

IACE

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

5th July 2023

DESCRIPTIVE

❖ SBI appoints Kameshwar Kodavanti as new CFO

- The State Bank of India board has appointed Kameshwar Kodavanti as the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO), effective from July 1, 2023.
- He has replaced Charanjit Surinder Singh Attra, who has resigned from his post.
- He has an extensive career in banking, with over 31 years of experience at SBI, starting from August 1, 1991.
- He brings expertise in banking, forex, finance, and accounting to his new position.
- Kodavanti holds the qualification of a Chartered Accountant.

❖ Unsafe WASH behind 395,000 deaths of children under 5 in 2019: WHO report

- As per the WHO report, Unsafe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) were responsible for 395,000 deaths among children under the age of five in 2019.
- Report title: Burden of Disease Attributable to unsafe drinking water, sanitation, and Hygiene: 2019 Update
- Out of these, 273,000 deaths are attributed to diarrhea, while 112,000 deaths are from acute respiratory infections.
- Half of the world's population still does not have adequate access to WASH.

❖ State Bank of India launches 'Transaction Banking Hubs'

- State Bank of India launched 34 Transaction Banking Hubs at 21 district centers across the country.
- Aim: To provide quick and efficient Transaction Banking solutions to customers
- Dinesh Khara, the chairman of the SBI, inaugurated the hubs, on the occasion of the 68th foundation day of the bank.
- The bank's goal is to meet all customers' needs and provide comprehensive solutions for their transaction, payment, and collection requirements under one roof.

❖ SpaceX launches European space telescope Euclid to explore 'dark universe'

- SpaceX launched the European Space Agency's Euclid observatory toward its ultimate destination 1.5 million km away.
- This telescope has been named after the ancient Greek mathematician, Euclid.
- It will take a month to get there and another two months before it starts its ambitious six-year survey this autumn.
- Euclid will measure dark energy and dark matter with unprecedented precision.
- It is four meters tall and almost as wide.

❖ Debadatta Chand takes charge as Bank of Baroda MD

- Debadatta Chand assumed charge as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Bank of Baroda.
- He has taken over charge from Sanjiv Chadha, whose tenure ended on June 30, 2023.
- Before this role, Chand was serving as the Executive Director at the bank since March 2021.
- He was overseeing corporate & institutional credit, corporate & institutional banking, treasury & global markets, mid-corporate business, and trade & foreign exchange.

❖ Indian Bank rolls out digital services under 'Project WAVE' initiative

- Public sector lender Indian Bank has unveiled new services under its digital transformation initiative 'Project WAVE'.
- The bank in collaboration with National E-Governance Services Ltd, has introduced an electronic bank guarantee (e-BG) service to ease traditional paper-based processes.
- This move will also reduce the turnaround time of the bank guarantee issuance and delivery to the beneficiary from an industry average of 3-4 working days to a few minutes.

❖ 'Mission Vatsalya' scheme for rape victims minor girls

- The Central Government has started a new relief scheme under the 'Mission Vatsalya' scheme in relation to the abandonment of the families of minor girls who are victims of rape when they become pregnant.
- Under this, arrangements have been made to provide shelter, food and legal aid to those minors.
- According to Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani, the new scheme launched under the aegis of 'Nirbhaya Yojana' aims to ensure institutional and financial support to pregnant minor victims who have no means to take care of themselves.

Mission Vatsalya:

- There is an umbrella scheme for women and child protection services in the country.
- Scheme launched: in 2021 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- Implementation of the scheme: 1 April 2022
- Objective: To ensure a healthy and happy childhood for the children of the country.

❖ PM inaugurates Sai Hira Global Convention Center in Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Sai Hira Global Convention Center in Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh via video conferencing.
- Sai Hira Global Convention Center will become the focal point for discussions on spirituality and educational programs involving scholars and experts.

- The leaders' conference of the Sri Sathya Sai Global Council coincides with the dedication of the convention centre.
- The theme of the program is 'Exercise and Motivation'.
- The era leading up to the centenary of India's independence has been named the 'Kartavya Kaal', which encompasses both development and heritage.
- Born in Puttaparthi, Sri Sathya Sai Baba has followers all over the world and his institutions and ashrams are present in every state of India.

❖ Vietnam's Justice Minister Le Thanh Long's visit to India

- A bilateral meeting between Union Minister of State for Law and Justice (Independent Charge) Arjun Ram Meghwal and Vietnam's Justice Minister Le Thanh Long was held in New Delhi.
- The meeting was also attended by a delegation from both sides, which included senior officials from the respective Ministries.
- Bilateral meeting between Minister of State for Law and Justice India and Vietnam.

Vietnam:

- It is located in the eastern part of the Indochina Peninsula of Southeast Asia.
- It is bordered by the South China Sea to the east, China to the north, Laos to the northwest and Cambodia to the southwest.
- Capital: Hanoi
- Prime Minister: Pham Minh Chinh
- Currency: Vietnamese dong

❖ India won the title of SAFF Championship 2023

- India won the final of the South Asian Football Federation Championship 2023.
- The Indian men's football team beat Kuwait 5-4 in a thrilling penalty shootout.
- The win secured India's 9th title in the SAFF Championship out of 14 editions.
- The final took place at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bangalore.
- At that time India's FIFA ranking was 100th.
- This victory follows their previous victory in the Intercontinental Cup.

❖ Lebanese Armed Forces on visit to Indian Southern Naval Command

- A five-member training delegation of the Lebanese Armed Forces led by Brigadier General Hussain Bazzi is on a visit to Southern Naval Command, Kochi and Indian Naval Academy (INA), Ezhimala from 3 to 8 July 2023.
- During the visit, the delegation interacted with Rear Admiral Upal Kundu, Chief Staff Officer (Training) and discussed issues of interoperability and cooperation between the two services in the field of training.
- The delegation visited Headquarters Maritime Training (HQST) and interacted with Rear Admiral Sushil Menon, Flag Officer Sea Training.
- Business interactions were held on various aspects of Operational Sea Training.
- The delegation also visited various training establishments of the Southern Naval Command at Kochi and observed demonstrations regarding state-of-the-art training infrastructure, facilities and simulators.
- On completion of the visit to Kochi, the delegation will proceed to INA Ezhimala to explore avenues of mutual cooperation in the field of naval training.

❖ Athapaththu first Sri Lanka player to top MRF Tyres ICC Women's ODI player rankings'

- Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu has become the first player from her country to top the MRF Tyres ICC Women's ODI Player Rankings after starring in a 2-1 series win over New Zealand in the ICC Women's Championship.
- The left-handed opener has thus emulated Sanath Jayasuriya, who is the only Sri Lanka player to top the ODI batting rankings for men, for 181 days between September 2002 and May 2003.
- Athapaththu's two centuries in three matches have lifted her six places, overtaking the likes of Harmanpreet Kaur, Meg Lanning and Laura Wolvaardt and displacing Australia's Beth Mooney, who was at the top of the batting charts since 10 May.
- Athapaththu won 'player of the match' awards for her 108 not out off 83 balls in the first match and 140 not out off 80 in the final match. She was also named 'player of the series', making a rapid rise from seventh position, her previous career-best ranking.
- Other Sri Lanka players to advance are Kavisha Dilhari (up 19 places to 37th among batters) and Prabodhani (up 14 places to 32nd among bowlers).

❖ Cricketer Ajit Agarkar appointed chairman of Senior Men's Selection Committee

- The Board of Control of Cricket (BCCI) on Tuesday appointed Ajit Agarkar as the chairman of the Senior Men's Selection Committee. The decision was made by the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC), consisting of Sulakshana Naik, Ashok Malhotra, and Jatin Paranjape.
- After interviewing several applicants for the position the CAC unanimously decided to appoint Ajit Agarkar as the chairman.

- The Senior Men's Selection Committee now consists of Ajit Agarkar (Chairperson), Shiv Sundar Das, Subroto Banerjee, Salil Ankola, and Sridharan Sharath.
- ❖ **Shreyanka Patil becomes the first Indian cricketer to be a part of WCPL**
- Shreyanka Patil became the first Indian cricketer to be signed for the Women's Caribbean Premier League (WCPL).
- She is the first Indian player to get a contract in a foreign league before making her international debut.
- He has been selected to represent the Guyana Amazon Warriors in the WCPL, which will take place from 31 August to 10 September.
- Shreyanka Patil was awarded the title of 'Player of the Tournament' in the Women's Emerging Asia Cup held in Hong Kong.
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) allowed Indian women cricketers to participate in overseas cricket leagues.
- Senior players like Harmanpreet Kaur, Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues, Shafali Verma, Deepti Sharma and Richa Ghosh have played in leagues like the Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) and The Hundred.
- On 14 March 2022, Cricket West Indies announced the first ever women's Caribbean Premier League to be held alongside the men's tournament.

❖ Lallianzuala Chhangte wins AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year award for 2022-23

- Indian football team midfielder Lallianzuala Chhangte was named the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year for 2022-23 while Manisha Kalyan won her second consecutive Women's Footballer of the Year award.
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- The 26-year-old Lallianzuala Chhangte beat Nandhakumar Sekar and Naorem Mahesh Singh of East Bengal to win the award.

❖ AIFF Player of the Year Award winners for 2022-23:

- AIFF Women's Footballer of the Year 2022-23: Manisha Kalyan
- AIFF Men's Emerging Footballer of the Year 2022-23: Akash Mishra
- AIFF Women's Emerging Footballer of the Year 2022-23: Shilji Shaji
- AIFF President: Kalyan Chaubey; AIFF Founded: 23 June 1937;
- AIFF Headquarters: New Delhi; AIFF affiliation: 1954;
- AIFF Parent organization: South Asian Football Federation.

❖ Gujarat swimmer Aryan Nehra wins silver

- Aryan Nehra of Gujarat set another record in the senior national aquatics championship clocking 15:29:76 in the men's 1500m freestyle event at the Gachibowli aquatics Complex .
- Aryan eclipsed the record set by Kushagra Rawat of Karnataka in 2021 to win the gold.
- Aryan also set a meet record in the 800m freestyle event besides breaking the National record in the 400m freestyle event.
- In the women's section, Suvana C. Baskar of karnataka set a National record in the 50m backstroke with a timing of 29.63 to beat the record of Maana patel in last year's Nationals by 0.16 second. Maana clinched silver with 29.71.
- In the women's 800m freestyle, Bhavya Sachdeva of Delhi clocked 9:15:59 to win the gold.
- Telangana's Vritti agarwal took silver, her third medal in this edition, while Ananya Wala of Maharashtra settled for bronze with 9:24:67.

❖ Medallist at Special Olympics World Summer Games in Berlin feted

- Siddhanth Murali Kumar of Telangana, who was the only swimmer from the State to win a medal (bronze) in the Special Olympics World Summer Games in Berlin recently, was felicitated by Novotel Hyderabad and the HICC .
- Mr. Rubin Cherian, General Manager of Novotel Hyderabad, presented a special hamper to the swimmer and a cash prize of ₹50,000. Siddhanth's parents Mr. and Mrs. Murali were also honoured on the occasion for encouraging Siddhanth despite all odds.

❖ Govt organising international conference on green hydrogen ecosystem

➤ Union Power Minister R. K. Singh has inaugurated the International Conference on Green Hydrogen 2023, which is being organized in New Delhi from 5-7 July 2023.

➤ Aim: To discuss recent advances and emerging technologies in the entire green hydrogen value chain

➤ It is being organized by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, CSIR, and Office of Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India in collaboration with CII.

❖ Government launched the Bharat 6G Alliance

➤ The Department of Telecommunications has launched Bharat 6G Alliance (B6GA) to drive innovation and collaboration in next-generation wireless technology.

➤ Bharat 6G Alliance (B6GA) is a collaborative platform consisting of public and private companies, academia, research institutions, and standards development organizations.

➤ The website for Bharat6G Alliance has been also launched.

➤ Bharat 6G Alliance will forge coalitions and synergies with other 6G Global Alliances.