

**IACE**

# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

**09<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup> July 2023**

**DESCRIPTIVE**

## ❖ **Belgian tennis player Justine Henin receives the Philippe Chatrier Award**

- The International Tennis Federation (ITF) awarded the highest honor, 'Philippe Chatrier Award 2023', to Belgian tennis player Justine Henin.
- She has won seven Grand Slam singles titles and an Olympic gold medal and won the Fed Cup (Billie Jean King Cup) in 2001.
- The award was named after the former ITF president and was introduced in 1996.
- This award recognizes people who have made significant contributions to the sport on and off the court.
- She was one of the best players of her generation on the court and since retirement has made a significant and ongoing contribution to our sport at all levels.
- The 41-year-old Henin has established a successful academy in Belgium and a charitable foundation that helps provide sporting opportunities for children with disabilities.
- The award will be presented at the ITF World Champions Awards at London's Victoria and Albert Museum.

## ❖ **Karnataka government announced Budget for 2023-24**

- Karnataka's CM Siddaramaiah has unveiled the budget for the fiscal year 2023-24 and has introduced a notable provision.
- The budget now includes a provision for life and accident insurance, offering coverage of 4 lakhs to e-commerce delivery personnel.
- The government recognized the need to establish a social security net to support these workers.

- The government will provide additional financial aid of ₹4,000 to ₹5,000 a month to each household.
- In response to the persistent demand from the union representing gig workers, the Karnataka Budget has introduced a provision that addresses their concerns regarding the informal and uncertain nature of their employment. The government recognizes the need to establish a social security net to support these workers.
- CM Siddaramiah informed that the state government is expecting a total expenditure of ₹2,50,933 crores, a capital expenditure of ₹54,374 crore and loan repayment of ₹22,441 crores is expected.

### ❖ **NLC India Ltd bags GeM Award in "Timely Payments (CPSEs)" Category**

- NLC India Limited, a Navratna company under the Ministry of Coal, bagged the GeM award in the category "Timely Payments (CPSEs)" for the year 2023.
- Reason: For its outstanding contribution to improving the reliability of e-market practices in line with the vision of GeM
- NLCIL registered and on-boarded in GeM portal in the year 2017.
- GeM is a dedicated e-Market service platform for marketing different goods and services.
- Government e-Marketplace GeM is a dedicated e-Market service platform, a National public procurement portal, governed by Government of India for marketing different goods and services. To promote the power market in line with GEM's vision of transparent, inclusive and efficient public procurement in India, awards are being presented by the Government of India.
- Shri K Mohan Reddy, Director (Planning and Projects) received the award on behalf of NLC India Limited. Shri Prasanna Kumar Mottupalli, CMD, NLCIL complimented the officials of NLCIL for their efforts and wished them more success in future.

## ❖ **MoD & HAL sign a contract to upgrade Dornier Aircraft for ICG**

- The Ministry of Defence signed a contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the procurement of two Dornier Aircraft for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) along with an associated Engineering Support package at an overall cost of Rs 458.87 crore.
- The aircraft will be procured under the Buy (Indian) Category.
- The Dornier aircraft are being indigenously manufactured at HAL, Kanpur, and will significantly contribute to achieving Atmanirbharta in defense.
- The Dornier aircraft are being indigenously manufactured at HAL (Transport Aircraft Division), Kanpur and will significantly contribute in achieving Atmanirbharta in defence, in consonance with the 'Make in India' initiative of the Government.

## ❖ **Ministry of Education releases report on Performance Grading Index 2.0**

- Ministry of Education has released the Performance Grading Index (PGI) for States and UTs which assesses the performance of the school education system at the State/UT level by creating an index for comprehensive analysis.
- The PGI - States/UTs was first released for the year 2017-18 and so far, has been released up to the year 2020-21.
- The new PGI structure covers 73 indicators and focuses on qualitative assessment including digital initiatives and teacher education.
- The PGI 2.0 structure comprises of 1000 points across 73 indicators grouped into 2 categories viz., Outcomes, Governance Management (GM). These categories are further divided into 6 domains, viz., Learning Outcomes (LO), Access (A), Infrastructure & Facilities (IF), Equity (E), Governance Process (GP) & Teachers Education and Training (TE&T).
- PGI 2.0 scores and grades achieved by States/UTs in 2021-22 bear a testimony to the efficacy of the PGI system. The indicator-wise PGI 2.0 score shows the areas where a State/UT needs to improve.

### ❖ **SEBI updates rules to ease the debt securities issuers disclosure structure**

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) released regulations for the introduction of general information and important information document concepts.
- Aim: To prevent debt securities issuers from filing numerous copies of the same document.
- At the time of the initial offering, a General Information Document (GID) including the details and disclosures listed in the common schedule will be lodged with the stock exchanges.
- According to a notification by SEBI, the GID will be valid for a year.
- For subsequent private placements of non-convertible securities or commercial papers made within the validity period, only a Key Information Document (KID) detailing important modifications will need to be filed with the stock exchanges.
- If the financial data in the general information sheet is older than six months, KID includes that data as well.
- According to a notification released on Thursday, SEBI stated that the concept will initially be made applicable on a "comply or explain" basis until March 31, 2024, and mandatory thereafter.

### ❖ **National Water Mission Inks Pact with Indian Plumbing Association**

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (BWUE), National Water Mission (NWM), Ministry of Jal Shakti and Indian Plumbing Association (IPA).
- Reason: For a Water Positive India by awareness creation & promotion of rain water harvesting structures, low flow fixtures & sanitary ware, treatment of grey & black water, Water Audit of Built Environment.
- The MoU was signed by Ms. Archana Varma, Additional Secretary & Mission Director, on behalf of National Water Mission, Ministry of Jal Shakti and Shri Gurmit Singh Arora, National President, Indian Plumbing Association based in Okhla, New Delhi.

➤ Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Archana Varma, Additional Secretary & Mission Director, National Water Mission asserted that today is the historic day for Bureau of Water Use Efficiency as the IPA has been actively promoting fixtures that are water sensitive and consume less water and the MoU would help in promoting its objective of increasing water use efficiency.

➤ Shri Gurmeet Arora, National President, Indian Plumbing Association added that his organization would give full cooperation for increasing water use efficiency in domestic sector by 50-60% (reducing water use from 135 Lpcd to 60 Lpcd). He further stressed water audit for built environments (residential buildings, hotels etc.) to achieve the target of Net Zero Water Buildings.

### ❖ **Atal Innovation Mission launches 'ATL Industry Visit'**

➤ The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) in collaboration with Bayer launched a unique industry visit initiative under Atal Tinkering labs in Vapi, Gujarat.

➤ Aim: To introduce students to the latest manufacturing techniques and technologies used in industry

➤ Bayer has partnered with Niti Aayog since 2021 to support various initiatives of the AIM.

➤ Bayer has adopted a total of 125 ATL schools in seven states to nurture and strengthen science-based learning.

➤ The 50 schools adopted in the later phase are all-girls schools aligned with Bayer's commitment to Diversity & Inclusion and empowering women. Over the last year and a half, Bayer in partnership with its implementing partners has also trained about 150 ATL coordinators on ATL Curriculum.

➤ Over 20,000 students across grades 6 to 12 have been nurtured through experiential and gamified technologies to design and build innovative solutions to real-world challenges.

➤ Bayer has opened its manufacturing and production plants and research centres across Vapi, Shamirpet, Chandippa, and Bangalore to the ATL students to provide first-hand exposure to experience how technology, automation, and innovation are leveraged by the industry.

## ❖ 'Ozone UV Bulletin' released by WMO

- The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) issues Ozone and UV bulletins at an interval of seven years. According to which the ozone layer is continuously improving.
- To monitor and understand changes in the ozone layer, WMO has released its first Ozone and UV Bulletin.
- According to the information given by WMO, with the help of Montreal Protocol and amendments made from time to time, the use of substances that damage the ozone layer has been limited by 99 percent.
- The Montreal Protocol is an international treaty on the prevention of substances that deplete the ozone layer.
- It is designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out emissions of substances known to be responsible for depleting the ozone layer.

## **International Initiative for the Protection of the Ozone Layer:**

- The 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer provided a framework for international cooperation on ozone protection.
- The Montreal Protocol which was adopted in the year 1987 is a worldwide agreement to stop the production of ozone-depleting substances.
- The Montreal Protocol has been signed by 197 parties of the world.

## ❖ **Priyansh clinches U-21 compound archery world gold, Aditi Swami scores U-18 title**

- Limerick: India's Priyansh became under-21 world champion in compound archery, as the country's medal tally swelled to nine medals, including five gold here.
- Priyansh defeated Aljaz Brenk of Slovenia 147-141 in a one-sided men's U-21 individual final in the ongoing World Archery Youth Championships.
- Earlier, Aditi Swami had prevailed over Leann Drake of the USA 142-136 to bag the women's Under-18 title.

### ❖ **Sarthak pulls off the biggest win of his career**

- Clinches the ProStock 165cc Open category; double delight for Rajiv in Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open and Vignesh in Novice (Stock 165cc section); first win of season for Ann Jennifer.
- Petronas TVS Racing's 16yearold Sarthak Chavan secured the biggest win of his blossoming racing career when he won the Pro-Stock 165cc Open field in the second round of the MRF
- MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship at the Madras International Circuit.
- Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) completed a double in the ProStock 301-400cc Open category.
- Vignesh Goud (Race'ists Motorcycle Club) completed the second double of the season in the Novice (Stock 165cc) category, and the 2020 champion Ann Jennifer (Alpha Racing) notched up her first win of the season in the Girls (Stock 165cc) class.

### ❖ **Women's Ashes 2023: England breaks Australia's six-year long streak in T20Is**

- The England women's team had a memorable Saturday night at Lord's when it defeated Australia in the third T20I to win the three-match series 2-1.
- The win not only kept the multi-format Ashes series alive for the host, with three ODIs still left to decide the winner, but also saw Australia Women lose its first series after six years, ending a 15-series win streak in the shorter format.
- After the end of the T20I series, England has now got four points in four games in this Ashes, behind Australia's six, which won the only Test and earned four points through it before winning the first T20I to add another two. With six more points up for grabs, the series is now very much open.

### ❖ **Madushanka and Theekshana star in Sri Lanka's triumph**

- Sri Lanka beat Netherlands by 128 runs in the final of the ICC World Cup qualifier in Harare.

➤ Kusal Mendis and Sahan Arachchige then started a rebuild job for Sri Lanka, while upping the scoring rate slowly and surely. The pair looked good to lay a good platform for the Lankans, as the stand reached the 72-run mark.

### ❖ **Make that six in a row for Max Verstappen**

➤ Red Bull's Max Verstappen reeled off his sixth straight win in Sunday's British Grand Prix with Lando Norris for McLaren in second.

➤ Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton completed the Silverstone podium.

➤ Verstappen's first ever British Grand Prix win drew Red Bull level with McLaren's second run of 11 consecutive race victories in 1988.

➤ The double World champion has now won eight of the 10 races run this season to stretch his lead in the drivers' standings to 99 points from teammate Sergio Perez.

➤ Verstappen was beaten off the start by Norris, on second in the grid, but soon asserted his dominance to deny a home win for the British driver in front of 160,000 fans.

### **Previous F1 GP winners (2023):**

Canadian Grand Prix: Max Verstappen

Spanish Grand Prix: Max Verstappen

Monaco Grand Prix: Max Verstappen

Bahrain Grand Prix: Max Verstappen

Saudi Arabia Grand Prix: Sergio Pérez

### ❖ **Vingegaard Holds Tour Lead As Woods Climbs To Volcano Victory**

➤ Canada's Michael Woods climbed to a solo victory on the summit of the Puy de Dome volcano to take Stage 9 of the Tour de France with Jonas Vingegaard holding the leader's yellow jersey.

➤ France's Pierre Latour was second with Slovenian Matej Mohoric third on the steep, imposing volcano with gradients of 12%.

➤ France's Pierre Latour crossed 28 seconds behind Woods with Slovenian Matej Mohoric a further seven seconds adrift as the attention switched to the key fight between the favourites several minutes down the steep slopes.

### ❖ **K. Rajaraman appointed as new chairperson of IFSCA**

➤ The government has appointed an IAS officer of the 1989 batch and telecom secretary, K Rajaraman as the next Chairperson of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) for three years, or till attaining the age of 65 years.

➤ He succeeded the first IFSCA Chairperson Injeti Srinivas, who led the authority since 2020.

➤ IFSCA was set up in April 2020 under the International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019, at GIFT City, Gandhinagar.

➤ IFSCA is a unified authority for the development and regulation of financial products, financial services and financial institutions in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC).

➤ At present, the GIFT IFSC is the maiden international financial services centre in India. Prior to the establishment of IFSCA, RBI, SEBI, PFRDA and IRDAI regulated the business in IFSC.

### ❖ **Cabinet gives nod to Data Protection Bill**

➤ The Union Cabinet has approved the draft Data Protection Bill 2022 which is expected to be tabled in the Monsoon session of Parliament for consideration and passage.

➤ Aim: To safeguard the personal data.

➤ If it is passed, the law will become India's core data governance framework.

➤ Key provisions include requiring companies collecting data to cease retaining personal information or remove any means by which personal data can be linked to specific data principles.

### ❖ **China has launched its computer operating system**

- China has launched its first homegrown open-source operating system named OpenKylin for computers.
- Aim: To reduce its foreign dependence at a time of increased rivalry with the United States.
- The system has been designed as a rival to the ubiquitous Windows and MacOS systems.
- Previous versions of the software had already been deployed on the computers of some government departments.
- It is based on the popular open-source Linux operating system.

### ❖ **IBA sets up a group to implement the RBI committee recommendations on ARCs**

- The Indian Banks' Association has constituted a five-member working group for implementing the recommendations of the RBI committee on the "working of the Asset Reconstruction Companies".
- Primary focus: To review assignment agreements and trust deed templates related to the acquisition of distressed assets by ARCs from lenders.
- Aim: To update these templates to align with the evolving changes and expectations within the ARC sector.
- The Group comprises Ajit Kumar, MD and CEO, Secondary Loan Market Association (SLMA); Hari Hara Mishra, CEO, Association of ARCs in India; Mythili Balasubramanian, Executive Director, Edelweiss ARC; and senior officials from State Bank of India (Dharmendra Pali) and ICICI Bank (Anupama Ranade).
- The Group has been constituted at the behest of the RBI. The central bank wants IBA and SLMA to take appropriate measures for early implementation of the committee's recommendations in consultation with the lenders and ARCs.
- In light of the committee's recommendations aimed at enabling ARCs to fulfill the increasing demand of the financial sector, the working group will undertake a thorough review of assignment agreements and trust deed templates.

### ❖ **CM Naveen launches 'Ama Pokhari' to rejuvenate water bodies**

- Odisha CM, Naveen Patnaik launched 'Ama Pokhari' Yojana to rejuvenate around 2,000 large water bodies in all 115 urban local bodies of the state.
- The state government would invest 120 crore rupees in the implementation of the initiative.
- The project will be implemented using natural and organic methodology to improve the climate of surrounding areas.
- The water bodies will also be developed for recreation of citizens and their surroundings will get an aesthetic facelift.

### ❖ **Gujarat Govt. inks six MoUs with private industries for mangrove plantation**

- The Gujarat government has signed six MoUs with private industries for the mangrove plantation under the MISHTI scheme.
- In Gujarat, the mangroves will be planted over 3000 hectares area of land to conserve coastal ecosystems.
- The MoUs were signed in the presence of the Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change Bhupender Yadav.
- The initiative will aid the restoration and conservation of mangroves and achieve India's carbon sink targets.

### ❖ **Voyager Space signs MoU with NewSpace India Limited**

- Voyager Space has signed an MoU with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) to foster collaboration in spacecraft launch and deployment opportunities on board NSIL's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) and Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).
- NSIL is the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
- The two organizations will also study the use of space-qualified components from NSIL in support of spacecraft manufacturing, deployment, etc.

➤ ISRO's state-of-the-art launch infrastructure and NSIL's experience in delivering payloads to orbit expands access to space for Voyager's global customer base. Voyager Space has previously flown customer satellites on two PSLV missions.

➤ Clay Mowry, Chief Revenue Officer at Voyager Space stated, "We are thrilled to embark on this collaborative journey with NewSpace India Limited. This partnership is a unique opportunity as we join forces to drive innovation and advancement in the small satellite launch industry. We look forward to growing Voyager's presence in India and providing additional opportunities for our customers."

### ❖ **GSTN launches geocoding in all states and UTs**

➤ The GST Network (GSTN) has made the geocoding functionality live for all states and UTs, which converts an address or description of a location into geographic coordinates.

➤ Aim: To ensure the accuracy of address details in GSTN records and streamline the address location and verification process.

➤ The functionality is available for normal, composition, SEZ units, SEZ developers, input service distributors, and casual taxpayers who are active, canceled, and suspended.

### ❖ **Government brings Goods & Services Tax Network under PMLA**

➤ The Central Government issued a notification to bring the Goods & Services Tax Network (GSTN) under the purview of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

➤ Information stored on GSTN can be now shared under PMLA Act.

➤ Due to this, it will be possible to take strict action against those involved in tax evasion and manipulation of documents.

➤ Due to this, crimes under GST like fake input tax credits, fake invoices, etc. will be included in the PMLA Act