capacity Building Plans** in promoting focused output by a competent workforce and fostering a work culture within organizations. These plans serve as “**highways**” that enable individuals to work together as a team with shared goals and vision. ([Click here to read the article](#))

1100 FPOs have been allocated to National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)

The formation and promotion of **Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)** has gained significant attention in recent years, as it holds immense potential to transform the agricultural landscape. FPOs are essentially collective entities formed by farmers, enabling them to join forces, pool resources, and enhance their bargaining power. Under the central scheme titled ‘Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs’, the government has allocated 1,100 FPOs to the **National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)** to bolster the cooperative sector and provide comprehensive support to small farmers. ([Click here to read the article](#))

GRSE Launches Innovation Nurturing Scheme For Ideas In Ship Design, Construction

In a move to address challenges in the ship design and construction industry, Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, a defence PSU (Public Sector Undertaking) based in Kolkata, has launched an innovation nurturing scheme. The **GRSE Accelerated Innovation Nurturing Scheme – 2023 (GAINS)** aims to generate a large number of ideas and support their development through a two-stage process. ([Click here to read the article](#))

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched UDAN 5.1

The **Ministry of Civil Aviation** has launched **UDAN 5.1** after four successful rounds of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – **Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik** (UDAN) and with version 5.0 of the fifth round underway, to further enhance the connectivity to remote areas of the country and achieve last mile connectivity through helicopters. ([Click here to read the article](#))

NTCA Constitutes New Committee to Oversee Cheetah Project

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has established an 11-member Cheetah Project Steering Committee under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Rajesh Gopal, secretary general of Global Tiger Forum, has been appointed as its chairman. The decision was taken after six cheetahs, who were brought as part of the translocation project, died in the last two months. ([Click here to read the article](#))

IMPRINT India: Boosting Research and Innovation for a Technologically Advanced Nation

The **IMPRINT India** scheme, an acronym for “Impacting Research Innovation and Technology,” is a collaborative initiative between the Department of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Human Resource Development in India. The program aims to strengthen research and innovation in the country by addressing major engineering and technology challenges across ten crucial domains. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Department of Water Resources Chairs Meeting of Atal Bhujal Yojana

The fourth meeting of the National Level Steering Committee (NLSC) of the **Atal Bhujal Yojana** was held in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, **Department of Water Resources**, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti. Atal Bhujal Yojana (ATAL JAL) is being implemented as a Central Sector Scheme since April 2020 in 8220 water-stressed Gram Panchayats of 229

administrative blocks/Talukas in 80 districts of seven States, viz. Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh for a five-year period (2020-25). ([Click here to read the article](#))

Telangana Achieves 100% Coverage of PMJDY

Telangana State has achieved a significant milestone in financial inclusion by attaining 100% coverage of the **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)**. Since the launch of this national mission, the state has made remarkable progress in extending banking services to all sections of the population. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Income Proof Now Mandatory for Rs 10 Lakh Investments in Small Savings Schemes

Relatively high interest rates and minimal credit risk have made **small savings schemes** increasingly appealing to investors. However, in an effort to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing activities, the Indian government has implemented new regulations requiring individuals investing Rs 10 lakh or more in these schemes to provide income proof. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Mukesh Ambani Joins COP28 Advisory Committee to Address Climate Crisis

Renowned Indian business tycoon **Mukesh Ambani**, Chairman and CEO of Reliance Industries, has been appointed to the Advisory Committee to the President of the **Conference of the Parties (COP28)** of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). ([Click here to read the article](#))

India to Host 14th Clean Energy Ministerial and 8th Mission Innovation

India is set to host the 14th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM-14) and 8th Mission Innovation (MI-8) meeting in Goa from July 19th to 22nd, 2023. The event will take place on the sidelines of the G20 Energy Transitions Ministerial Meeting. With the theme “Advancing Clean Energy Together,”. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India extends Sri Lanka's credit line of USD 1 billion for an additional year

In order to achieve Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision for scientific and technological progress in India by 2047, the **National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG)** and the **Indian National Science Academy (INSA)** have collaborated to introduce the ‘NCGG – INSA Leadership Programme in Science & Technology (LEADS)’. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

NTPC and NPCIL sign agreement for joint development of nuclear power plants

India's push towards clean energy sources took another leap forward on May 1, when the **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)** signed a supplementary joint venture agreement with the **Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL)** to develop nuclear power projects in the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Apple, Google collaborate to combat creepy tracking tactics

Apple and **Google**, together with **Samsung** and other companies like **Tile**, **Chipolo**, and **Pebblebee**, have collaborated to combat unwanted tracking through Bluetooth devices that were initially designed to help locate lost items such as keys or luggage. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India, Israel sign MoU for industrial research and development cooperation

India and Israel have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on **industrial research and development cooperation**, marking a significant milestone in their scientific and technological partnership, the Ministry of Science & Technology said. ([Click here to read the article](#))

MakeMyTrip collaborates with Microsoft to introduce voice assisted booking in Indian languages

MakeMyTrip, leading travel portal announced a collaboration with **Microsoft** to bring travel planning to a wider audience through the introduction of voice-assisted booking in Indian languages. The new technology stack incorporates **Microsoft Azure OpenAI Service** and **Azure Cognitive Services** to enable personalised travel recommendations for users based on their preferences. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India, Canada agree to increase discussions on movement of skilled professionals, students

India and Canada have agreed to ramp up their discussions on the movement of skilled professionals and students to enhance their bilateral economic partnership. This decision was made during the sixth India-Canada Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment, where Commerce and Industry Minister **Piyush Goyal** and his Canadian counterpart **Mary Ng** reviewed the progress of the seven rounds of negotiations towards an early harvest trade deal. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ministry of Ayush and ICMR sign an MoU to promote and collaborate on integrative health research

The Ministry of Ayush and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote and collaborate on **integrative health research**. This cooperation is a significant step towards providing scientific evidence to the Ayush system of medicines and creating a niche for traditional medicine knowledge. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Israel ties up with IIT-M to set up water technology centre

The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras** has entered into a partnership with Israel to establish the '**India-Israel Center of Water Technology**' (**CoWT**). This joint initiative aims to address the challenges in water resources management and water technologies in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India and Australia Sign Agreements on Migration and Green Hydrogen Task Force

In a significant development highlighting the strengthening ties between **India and Australia**, the two nations signed crucial agreements on migration and mobility partnership, as well as on the establishment of a **Green Hydrogen** task force. The Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) were exchanged following a bilateral meeting between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese in Sydney. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Goa Signed MoU with Uttarakhand for Strengthening Tourism Cooperation

The Government of Goa and the Government of Uttarakhand have come together and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance the tourism landscape of both Goa and Uttarakhand. ([Click here to read the article](#))



Appointments/Resignations (National & International)

New Appointments: National

S.No.	Designation/Post	Who is appointed
1	Chairman of the Kolkata Port	Rathendra Raman
2	Director of the CBI	Praveen Sood
3	Deputy Chief of the Air Staff	Ashutosh Dixit
4	chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)	Manoj Soni
5	Brand ambassador for Tripura Tourism	Sourav Ganguly
6	President of International Basketball Federation	Dr K. Govindaraj
7	President of the Swimming Federation of India	R.N. Jayaprakash
8	Chairperson of Internet and Mobile Association of India	Harsh Jain
9	Member of Union Public Service Commission	Ms Suman Sharma

Constitutional & Other Posts

S.No.	Designation/Post	Who is appointed
1	Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra	Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud
2	senior advocate KV Viswanathan	Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud
3	India's representative to International Civil Aviation Organization	Angshumali Rastogi
4	Central Vigilance Commissioner	Praveen Kumar Srivastava

CEO'S/Chairman of Companies/Organizations/Banks/ Or Appointments

S.No.	Designation/Post	Who is appointed
1	Managing Director (MD) of Bank of Baroda (BOB)	Debadatta Chand
2	Managing Director (MD) of the Bank of India (BOI)	Rajneesh Karnatak
3	Chairman and Managing Director of Coal India (CIL)	Polavarapu Mallikharjuna Prasad
4	Wakefit. co's brand ambassador	Ayushmann Khurrana
5	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Larsen & Toubro (L&T)	S N Subrahmanyam
6	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation (PFC)	Parminder Chopra
7	Global ambassador of GUCCI	Alia Bhatt
8	Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director of NIIFL	Rajiv Dhar
9	Managing Director of PUMA India	Karthik Balagopalan
10	CEO of Twitter	Linda Yaccarino
11	Duroflex brand ambassador	Virat Kohli
12	Paytm President and Chief Operating Officer (COO)	Bhavesh Gupta
13	Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board	A K Jain
14	IDBI Bank Deputy Managing Director	Jayakumar S. Pillai
15	MD and CEO of Karnataka Bank	Srikrishnan Harihara Sarma
16	Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) President	R. Dinesh

New Appointments: International

President/PM/Heads of Countries/Organizations		
S.No.	Designation/Post	Who is Appointed?
1	Chief Executive of Vodafone Group	Margherita Della Valle
2	14th President of the World Bank	Ajay Banga
3	Domestic Policy Advisor in the Biden administration	Neera Tandon
4	Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues in US	Geeta Rao Gupta

Ranks and Reports

India overtakes Saudi as Europe's top refinery supplier: Kpler

Kpler data has revealed that **India** has become the largest supplier of refined fuels to Europe, surpassing **Saudi Arabia**. This comes as a result of Europe's reduced access to **Russian oil** and their growing dependence on Indian crude oil products. Europe is set to increase its refined fuel imports from India to over **360,000 barrels** a day, however this ultimately yields more demand for Moscow's crude, which carries freight costs. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indian Job Market To Witness 22% Churn In 5 Years: WEF

A new study by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)** suggests that the **Indian job market** is expected to witness a **22% churn** over the next five years, with top emerging roles coming from AI, machine learning, and data segments. Globally, the job market churn is estimated at 23%, with 69 million new jobs expected to be created and 83 million eliminated by 2027. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India edges past China to send more students to US in 2022

As per a report by **US Immigration and Customs Enforcement**, there has been a significant rise in the number of Indian students who have gone to the **United States in 2022**. India has emerged as the leader when it comes to international students in the US, surpassing China, as reported by the US annual report which states that **64,300 students** from India went to the US in 2022, whereas the number from China declined to 24,796. ([Click here to read the article](#))

National Manufacturing Innovation Survey: Karnataka ranked the most 'innovative' State

A survey on the degree of innovation among manufacturing firms found that **Karnataka**, overall, is the most "innovative" State, followed by **Telangana**, and **Tamil Nadu**. The National

Manufacturing Innovation Survey (NMIS) 2021-22, released earlier this month, also found that innovation in manufacturing is the lowest in the Northeastern states (excluding Assam), followed by Bihar. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Everest Annual ITS rankings: Accenture Tops for Seventh Consecutive Year

Global IT research firm **Everest Group** has released its annual **PEAK Matrix Service Provider of the Year Awards** for Information Technology (IT) services. The rankings recognise large IT service providers with over \$2 billion in annual revenue who have demonstrated superior capabilities and service strategies. For the seventh year in a row, **Accenture** has secured the number one spot in the rankings, followed by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Capgemini, Wipro, and HCLTech. TCS climbed to second place, while Capgemini and Wipro each rose three positions in the rankings over last year. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India leads list of 10 countries with 60% of global maternal deaths, stillbirths, newborn deaths: UN study

A new report from the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has highlighted the challenges faced in reducing maternal deaths, stillbirths, and newborn deaths globally. The report shows that, in 2020-2021, there were a combined 4.5 million deaths of this kind, with **India** leading a list of 10 countries that account for 60% of the total. ([Click here to read the article](#))

WHO declares an end to global health emergency for mpox

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** announced on May 11 that the **global health emergency for mpox**, a viral disease formerly known as monkeypox, has ended after 10 months. This came after confirmed cases in over 100 countries since the disease started spreading globally in May 2022. ([Click here to read the article](#))

MoPSW ranked 2nd in the Survey Report on Data Governance Quality Index

The **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW)** has achieved an outstanding accomplishment in securing the second position among 66 ministries in the highly influential **Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI)** assessment for 2022-2023 Q3. The Ministry has been awarded an impressive score of 4.7 out of 5, which highlights the ministry's unwavering commitment to achieving excellence in data governance. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India's Ultra-High-Net-Worth Individuals Set to Surge by 58.4% to 19,119 by 2027

A recent report by **Knight Frank** indicates a significant rise in **India's ultra-high-net-worth individuals (UHNWI)** and billionaire population over the next five years. The study highlights a projected 58.4% increase in UHNWI individuals, with a net worth exceeding \$30 million, from 12,069 in 2022 to 19,119 in 2027. Furthermore, India's billionaire population is expected to grow from 161 individuals in 2022 to 195 individuals in 2027. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Mumbai Ranks Sixth In Annual Housing Price Growth Among 46 Cities Globally

Mumbai has moved up to the sixth rank among 46 global cities in terms of annual price growth of high-end residential properties, with an appreciation of 5.5%, according to a report by real estate consultant **Knight Frank India**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India Supplied Arms Worth ₹422 Crore to Myanmar Junta, UN Report Reveals

A recent report by the **United Nations (UN)** has unveiled that Indian government-owned companies and private firms in the country supplied arms, dual-use items, and raw materials worth ₹422 crore (approximately \$51 million) to the military junta in Myanmar. The report, titled "The **Billion Dollar Death Trade**: International Arms Networks that Enable Human Rights Violations in Myanmar," highlights the involvement of UN member states in facilitating this trade, which directly contributes to human rights violations in Myanmar. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Financial Times Global Ranking Puts IIM Kozhikode Among the Top Four Schools in India

The **Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIMK)** has achieved recognition in the prestigious **Financial Times Rankings 2023 (FT Rankings)**. The debut in FT Rankings places IIM Kozhikode at the 72nd position among the top 75 providers of open-enrolment executive programs globally. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Health Index Report of Covid Year: Kerala and Tamil Nadu Top Performers

The southern states of **Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana** emerged as the top performers among the larger states in the **NITI Aayog's** annual health index for the Covid year of 2020-21. Among the smaller states, Tripura ranked the highest, while **Delhi** ranked at the bottom among the Union territories. ([Click here to read the article](#))

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Sports Current Affairs

Sergio Pérez wins Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2023

Red Bull's **Sergio Perez** won the **Azerbaijan Grand Prix**, the fourth round of the 2023 Formula 1 World Championship, in Baku. Sergio Pérez took advantage of a fortunately timed safety car to beat his teammate Max Verstappen to the victory in the Azerbaijan Grand Prix. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Satwiksairaj and Chirag Shetty end India's 52-year wait for men's doubles medal in Badminton Asia Championships

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty made history on April 30, becoming the first Indian men's doubles pair to win a gold medal at the **Badminton Asia Championships**. The Indian pair defeated the Malaysian duo of Ong Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi in a thrilling three-game match that lasted for over an hour. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Abhilash Tomy completes the Golden Globe Race, finishing second

Indian sailor Commander **Abhilash Tomy** (ret.) will finally set foot on land, 236 days after setting sail in the **Golden Globe Race (GGR)**, a solo non-stop yacht race around the world. The retired Naval Commander, who is also a recipient of the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award, had on March 22, 2022, declared his participation in the Golden Globe Race 2022, one of the most dangerous and craziest of endeavours. The GGR began on September 4, 2022. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Luca Brecel wins snooker World Championship title

Luca Brecel, the 28-year-old **Belgian snooker player**, has claimed his first world title after defeating Mark Selby in a thrilling final at the Crucible in Sheffield. The match went down to the wire, with Selby putting up a strong fightback to push Brecel to the brink. However, Brecel held his nerve and eventually prevailed with an 18-15 victory. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Odisha extends Indian Hockey team sponsorship till 2033

The **Odisha government** has decided to further extend its sponsorship for both the **Men and Women Indian Hockey Teams (senior and junior)** for another ten years from 2023 to 2033. The decision in this regard was taken at the Cabinet meeting chaired by chief minister Naveen Patnaik. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Geoffrey Emmanuel first Indian to compete in FIM JuniorGP

Geoffrey Emmanuel will become the first Indian to participate in the **FIM World JuniorGP World Championship**. Geoffrey, son of seven-time National Champion Emmanuel Jebaraj, will race for Cuna De Campeones in his maiden FIM JuniorGP season. The first round of the 2023 season is scheduled for May 5-7 at the Circuit de Estoril in Portugal. ([Click here to read the article](#))

South Africa fast bowler Shabnim Ismail quits international cricket

Shabnim Ismail, the fastest bowler in women's cricket, has announced her retirement from international cricket. This is a significant blow to South Africa, who heavily relied on Ismail's pace and skill in their recent **Twenty20 World Cup** campaign, where they finished as runners-up. Ismail, who is 34 years old, played in 241 international matches across all formats, including one-day Internationals, Twenty20s, and tests. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Dubai becomes the host for the inaugural edition of the Global Chess League

Global Chess League (GCL), a joint venture between FIDE and Tech Mahindra, announced **Dubai** as the venue for the inaugural edition. The world's largest and first franchise-based chess league will be held in Dubai in association with Dubai Sports Council, the league's Host Partner. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Neeraj Chopra secures victory with 88.67 m throw at Diamond League 2023

Olympic gold medal winner **Neeraj Chopra** has secured victory with **88.67 m throw** at Doha Diamond League 2023. Chopra's first throw was 88.67 which was a great way to start the new season. His first throw was enough to seal the victory for him but he still tried to push ahead. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Mark Nicholas set to become the next president of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)

Mark Nicholas, a former England cricketer and well-known commentator, has been chosen as the next president of the **Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)**. He will take over from the current president, Stephen Fry, and begin his duties in October of this year. The announcement of his appointment was made during the MCC's Annual General Meeting. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Babar Azam becomes fastest to 5,000 ODI runs

Babar Azam, the captain of the **Pakistan cricket team**, has set a new record by becoming the fastest player to score **5000 runs** in One Day International (ODI) cricket. He achieved this feat in 97 innings, breaking the previous record set by South Africa's **Hashim Amla**, who reached the 5000 run mark in 101 innings. Babar accomplished this milestone during the fourth match against New Zealand in Karachi on Friday. Prior to Babar, Amla held the record for the fastest 5000 runs in ODI cricket, but the 28-year-old batter broke it by achieving the feat in 97 innings. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Praveen Chithravel sets new triple jump national record

Indian athlete **Praveen Chithravel** achieved an extraordinary feat by winning the **men's triple jump event** at an athletics meet in **Havana, Cuba**, with a record-breaking national mark of 17.37m. He surpassed the previous men's triple jump national record of 17.30m, set by **Renjith Maheswary** at the third Indian Grand Prix in Bangalore in 2016. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Max Verstappen wins the Miami Grand Prix 2023

World champion **Max Verstappen** powered from ninth on the grid to beat Red Bull team-mate **Sergio Perez** and win the **Miami Grand Prix 2023**. The victory extends Verstappen's lead at the top of the standings and follows his triumph in the inaugural Miami race last year. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Badminton Asia appoints Omar Rashid as Chair of Technical Officials Committee

Badminton Asia has appointed Omar Rashid, the Joint Secretary of the Badminton Association of India (BAI), as the Chair of the Technical Officials Committee. Rashid's vast experience in his previous role with BAI makes him a valuable addition to the committee, ensuring further advancement of badminton in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Andy Murray wins victory over Tommy Paul in Aix-en-Provence

Andy Murray, a Scottish tennis player, has won his first tournament since 2019 by defeating **Tommy Paul**, the world No. 17, 2-6 6-1 6-2 in the final of the ATP Challenger event in Aix-en-Provence. ([Click here to read the article](#))

IPL 2023: RR's Yuzvendra Chahal creates history, becomes first Indian to take most wickets in IPL

Yuzvendra Chahal, the spinner for both India and the **Rajasthan Royals** cricket team, made history on Sunday as he became the first Indian bowler to take 300 wickets in **T20 cricket**. Chahal's impressive performance against the **Sunrisers Hyderabad** saw him take four wickets for just 17 runs in four overs, ultimately leading his team to a 72-run victory. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Birthday of Indian football legend PK Banerjee will be celebrated as 'AIFF Grassroots Day'

The **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** has declared that June 23, the birth anniversary of Indian football legend **Pradip Kumar Banerjee**, will be recognized as '**AIFF Grassroots Day**'. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Rajasthan Royals' Yashasvi Jaiswal scores fastest IPL 50 in 13 balls

Yashasvi Jaiswal, a player for the **Rajasthan Royals**, has been performing exceptionally well in the IPL 2023. During a match against the Kolkata Knight Riders at Eden Gardens, he set a new record by scoring the fastest 50 in IPL history, achieving this feat in just 13 balls. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Telangana's Vuppala Praneeth became India's 82nd Grandmaster

V. Praneeth, a 15-year-old chess player from Telangana, achieved the title of Grandmaster, becoming the sixth from the state and the 82nd in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

FC Barcelona lifts 27th La Liga Title, First La Liga since 2019

Football Club Barcelona (FC Barcelona) has become the champions of Spain for the 27th time in the club's 123-year history, securing their first title since 2019. They achieved this feat by winning against local rivals **Espanyol** with a score of 4-2, which helped them to move 14 points ahead of **Real Madrid**, who are in second place. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Gatka Martial Art to feature in 37th National Games

The traditional game of **Gatka** is set to receive a major boost on a national level as it has been officially included in the **37th National Games-2023**, which are scheduled to take place in Goa in October of this year. The **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** will be organizing competitions for a total of 43 disciplines during this national event, in collaboration with the **Government of Goa**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

FIFA World Cup 2026 Official Brand Unveiled

The **FIFA World Cup™ Trophy**, which is widely regarded as the most prestigious and recognized sporting symbol worldwide, has been revealed as a prominent feature of the official brand for the **FIFA World Cup 2026**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Neeraj Chopra becomes World No.1 in men's javelin rankings

Tokyo Olympic gold medallist **Neeraj Chopra** has claimed number one ranking in men's javelin for the first time. Neeraj Chopra has topped the charts with 1455 points, 22 ahead of Grenada's Anderson Peters. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Adidas to become new kit sponsor for Indian cricket team

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced that Adidas will be the new kit sponsor of the Indian team. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Third Edition of Khelo India Games Kicks Off in Uttar Pradesh

The highly anticipated third edition of the Khelo India University Games (KIUG) has commenced in Uttar Pradesh, marking a significant milestone in the state's sporting endeavors. With over 4,000 athletes and officials from 207 universities across the country participating in 21 disciplines, the event is set to span 12 action-packed days. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Magnus Carlsen Won 2023 Superbet Rapid and Blitz Poland

World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen won the 2023 Superbet Rapid & Blitz Poland, the second leg of the Grand Chess Tour (GCT) at the Museum of the History of Polish Jews. The Norwegian Grandmaster, the World No.1, Magnus Carlsen finished with a score of 24/36 and took home the \$40,000 1st place prize. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ambati Rayudu announces IPL retirement

Ambati Rayudu, the Chennai Super Kings' star batter, announced his retirement from the Indian Premier League, confirming that the final of the 2023 edition against Gujarat Titans will be his last match in the tournament. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Max Verstappen wins Monaco Grand Prix 2023

Red Bull's Max Verstappen won the 2023 Monaco Grand Prix, leading all 78 laps from pole position. The victory was Verstappen's fourth of the season and extended his lead in the Drivers' Championship to 39 points. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India clinches title of CAVA Women's Challenge Cup 2023

India has won the title of NSC-CAVA Women's Volleyball Challenge Cup held in Kathmandu. India won the title by defeating Kazakhstan in the final at the National Sports Council's Covered Hall in Tripureshwor, Kathmandu. India defeated Kazakhstan in a shared set of 3-0. ([Click here to read the article](#))



Summits And Conferences

Science 20 Engagement Group meeting under India's G20 Presidency begins

Science 20, during the opening session of the Thematic Conference on **Universal Holistic Health** in **Bangaram Island, Lakshadweep, India** emphasized the significance of respecting and acknowledging cultural diversity in promoting universal holistic health. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Foreign Ministers of SCO member countries meet in Goa

The foreign ministers of eight member countries of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** are meeting in **Goa** on May 4 and 5. This meeting will set the stage for the **SCO Leaders' Summit** to be held in July in New Delhi. India, the host country, attaches special importance to the SCO in promoting multilateral, political, security, economic, and people-to-people interactions in the region. ([Click here to read the article](#))

UAE Government Launches 'Machines Can See 2023' Summit

The **UAE government** recently launched the '**Machines Can See 2023**' Summit, an international conference on **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** held at the Museum of the Future in Dubai. The event was held in partnership between the Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy, and Remote Work Applications Office and 'Machines Can See' company. ([Click here to read the article](#))

42nd ASEAN Summit begins in Indonesia with focus on becoming global growth center

The **42nd Summit** of the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)** has kicked off in Indonesia with a theme of "**ASEAN Affairs: Epicenter of Growth.**" The summit aims to demonstrate the bloc's hopes and efforts to become the center and driving force behind global development. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Y20 Meet: Kashmir University To Host Delegates From 10 Nations

The **University of Kashmir** will host a two-day **Youth20 event (Y20)** on climate change that will bring together delegates from 10 countries, including India according to Vice Chancellor **Prof Neelofar Khan**. The theme of the event is "**Climate change and Disaster Risk Reduction: Making Sustainability a Way of Life**". ([Click here to read the article](#))

G20 spurs socioeconomic development in Kashmir: An affluent South Asia beckons

The **G20** is a global platform comprised of 20 of the largest economies that prioritizes policy discussions and financial stability. Collectively, the G20 accounts for a significant portion of the world economy, with a combined **GDP** of approximately USD 82.8 trillion, representing 74% of the world's total **GDP** for 2020 according to data from the **World Bank**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Petersberg Climate Dialogue 2023: Highlights the Need for Urgent Climate Action

The **Petersberg Climate Dialogue**, a forum for high-level international climate talks held annually before the United Nations Climate Change Conferences (COP), took place in **Berlin, Germany** from May 2-3, 2023. This year's conference was hosted by Germany and the United Arab Emirates, which is hosting the **28th Conference of Parties (COP28)** to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). ([Click here to read the article](#))

6th Indian Ocean Conference- IOC 2023

The **Indian Ocean Conference (IOC)** was established in 2016 and over the past six years, it has become the prominent consultative forum for nations in the region to discuss regional affairs. The objective of the IOC is to facilitate discussions on regional cooperation for **Security And Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)** by bringing together important states and principal maritime partners of the region on a common platform. ([Click here to read the article](#))

SCO Members Embrace India's Digital Public Infrastructure Proposal

India's proposition to promote the expansion and adoption of its **digital public infrastructure (DPI)**, comprising of **Aadhaar, United Payments Interface (UPI)**, and **DigiLocker**, was accepted by the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** during a gathering of ICT development ministers chaired by India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Laos to Host ASEAN Tourism Forum 2024

Laos is gearing up to host the annual **ASEAN Tourism Forum** in January 2024, which will take place in the country's capital city, **Vientiane**. The theme for the forum is "**Quality and Responsible Tourism — Sustaining ASEAN Future**," which reflects the focus on sustainable and responsible tourism practices. ([Click here to read the article](#))

'World Health Assembly' PM Modi addresses 76th Session

The Prime Minister of India, **Shri Narendra Modi**, addressed the 76th Session of the **World Health Assembly** in Geneva, Switzerland. He congratulated the **World Health Organization (WHO)** on serving the world for 75 years and expressed confidence that the WHO would set goals for the next 25 years as it reaches its 100 year milestone. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Logo and Theme of India's G20 Presidency: Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam

India's presidency of the **Group of Twenty (G20)** holds immense significance as it assumes a central role in shaping global economic policies and addressing critical global challenges. As a

platform that brings together the world's major economies, the G20 represents a unique opportunity for India to lead global discussions and drive impactful change. The theme of India's G20 Presidency- "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth, One Family, One Future" ([Click here to read the article](#))

Conclusion of the Second G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting in Rishikesh, India

The Second **G20 Anti-corruption Working Group Meeting**, held from May 25 to May 27 in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand, concluded with productive discussions and key agreements. The meeting witnessed the participation of delegates from 20 member countries, 10 invitee countries, and 9 international organizations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Awards & Recognition

King Charles III awarded Britain's honorary MBE to UK-based Sanskrit scholar

Dr M.N. Nandakumara, a renowned Sanskrit scholar and Executive Director of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan centre in London, has been awarded an honorary MBE by **King Charles III** for his contributions to Indian classical arts in Britain. The UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) has confirmed the award. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Russian poet Maria Stepanova wins Leipzig Book Prize 2023

Maria Stepanova, a renowned Russian writer currently residing in Berlin, has been awarded the **Leipzig Book Prize** for European Understanding in 2023. Her novel, **In Memory of Memory**, which delves into the themes of Stalinism and the collapse of the Soviet Union, earned her a nomination for the Booker Prize in 2021. However, it was her volume of poetry, **Girls Without Clothes**, that earned her the prestigious Leipzig Book Prize. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Three imprisoned Iranian female journalists win top UN prize

On May 3, UNESCO marked World Press Freedom Day by awarding its annual World Press Freedom Prize to three imprisoned Iranian female journalists. The winners, **Niloufar Hamed**, **Elaheh Mohammadi**, and **Narges Mohammadi**, were recognized for their work in reporting on human rights abuses in Iran and their commitment to truth and accountability. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Socialist Pandit Ramkishan Becomes Man Of The Century At 97

Former Lok Sabha MP **Pandit Ramkishan** was recently awarded the title of "**Shatabdi Purush**" (**Man of the Century**) in New Delhi in recognition of his contributions as a socialist leader. The honor was bestowed on him during the birth centenary

celebrations of Madhu Limaye, a renowned socialist ideologue and parliamentarian. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Michael Douglas to Receive Honorary Palme d'Or at Cannes

The Cannes Film Festival will honor **Michael Douglas** with an honorary **Palme d'Or** for his outstanding career and contributions to cinema. The 78-year-old actor will be celebrated during the festival's opening ceremony on May 16. Douglas has had a diverse career, starring in numerous acclaimed films like *The China Syndrome*, *Basic Instinct*, *Falling Down*, and *Behind the Candelabra*, all of which have previously been shown at Cannes. ([Click here to read the article](#))

President of India Smt Droupadi Murmu confers 37 Gallantry awards

President of India, **Smt Droupadi Murmu**, who is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, awarded **8 Kirti Chakras** and **29 Shaurya Chakras** to personnel of the Armed Forces, Central Armed Police Forces, and State/Union Territory Police. **Five of the Kirti Chakras** and **five of the Shaurya Chakras** were awarded posthumously. The gallantry awards were presented to individuals who demonstrated outstanding bravery, unwavering courage, and exceptional devotion to their duties. The names of the awardees were listed in the order in which they were presented with their respective awards. ([Click here to read the article](#))

CM Yogi Adityanath honoured Bharat Ratna Dr Ambedkar Award

Former President of India, **Ram Nath Kovind**, presented the **Bharat Ratna Dr. Ambedkar Award** to Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** for his efforts in creating a fear-free Uttar Pradesh. The award ceremony took place at the Shri Shanmukhananda Auditorium in Mumbai, where Dr. Lalji Prasad Nirmal, a member of the UP legislative council, received the award on behalf of the Chief Minister. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Cochin Port has bagged the Sagar Shreshtha Sammaan Award 2023

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways honoured the **Cochin Port Authority (CPA)** with the **Sagar Shreshtha Sammaan** for the best turnaround time in non-container category during 2022-23. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Jayant Narlikar awarded Govind Swarup Lifetime Achievement Award 2022

Renowned astronomer and founder director of IUCAA, **Prof Jayant V. Narlikar**, received the inaugural **Govind Swarup Lifetime Achievement Award** from the Astronomical Society of India (ASI). ([Click here to read the article](#))

South Asian Film Festival of Montreal honors 'Gauri' with 'Best Long Documentary Award'

The documentary **"Gauri"**, directed by **Kavitha Lankesh**, has received the **"Best Long Documentary Award"** at the South Asian Film Festival of Montreal 2023. The film is about journalist and activist **Gauri Lankesh**, who was assassinated in 2017, and the current political crisis in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran Conferred With France's Highest Civilian Award

Tata Group Chairman **N Chandrasekaran** has been given France's highest civilian award **Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur** for his contributions to strengthen the trade relationship between India and France. French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna gave the award to Chandrasekaran on behalf of the French President. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Narendra Modi conferred with Papua New Guinea and Fiji's highest honour

Prime Minister Narendra Modi received the highest honours of **Papua New Guinea** and **Fiji**, an unprecedented acknowledgement of a non-resident in the two Pacific island nations. During his maiden visit to **Papua New Guinea**, Modi hosted a significant summit between India and 14 Pacific island countries to bolster bilateral ties. Governor-General of Papua New Guinea, Sir Bob Dadae, awarded Modi with the Grand

Companion of the **Order of Logohu (GCL)**, which is the country's highest civilian award. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Bulgarian writer Georgi Gospodinov wins International Booker Prize for 'Time Shelter'

Georgi Gospodinov's captivating novel, **"Time Shelter"**, translated by Angela Rodel, has secured the prestigious **2023 International Booker Prize**. This remarkable achievement marks the first time a Bulgarian novel has been awarded this renowned literary honor. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indian Peacekeepers Honoured Posthumously with Dag Hammarskjold

India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador **Ruchira Kamboj**, received the **Dag Hammarskjold Medals** on behalf of Head Constables Shishupal Singh and Sanwala Ram Vishnoi. The **Dag Hammarskjold Medal** is the highest honor awarded to UN peacekeepers. It is awarded posthumously to members of peacekeeping operations as a tribute to the sacrifice of those who have lost their lives in peacekeeping operations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Department of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, Chandigarh Awarded Skoch SILVER Award 2023

The **Department of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, Chandigarh** got **Skoch SILVER Award 2023** for e-Governance for computerisation of medical records of livestock being treated by the department. ([Click here to read the article](#))



Important Days

Drugs for rare diseases get customs duty relief

Date	Day & Theme
May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labour Day Maharashtra Day Gujarat Day
May 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Tuna Day World Asthma Day (first Tuesday of May)
May 3	World Press Freedom Day
May 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coal Miners Day International Firefighters Day
May 5	World Portuguese Language Day
May 7	World Athletics Day & Athletics for All - A New Beginning
May 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Thalassaemia Day & Strengthening Education to Bridge the Thalassaemia Care Gap World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day & "Everything we do comes from the heart."
May 10	International Day of Argania or International Day of the Argan Tree
May 11	National Technology Day & 'School to Startups- Igniting Young Minds to Innovate'
May 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) International Nurses Day & 'Our Nurses. Our Future.'
May 13	World Migratory Bird Day (held twice a year on the second Saturday of May and October)
15-21 May	UN Global Road Safety Week Theme: sustainable transport
May 15	International Day of Families Theme: Demographic Trends and Families'
May 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Living Together in Peace The International Day of Light National Dengue Day
May 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Telecommunication Day Theme: "Enabling the least developed nations through information and communication technologies." World Hypertension Day 2023 Theme: 'Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer.'
May 18	International Museum Day Theme: "Museums, Sustainability, and Well-being." Global Accessibility Awareness Day World AIDS Vaccine Day
May 20th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Bee Day Theme: Engaging in Pollinator-Friendly Agricultural Production. Metrology Day Theme: Measurements supporting the global food system
May 21st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Tea Day World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
May 22	International Day for Biological Diversity Theme: From Agreement to Action: Build Back Biodiversity
May 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day to End Obstetric Fistula World Turtle Day
May 24	Indian Commonwealth Day Theme: Forging a Sustainable and Peaceful Common Future
May 25 to 31	International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories
May 25	World Thyroid Awareness Day
May 27	59 th death anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru
May 29th	International Day of UN Peacekeepers Theme: Peace begins with me
May 30th	World Vape Day
May 31	World No Tobacco Day Theme: We need food, not tobacco

Defence Current Affairs

ASEAN India Maritime Exercise, AIME-2023

Indian Naval Ships Satpura and **Delhi** on May 1st, 2023, led by **Real admiral Gurcharan Singh**, the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet, arrived in Singapore to participate in the inaugural **ASEAN India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023)**. The exercise is scheduled to take place from May 2nd to May 8th, 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))

BRO organizes a Multi-modal Expedition " EKTA EVAM SHRADHANJALI ABHIYAAN"

To honor the sacrifices and contributions made by its Karmyogis in nation-building, the **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** is organizing "Ekta Evam Shradhanjali Abhiyan" as part of its 64th BRO Day Celebrations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India's First female Rafale pilot, Shivangi Singh part of exercise in France

Shivangi Singh being the first woman pilot to fly the **Rafale** fighter aircraft, is a trailblazer in the **Indian Air Force**. Her achievements do not end there, as she is also part of the IAF team set to participate in the multinational **Exercise Orion** in **France**. This is an opportunity for Shivangi to further cement her place in history by demonstrating her skills in flying the multi-role air dominance aircraft. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indigenous ADC-151 underwent successful first test trial by DRDO and Indian Navy

The **Indian Navy** and **Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO)** collaborated to conduct the first successful test trial of a locally-made **Air Droppable Container** called '**ADC-150**' from the **IL 38SD** aircraft off the coast of **Goa** on April 27, 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Buland Bharat: Armed forces test integrated surveillance and firepower capabilities

'Buland Bharat' is an integrated training exercise taking place at the longest high-altitude Artillery Ranges in the eastern theatre which were recently brought into operation. This exercise saw the **Artillery** and **Infantry** effectively using their surveillance and firepower abilities, working closely with **Special Forces**, **Aviation**, and **Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF)**, who were deployed in the **West Kameng** and **Tawang** districts of **Arunachal Pradesh**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Border Roads Organisation Project Dantak 64th Raising Day

The **Border Roads Organisation Project Dantak** is an overseas project under the Ministry of Defence of India, established on 24 April 1961 as a result of an agreement between **Jigme Dorji Wangchuck**, the third king of **Bhutan**, and then Prime Minister of India **Jawahar Lal Nehru**. Project Dantak has been instrumental in developing infrastructure and providing connectivity in remote areas of **Bhutan**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

INS Magar – Indian Navy's Landing Ship Decommissioned After 36 Years of Service

INS Magar, the oldest Landing Ship Tank (Large), was decommissioned by the **Indian Navy** after 36 years of service on May 06 at the Naval base in **Kochi**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Air Force Receives 1st Batch Of Indigenous VTOL Loitering Munition

The air force has received its first indigenously designed and developed loitering munitions. These are capable of operating from all kinds of terrain and high altitude areas and can take down targets at a range of over 50 km, without exposing any personnel to risk. Developed by **Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL)**, the autonomous system is designed for **Vertical Take Off and Landing (VTOL)** and has successfully demonstrated its capability to carry out precision strikes during trials and tests. ([Click here to read the article](#))

First Airbus C295 for India successfully completes its maiden flight

The first **C295 aircraft** for India has successfully completed its inaugural flight, marking a significant achievement towards its delivery in the latter half of 2023. The tactical plane (used by **Indian Air Force**) took off from **Seville, Spain**, at 11:45 am local time on May 5th, landing three hours afterward at 2:45 pm. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India and Thailand Conduct 35th Indo-Thai Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT)

The **Indian Navy** and the **Royal Thai Navy** conducted the 35th edition of the **India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT)** from May 3 to May 10, 2023. The exercise was aimed at reinforcing maritime linkages between the two countries and ensuring the safety and security of the **Indian Ocean**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India and Indonesia bilateral naval exercise Samudra Shakti-23

The **ASW Corvette, INS Kavaratti**, which was built and designed in India, has reached Batam, Indonesia to participate in the 4th India-Indonesia Bilateral exercise, **Samudra Shakti-23**, from May 14 to May 19, 2023. The Indian Navy's Dornier Maritime Patrol aircraft and Chetak helicopter will also be part of the exercise, while the Indonesian Navy will be represented by **KRI Sultan Iskandar Muda, CN 235 Maritime Patrol Aircraft**, and **AS565 Panther Helicopter**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Wing India 2024: Government Focuses on Expanding Capacity for Fast-Growing Aviation Market

The Government of India is placing special emphasis on creating capacity for the country's rapidly growing aviation market, according to the Civil Aviation Minister, **Jyotiraditya Scindia**. In an address during the curtain raiser event for **Wing India 2024** in New Delhi, Minister Scindia highlighted the government's efforts to simplify processes and procedures while eliminating bottlenecks in the aviation industry. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Defence Production in India Surpasses ₹1 Lakh Crore Mark on the Back of Crucial Reforms

India has achieved a significant milestone in its **defence sector** as the value of defence production in the country crossed ₹1 lakh crore for the first time. This achievement is a result of key reforms implemented to boost growth in the sector and reduce reliance on military imports. The value of defence production has nearly doubled over the past five years, reflecting India's efforts to strengthen its position as a weapons and systems exporter. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Vaghsheer, Indian Navy's Final Kalvari Class Submarine, Begins Sea Trials

The Indian Navy's sixth and final Kalvari class submarine, **Vaghsheer**, has begun its sea trials. Vaghsheer is scheduled for delivery to the Indian Navy in early 2024 after completion of these trial. The submarine was launched on 20th April 2022 from the **Kanhoji Angre Wet Basin of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India begins "Operation Karuna" to assist Myanmar

India has taken an initiative to aid those affected by **Cyclone Mocha** in Myanmar by launching "**Operation Karuna**." On May 18th, three ships, namely Indian Naval Ships **Shivalik, Kamorta**, and **Savitri**, arrived in Yangon with emergency relief material such as food supplies, tents, essential medicines, water pumps, portable generators, clothes, and hygiene items. ([Click here to read the article](#))

INS TARKASH and INS SUBHADRA Arrive in Saudi Arabia, Kickstarting AL-MOHED AL-HINDI 2023 Naval Exercise

Marking a significant milestone in the growing defense cooperation between India and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the **INS TARKASH** and **INS SUBHADRA** have arrived at Port Al-Jubail to commence the second edition of the **naval exercise, 'AL-MOHED AL-HINDI 2023.'** ([Click here to read the article](#))

Sudarshan Shakti Exercise 2023: Enhancing India's Defense Capabilities

The Sapta Shakti Command of the Indian Army recently conducted the highly anticipated exercise '**Sudarshan Shakti 2023**' along the western borders in Rajasthan and Punjab. The exercise aimed to transform the forces into a modern, lean, and agile fighting combination capable of leveraging new-age technologies. ([Click here to read the article](#))



Science and Technology

IIT Madras researchers develop machine learning tool to detect tumour in brain, spinal cord

Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology Madras** have developed a machine learning-based computational tool called GBMDriver to improve the detection of cancer-causing tumours in the brain and spinal cord. The tool is freely accessible and was primarily developed to identify driver mutations and passenger mutations in glioblastoma, a rapidly proliferating tumour. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Launches Space Science and Technology Awareness Training Programme

The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has announced a new online training programme for post-graduate and final-year undergraduate students of physical sciences and technology. The programme is called **Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START)** and is part of ISRO's efforts to enable Indian students to become professionals in space science and technology. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Asteroid 2023 HG1 Hurling Through Space towards Earth at 7200 Kmph

Details have been released by **NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory** about five asteroids that will approach Earth closely in May. **Asteroid 2023 HG1** is currently travelling towards Earth at a speed of 7200 KMPH (2 KMPH) and is estimated to be the size of a house. On May 9, 2023, it is expected to pass within 2,590,000 miles (4,160,000 km) of Earth, with a diameter of 60 feet (18 metres). ([Click here to read the article](#))

Google's Bard chatbot to launch globally, including India

Google has announced that it will be rolling out its generative AI chatbot Bard in over **180 countries**, including India. Bard is a large language model (LLM) that can generate text, translate languages, write different kinds of creative content, and answer your questions in an informative way. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Google's historical satellite images for India disappeared

Many scholars and researchers have noted that satellite historical imagery of India over the past two decades has disappeared from **Google Earth**. This service is relied upon to track changes in topography, forest cover, urbanization, and history. Although satellite imagery from 2020 is still available for certain locations in India, the difference is stark when comparing it to the scrubbed clean historical imagery of Amritsar. ([Click here to read the article](#))

SpaceX Sends First Saudi Arabian Astronauts to the International Space Station

In a groundbreaking moment for **Saudi Arabia**, the country's first astronauts in decades have embarked on a journey to the **International Space Station (ISS)**. Sponsored by the Saudi Arabian government, a female stem cell researcher named **Rayyanah Barnawi** and a Royal Saudi Air Force fighter pilot named Ali al-Qarni joined a crew led by a retired NASA astronaut from Kennedy Space Center. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Garuda Aerospace and Naini Aerospace Collaborate to Manufacture Make in India Drones

Garuda Aerospace, a leading drone manufacturer, has joined hands with Naini Aerospace, a subsidiary of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence, to establish a joint development partnership. This collaboration aims to enable Garuda Aerospace to manufacture Advanced Precision Drones within India for various applications. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Axiom Space's Private Astronaut Mission to Test Cancer Drugs in Space

Axiom Space, a private space habitat company, recently launched their latest mission, Axiom Mission 2 (Ax-2), to the **International Space Station (ISS)**. This mission aims to conduct experiments on human stem cell ageing, inflammation, and cancer in the unique microgravity environment of space. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Microsoft launches Jugalbandi, a multilingual AI-chat bot for rural India

Microsoft has launched **Jugalbandi**, a generative AI-driven multilingual chatbot accessible via popular messaging platform, WhatsApp. The bot has been especially made to cover areas of rural India which aren't easily penetrated through media and lack access to government's welfare activities. ([Click here to read the article](#))

AI Supercomputer 'AIRAWAT' puts India among top supercomputing league

The **International Supercomputing Conference (ISC 2023)** in **Germany**, the AI Supercomputer '**AIRAWAT**', situated at C-DAC, Pune, achieved an impressive global ranking of 75th on the esteemed Top 500 Global Supercomputing List. This accomplishment establishes India as a leading nation in the field of AI supercomputing. '**AIRAWAT**' is part of the Government of India's National Program on AI and represents a significant stride forward in the country's AI capabilities. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Infosys launches Topaz, an AI-first set of services, solutions, and platforms

Infosys, a leading IT services company, has launched **Topaz**, a comprehensive suite of services, solutions, and platforms that harness the power of generative **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** technologies. Topaz is built on Infosys' applied AI framework, enabling the development of an AI-first core that enhances the capabilities of individuals and organizations to deliver cognitive solutions and accelerate value creation. ([Click here to read the article](#))

XPoSat, India's First Polarimetry Mission

The **Indian Space Research Organisation** is collaborating with the **Raman Research Institute (RRI)**, Bengaluru, an autonomous research institute, to build the **X-Ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat)** that is scheduled to be launched later this year. ([Click here to read the article](#))

ISRO's GSLV-F12 Successfully Places Navigation Satellite NVS-01

The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** achieved yet another milestone as its geosynchronous satellite launch vehicle (GSLV) rocket, GSLV-F12, successfully placed the navigation satellite NVS-01 into orbit. ([Click here to read the article](#))



Books & Authors

A book titled "MADE IN INDIA :75 Years of Business and Enterprise" by Amitabh Kant

Retired Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer **Amitabh Kant**, who served as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) (2016-2022), has authored a new book titled **"Made In India: 75 Years of Business and Enterprise"** published by the Rupa Publications India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Indo-Canadian Rupri Kaur book among most banned in US schools

Rupri Kaur, a Canadian-Sikh poet, has made it to the list of 11 most banned books in US classrooms for the first half of the 2022-23 school year. Kaur's debut work, 'Milk and Honey', which was released in 2014, has been banned due to its exploration of issues related to sexual assault and violence, according to non-profit organisation PEN America, which provided the data. Last month, Kaur's Twitter account was also withheld in India due to the Khalistan issue. ([Click here to read the article](#))

A book titled "Droupadi Murmu: From Tribal Hinterlands to Raisina Hills" by Kasturi Ray

The book titled **"Droupadi Murmu: From Tribal Hinterlands to Raisina Hills"** tells the inspiring story of a tribal girl who overcame obstacles to become a symbol of resilience, determination, and perseverance. Murmu achieved many milestones by taking an unconventional path, starting from leaving her small village in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha to becoming the first citizen of India. The author of the book is Kasturi Ray. ([Click here to read the article](#))

"The Indian Metropolis: Deconstructing India's Urban Spaces" book by Feroze Varun Gandhi

The Indian Metropolis: Deconstructing India's Urban Spaces is a book by **Feroze Varun Gandhi**, published in 2023. The book examines the challenges facing India's urban spaces, including poverty, inequality, crime, and environmental degradation. Gandhi argues that India's cities need to be transformed in order to be more inclusive and sustainable. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Santiniketan in tentative list for UNESCO World Heritage list

The UNESCO World Heritage Centre has recommended **Santiniketan**, the cultural site in West Bengal, India, for inclusion in the **UNESCO World Heritage List**. The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), a France-based international non-governmental organization, made the recommendation. ([Click here to read the article](#))

'Supreme Court On Commercial Arbitration' book By Dr. Manoj Kumar Released

A compendium of three volumes with Judgments spanning from the year 1988 till 2022 covering Arbitration Act 1940 and 1996, the book titled **'Supreme Court on Commercial Arbitration'** by **Dr. Manoj Kumar** and fore worded by Shri.R.Venkataramani was released on 13.05.2023 being the founders day of Hammurabi & Solomon Partners. ([Click here to read the article](#))

A book "Guts Amidst Bloodbath : The Aunshuman Gaekwad Narrative" by Aditya Bhushan

Anshuman Gaekwad, a former Indian Test cricketer, released his semi-autobiographical book titled **"Guts Amidst Bloodbath" at the Cricket Club of India (CCI)** authored by **Aditya Bhushan**. The occasion was graced by six former India cricket captains, namely Sachin Tendulkar, Gundapa Vishwanath, Sunil Gavaskar, Dilip Vengsarkar, Ravi Shastri, and Kapil Dev. These legendary cricketers shared anecdotes and praised Gaekwad for his contributions to the sport. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ruskin Bond wrote a new book titled 'The Golden Years'

Indian author **Ruskin Bond** wrote a book titled **"The Golden Years: The Many Joys of Living a Good Long Life"**. The Golden Years book is published by HarperCollins India and released on 19 May 2023, Bond's 89th birthday. "The Golden Years" focuses on Bond's experiences during the 60s, 70s and 80s. ([Click here to read the article](#))

A book titled 'NTR: A Political Biography' by Ramachandra Murthy Kondubhatla

Journalist, editor and writer, **Ramachandra Murthy Kondubhatla**, has authored a new book titled **"NTR-A Political Biography"** which presents a realistic picture of Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao (NTR), the star figure in the discourse on cinema and politics in the two Telugu States (Andhra Pradesh and Telangana). ([Click here to read the article](#))

Miscellaneous Current Affairs

Kiren Rijiju launched the trailer of the first Tagine language film

Union minister **Kiren Rijiju** said after launching the trailer of the "first ever" movie in Tagin language of his home state **Arunachal Pradesh**. The film looks at displaying the culture of the Tagin community before the whole country and the world. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor (MAHSR)

The **Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor (MAHSR)** is currently under construction to link the major cities of Mumbai and Ahmedabad in India. Once completed, it will be the country's first high-speed rail line, resulting in a considerable reduction in travel time between the two cities from 6 hours 35 minutes to just 1 hour 58 minutes. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India operationalized Sittwe port in Myanmar

The **Sittwe Port in Myanmar** has been put into operation by India, with the first shipment departing from the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port in Kolkata. The project is a part of the **Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport initiative**. The inaugural shipment, carrying 20,000 bags of cement weighing 1,000 metric tonnes, is expected to arrive at the Sittwe Port. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Varanasi's LBSI airport gets India's first reading lounge

The **Lal Bahadur Shastri International (LBSI) Airport** here has become the first in India to have a **reading lounge**. Apart from books on Kashi, the lounge's library has a collection of literature and books in many international languages besides books of youth authors published under **Prime Minister Yuva Yojana**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Cyclone Mocha: All About The Storm

Cyclone Mocha was a very severe cyclonic storm that formed in the Bay of Bengal on May 10, 2023. The storm intensified rapidly, reaching peak winds of 160 kilometers per hour (100 miles per hour) before making landfall in Bangladesh on May 14. Cyclone Mocha was named on the basis of a suggestion made by **Yemen**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Deepika Padukone appears on cover of TIME magazine

Bollywood star **Deepika Padukone** has been featured on the latest cover of **TIME magazine**. The iconic American magazine described Padukone as a 'global star' bringing 'the world to Bollywood'. It had previously named Padukone among its list of 100 most influential people in the world in 2018. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Tungnath temple built by Pandavas declared national monument

Tungnath, located in Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand, is not only one of the highest Shiva temples in the world but also the highest among the five Panch Kedar temples. **Recently, it has been designated as a national monument**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Pasang Dawa Sherpa becomes 2nd person to scale Everest 26 times

Pasang Dawa Sherpa, also known as **Pa Dawa**, successfully reached the summit of **Mount Everest** for the 26th time, equaling the record set by another Nepalese guide. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Pune: Asia's first subsea research lab at MIT-World Peace University

Pune, India – In a groundbreaking development, **MIT-World Peace University (WPU)** has unveiled Asia's first-ever subsea research lab, the **Centre for Subsea Engineering Research (CSER)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India & Bangladesh launch '50 Start-ups Exchange Programme'

The initial batch of 10 start-up companies participating in the **50 start-ups exchange program** between **India and Bangladesh** have returned to Dhaka after a successful visit to India from May 8-12. These start-ups operate in various sectors, including e-commerce, health, transport and logistics, energy, education, and skill development. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India plans to challenge EU carbon tax at WTO

According to government and industry sources, India is planning to lodge a complaint with the **World Trade Organisation** about the **European Union's** proposal to levy tariffs ranging from 20% to 35% on high-carbon goods like steel, iron ore, and cement from India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Tropical Cyclone Fabien Moves Southeast of Diego Garcia

Tropical Cyclone Fabien moved southeast of **Diego Garcia** on Wednesday morning, 17th April 2023. At 5:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, the center of Tropical Cyclone Fabien was located at latitude 9.0°S and longitude 73.6°E, approximately 145 miles (235 km) southeast of Diego Garcia. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Nepali Climber Makes Record, Climbs Mount Everest For 27th Time

Nepali climber **Kami Rita Sherpa** reached the top of **Mount Everest** for the 27th time, reclaiming the record for the most summits of the world's highest mountain. The 53-year-old had held the title since 2018, when he ascended Everest for the 22nd time, passing the previous mark he shared with two other Sherpa climbers, both of whom have since retired. ([Click here to read the article](#))

5,000-year-old 'Great Grandfather' tree is officially the world's oldest

A **5,000-year-old tree in Chile** has been officially recognized as the world's oldest. The tree, a Patagonian cypress, is located in the Alerce Costero National Park and is nicknamed "**Great Grandfather**." It is estimated to be between 5,000 and 6,500 years old, making it the oldest living organism on Earth. The Great Grandfather tree is a massive specimen, measuring **28 meters tall and 4 meters (13 Feet) in diameter**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Mahatma Gandhi Bust Unveiled by Prime Minister in Hiroshima

The honourable Prime Minister of India, **Shri Narendra Modi**, was present at the unveiling ceremony of the bust of **Mahatma Gandhi in Hiroshima, Japan**. The Mahatma Gandhi bust serves as a gift from the Government of India to the city of Hiroshima, signifying a meaningful and significant symbol of friendship and goodwill between India and Japan. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Education Ministry and World Bank Host Workshop for School-to-Work Transition

The **Ministry of Education** and the **World Bank** held a unique workshop on **School-to-Work Transition** under the **STARS Program**. The workshop was led by co-chairs Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary of School Education, and Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. Also in attendance were the Secretaries of Education and Skill Department of the six STARS states and representatives from the **World Bank**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Triumph of Resilience: Hari Buddha Magar Climbs Mt Everest with Artificial Legs

Hari Budha Magar, a former Gurkha soldier from Nepal who lost both his legs, made history by successfully climbing **Mount Everest** using prosthetic legs. Upon his return to **Kathmandu**, he was warmly welcomed by his relatives and family members. Speaking to the crowd gathered at the airport, the ex-Nepalese soldier expressed his gratitude and acknowledged that this accomplishment was the result of a collective effort. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Tipu Sultan's Sword Created New Auction Record in UK with GBP 14 million

Tipu Sultan's fabled sword was found in the private bedchamber as it has now broken all auction records for an Indian object for Bonhams in London by fetching over **GBP 14 million** at its Islamic and Indian Art sale this week. The sword from Tipu Sultan's reign between 1782 and 1799, is described as a fine gold koftgari hilted steel sword referred to as sukhela, which is an emblem of authority. ([Click here to read the article](#))

First Urban Climate Film Festival to Begin in New Town, Kolkata

The first-ever Urban Climate Film Festival, which aspires to employ the powerful medium of film to enlighten audiences about the environmental, social, and economic impacts of climate change on urban settlements, is going to take place in New Town, Kolkata from 3rd to 5th June 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))

India Observes Veer Savarkar Birth Anniversary 2023

Veer Savarkar Jayanti is celebrated all over India to commemorate Vinayak Damodar "Veer" Savarkar. He is known as one of the Indian freedom fighters, Savarkar is known for performing multiple activities for the development of the **Hindu community** across the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))

University Of Edinburgh Launches Hindi Course

The **University of Edinburgh** and the Indian consulate in the **UK** have collaborated to create the first open access course in **Hindi language**. This program named Climate Solutions was created with the help of translators and developed in conjunction with the **Edinburgh Climate Change Institute** and the government of India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Obituaries Current Affairs

Drugs for rare diseases get customs duty relief

S.NO.	Person Died	Profession/Famous In?
'Singer/Musician (National-International)		
1.	Tina Turner	Queen of Rock'n'Roll
Actor/Director/Producer (National-International)		
2.	Sarath Babu	Veteran actor
3.	Arun Gandhi	Activist
Sportsmen/Sportswomen (National-International)		
4.	Antonio Carbajal	Footballer
5.	A.R. Khaleel	Footballer
Others (National-International)		
6.	N. Gopalakrishnan	Scientist
7.	Srichand Parmanand Hinduja	chairman of Hinduja Group
8.	Karumuttu T Kannan	Chairman & Managing Director of Thiagarajar Mills Ltd

Static Current Affairs

Important Takeaways

- Bank of India Founder: Ramnarain Ruia;
- Bank of India Founded: 7 September 1906, Mumbai;
- Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai.
- Bank of Baroda Founder: Sayajirao Gaekwad III;
- Bank of Baroda Founded: 20 July 1908, Vadodara;
- Bank of Baroda Headquarters: Alkapuri, Vadodara.
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- WHO Founded: 7 April 1948;
- WHO Director-General: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.
- Google Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin;
- Google Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States;
- Google Founded: 4 September 1998, Menlo Park, California, United States;
- Google CEO: Sundar Pichai (2 Oct 2015–).
- Coal India Headquarters: Kolkata;
- Coal India Founded: November 1975.
- Defence Minister of India: Rajnath Singh
- Defence Minister of Maldives: Mariya Didi
- Capital of Maldives: Malé
- Currency of Maldives: Maldivian rufiyaa.
- Basketball Federation of India Founded: 1950;
- Basketball Federation of India Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Andhra Pradesh's Chief Minister: Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy
- Managing Director of Adani Group: Rajesh Adani
- CEO and Whole Time Director of Adani Ports & SEZ (APSEZ) Limited: Karan Adani.
- International Amateur Athletic Federation was founded in 1912;

- President of the International Association of Athletics Federations: Sebastian Coe.
- Accenture CEO: Julie Sweet (1 Sept 2019–);
- Accenture Founded: 1989, Hamilton, Bermuda.
- ICC Founded: 15 June 1909;
- ICC Chairman: Greg Barclay;
- ICC CEO: Geoff Allardice;
- ICC Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Mastercard: Michael Miebach
- Group President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of BharatPe: Suhail Sameer
- Headquarters of Mastercard: New York, United States
- Headquarters of BharatPe: Gurugram, Haryana, India
- MD & CEO of AU Small Finance Bank: Sanjay Agarwal
- Headquarters of AU Small Finance Bank: Jaipur, Rajasthan, India
- CEO of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI): Dilip Asbe
- Larsen & Toubro (L&T) CEO: S N Subrahmanyam (Jul 2017–);
- Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Founded: 7 February 1946, Mumbai.
- Twitter Parent organization: X Corp;
- Twitter Founders: Jack Dorsey, Evan Williams, Biz Stone, Noah Glass;
- Twitter Founded: 21 March 2006, San Francisco, California, United States;
- Twitter Headquarters: San Francisco, California, United States.
- President: Kalyan Chaubey;

- AIFF has its headquarters at the Football House in Dwarka, New Delhi;
- The All India Football Federation (AIFF) was formed in 1937.
- International Telegraph Union Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- International Telegraph Union Founded: 17 May 1865;
- International Telegraph Union Parent organization: United Nations Economic and Social Council;
- International Telegraph Union Secretary-General: Doreen Bogdan-Martin.
- Chief of Naval Staff, India: Admiral R. Hari Kumar PVSM
- President of Indonesia: Joko Widodo
- Capital of Indonesia: Jakarta
- Currency of Indonesia: Indonesian rupiah
- Paytm Founder: Vijay Shekhar Sharma;
- Paytm CEO: Vijay Shekhar Sharma (Dec 2010–);
- Paytm Parent organization: One97 Communications;
- Paytm Founded: August 2010.
- World Health Organization Head: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus;
- World Health Organization Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- World Health Organization Founded: 7 April 1948;
- World Health Organization Parent organization: United Nations.
- FIFA Founded: 21 May 1904;
- FIFA Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland.
- FIFA President: Gianni Infantino.
- MD and CEO of SBI Card: Rama Mohan Rao Amara
- Chief operating officer (COO) of Paytm: Praveena Rai
- Chile President: Gabriel Boric Font;
- Chile Capital: Santiago;
- Chile Currency: Chilean peso.
- Food and Agriculture Organisation Director-General: Qu Dongyu;
- Food and Agriculture Organisation Headquarters: Rome, Italy;
- Food and Agriculture Organisation Founded: 16 October 1945.
- UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France;
- UNESCO Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom.
- UNESCO Director-General: Audrey Azoulay.
- Japan Prime minister: Fumio Kishida;
- Japan Capital: Tokyo;
- Japan Currency: Yen;
- Tripura Capital: Agartala;
- Tripura Governor: Shri Satyadeo Narain Arya;
- Tripura CM: Dr. Manik Saha.
- International Basketball Federation Founded: 18 June 1932;
- International Basketball Federation Headquarters: Mies, Switzerland;
- International Basketball Federation President: Hamane Niang.
- Microsoft Headquarters: Redmond, Washington, United States;
- Microsoft Founded: 4 April 1975, Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States;
- Microsoft Founders: Bill Gates, Paul Allen;
- Microsoft Chairman and Chief Executive Officer: Satya Nadella.
- Swimming Federation of India Headquarters: Ahmedabad, Gujarat;
- Swimming Federation of India Affiliation: World Aquatics;
- Swimming Federation of India Founded: 1948;
- Swimming Federation of India Membership: 30 State/UT associations;
- Swimming Federation of India CEO: Virendra Nanavati.
- Capital of Ireland: Dublin
- Currency of Ireland: Irish Pound, Euro
- Prime Minister of Ireland: Leo Varadkar
- United Nations Truce Supervision Organization Headquarters: Jerusalem;
- United Nations Truce Supervision Organization Head: Major General Patrick Gauchat;
- United Nations Truce Supervision Organization Founded: 29 May 1948.
- Director of World Vapers' Alliance: Michael Landl;
- World Vapers' Alliance, based in Tbilisi, Georgia;
- WVA launched in May 2020.
- ISRO Founder: Vikram Sarabhai;
- ISRO Headquarters: Bengaluru;
- ISRO Founded: 15 August 1969;
- ISRO Chairman: S. Somanath.
- MD and CEO of Indian Bank: Shri Shanti Lal Jain
- Executive Director of Indian Bank: Mahesh Kumar Bajaj
- Headquarter of Indian Bank: Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- World Health Organization Director-General: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus;
- World Health Organization Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- World Health Organization Founded: 7 April 1948.
- International Civil Aviation Organization Headquarters: Montreal, Canada;
- International Civil Aviation Organization Founded: 7 December 1944;
- International Civil Aviation Organization Council President: Salvatore Sciacchitano.



List of Government Schemes:

Scheme	Ministry	Budget (2023-24)
Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)	Ministry of Finance	₹31,000 crore
Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)	Ministry of Finance	₹15,000 crore
Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)	Ministry of Finance	₹3,000 crore
Atal Pension Yojana (APY)	Ministry of Finance	₹5,000 crore
Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	₹3.1 lakh crore
Stand Up India Scheme	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	₹10,000 crore
Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana	Ministry of Finance	₹10,000 crore
Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Scheme (AB-NHPS)	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	₹60,000 crore
Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban)	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs	₹1.4 lakh crore
Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)	Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation	₹1.1 lakh crore
Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	₹3,000 crore
Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Yojana	Ministry of Labour and Employment	₹5,000 crore
Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	₹1.10 lakh crore
Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	₹15,000 crore
Pradhan Mantri Gokul Mission	Ministry of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	₹1,000 crore
Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying	₹20,000 crore
National Digital Health Mission	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	₹6,500 crore
Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme	Ministry of Commerce and Industry	₹2.5 lakh crore
GOBARdhan (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan)	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	₹10,000 crore
Mission Karmayogi	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	₹10,000 crore
Amrit Sarovar	Ministry of Jal Shakti	₹7,500 crore
Namami Gange	Ministry of Jal Shakti	₹3,000 crore
Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	₹15,000 crore
Saubhagya Yojana	Ministry of Power	₹1.9 lakh crore

