

❖ Lakshya Sen clinches Men's Singles Canada Open Badminton title 2023

- Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen (world number 19) has clinched Men's Singles title of the Canada Open 2023 badminton tournament in Calgary, Canada.
- In the final, he defeated Li Shi Feng of China 21-18, 22-20.
- In the second set he was down four game points but saved all and ended up winning the game in straight sets.
- This is the first BWF World Tour title of Commonwealth Games champion Lakshya Sen after almost a year.
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❖ NHB operationalises ₹10,000-crore Urban Infrastructure Development Fund

- National Housing Bank (NHB) has operationalized the Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF) with an initial corpus of Rs 10,000 crore.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her 2023-24 Budget speech announced the setting up of the UIDF through the use of priority sector lending shortfall for the creation of urban infrastructure in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.
- The interest rate on UIDF loans has been kept at Bank Rate minus 1.5%, i.e., 5.25% (at present).

➤ The top-heavy urban structure of our country poses the challenge of how to prevent skewed regional development so that the benefits of development do not remain restricted to a few populous cities.

➤ Mid-tier cities still face the challenge of urban planning and funding for their urban infrastructure and ensuring planned development.

❖ **Parth Salunkhe wins Youth World Championship 2023 in recurve category**

➤ Parth Salunkhe became the first male archer to win a gold in the recurve category at the Youth World Championships 2023.

➤ He defeated a Korean in the Under-21 men's recurve individual final, in Limerick, Ireland.

➤ He hailed from Satara in Maharashtra.

➤ With this medal, India finished with their highest-ever tally of 11 medals including six gold, one silver, and four bronze.

➤ Of the 11 medals India won, six were bagged in the U21 category - four gold and two bronze.

❖ **National Fish Farmer's Day 2023: 10th July**

➤ India observed the National Fish Farmer's Day on July 10 annually to commemorate the contribution of eminent fisheries scientist professor Hiralal Chaudhary and his colleague Alikunhi.

➤ On July 10, 1957, they successfully achieved the induced breeding of Indian Major Carps in the country, at Angul in Odisha.

➤ This is celebrated to highlight and encourage the dedicated supremacy of fish farmers.

➤ **Aim:** To excel in delivering employment chances in this sector.

❖ NSDL files DRHP with SEBI for IPO

- India's largest depository, National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) has filed its Draft Red Herring prospectus (DRHP) with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) for an IPO.
- The IPO will see IDBI Bank, NSE, SBI, HDFC Bank, and Union Bank of India paring stakes.
- IDBI Bank and National Stock Exchange (NSE) hold 26% and 24% stakes in the company, respectively.
- SBI (5%), Union Bank of India (2.8%), and Canara Bank (2.3%) are other key stakeholders.

❖ Centre adding more services to Ayushman Bharat-Health and Wellness Centres

- Ayushman Bharat-Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) programme of India has grown to more than 1.60 lakh centres and registered a footfall of over 178.87 crore (as of June end).
- The government will add more services including screening, prevention, control, etc. by August-end.
- The essential list of medicines and diagnostics has been expanded to make available 171 medicines at Primary HWCs and 105 at Secondary Health Care-HWC and 63 diagnostics at PHC-HWC.

❖ **India, Tanzania begin trade settlements in local currencies**

- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar informed that India and Tanzania have started trade settlements in local currencies.
- This new initiative will help in promoting commerce between the two countries.
- India-Tanzania bilateral trade has seen very strong growth and stood at USD 6.4 billion in 2022-23.
- Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, and Canara Bank have operations in Tanzania.
- About 18 countries have already opened special vostro accounts with Indian banks.

❖ **Forex reserves rise by \$1.85 billion to \$595.05 billion**

- According to the RBI, India's foreign exchange reserves rose by \$1.853 billion to \$595.051 billion in the week ended on June 30, 2023.
- The overall reserve had dropped by \$2.901 billion to \$593.198 billion in the previous reporting week.
- In October 2021, the country's forex reserve had reached an all-time high of \$645 billion.
- The reserves have been declining as the central bank deploys the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments.

❖ Inaugural session of third G20 CWG meeting of Culture organized in Hampi

- The inaugural session of the third G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) meeting was organized in Hampi, Karnataka.
- Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Pralhad Joshi addressed the session.

Four priority areas:

- Protection and restitution of cultural property
- Harnessing living heritage for a sustainable future
- Promotion of cultural and creative industries and creative economy
- Leveraging digital technologies for the protection and promotion of culture

❖ Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D)

- The Department of School Education and Literacy released the Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D) combined report for 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- This report assesses the performance of the school education system at the district level by creating an index for comprehensive analysis.
- Highest grade: Daksh (scoring more than 90% of the total points in that category or overall).
- Lowest grade: Akanshi-3 (Scores upto 10% of the total points).

❖ PM Narendra Modi to be awarded prestigious Lokmanya Tilak Award 2023

- The Tilak Smarak Mandir Trust (Hind Swaraj Sangh) would confer the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2023 to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Pune on August 1, 2023.
- Reason: This award recognizes PM Modi's supreme leadership under which India has climbed the ladder of progress
- It is presented annually on the occasion of Lokmanya Tilak's death anniversary.
- Other awardees: Indira Gandhi, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Sharad Pawar, Cyrus Poonawalla, and Manmohan Singh.

❖ J&K Bank wins award for Best Performance in CASA

- Jammu & Kashmir Bank has been felicitated for the Best Performance in CASA-India (1st Runner up in Small Bank Category) at ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards 2022.
- The event was participated by banks from India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka & Myanmar.
- The function was organized by the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Goa.
- Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) is a non-governmental trade association and advocacy group headquartered in Calcutta.

❖ India poised to become world's 2nd-largest economy by 2075: Goldman Sachs

- According to the Investment Bank Goldman Sachs, India is poised to become the world's second-largest economy by 2075.
- As per the report, India would cross Japan, Germany, and the US With a population of 1.4 billion people.
- India's GDP is estimated to expand remarkably, reaching 52.5 trillion dollars surpassing the US GDP projection.
- The labour force participation set to make India the second-largest economy in the world by 2075.

❖ L&T and Spain's Navantia sign agreement for submarine project

- L&T has signed a teaming agreement with Spanish-based Navantia for the submission of a techno-commercial bid for the Indian Navy's prestigious P75 (India) submarine program.
- P75 (India) Submarine Project is expected to be valued at €4.8 billion.
- Navantia would carry out the design of P75(I) submarines based on its S80 class of submarines.
- The first S80 class submarine was launched in 2021 and is undergoing sea trials prior to its delivery to Spanish Navy.

❖ India overtakes China as most attractive emerging market for investing

- According to a study by Invesco Global Sovereign Asset Management, India has overtaken China to become the most attractive emerging market for investing in sovereign wealth funds this year.
- Reason: This is due to its solid demographics, political stability, and proactive regulation
- Positives for the nation also include the rapidly expanding demography, strong regulatory actions, and a welcoming climate for sovereign investors.

❖ World Population Day 2023: 11 July

- World Population Day is observed every year on July 11 in order to raise awareness about global population issues, including population control.
- 2023 theme: Unleashing the power of gender equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world's infinite possibilities
- It was established by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1989, after the day the world approximately reached a population of five billion, which was observed on 11 July 1987.

❖ Gujarat CM launches pilot project of 'Antyodaya Shramik Suraksha Yojana'

- Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel launched the Antyodaya Shram Suraksha Accident Insurance Scheme from Kheda.
- All those registered under the e-Shram portal from Nadiad will benefit from the scheme.
- It is being implemented through the Indian Postal Department, the IPPB, and the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- Under this scheme, insurance with a premium of Rs. 289 and Rs. 499 per year will be a big support to workers in the event of death or partial disability.

❖ **OCA elects Sheikh Talal as the new President**

- Kuwait's Sheikh Talal Fahad Al Ahmad Al Sabah has been elected as the new President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).
- He replaced his older brother Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, who led the OCA for 30 years until 2021.
- The OCA was founded in 1982 by his father Fahad Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, who led it until 1990.
- The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) is a governing body of sports in Asia, currently with 45 member National Olympic Committees.

❖ **Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance wins Insurer Innovation Award 2023**

- Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance has won the Insurer Innovation Award 2023 for the APAC region at the 8th World Digital Insurance Awards, hosted by TDI - The Digital Insurer.
- Recognition: Bajaj Allianz Life's ground-breaking WhatsApp Conversational Platform - empowering customers to digitally services their policies seamlessly.
- The award entries were shortlisted by industry experts and the winner was selected by the community through pre-voting and live event voting.

❖ **CarTrade Tech to acquire OLX India's auto business for Rs 537 cr**

- Mumbai-based used cars platform CarTrade Tech Ltd will acquire online marketplace OLX India's auto sales business for Rs 537 crore.
- CarTrade will acquire a 100% stake in Sobek Auto India Pvt Ltd, the entity that houses OLX India's automotive business, in an all-cash deal.
- The acquisition will likely to be completed in 21-30 days.
- Sobek is a company incorporated under the Companies Act, of 2013.
- It is engaged in the business of running an automotive digital platform.

❖ **NLU Delhi launches research affiliate program 'Eklavya'**

- The National Law University (NLU), Delhi launched Eklavya, a 'Research Affiliate' program, for those who do not have a traditional law degree.
- Aim: To emphasize its commitment to actively seek partnerships outside the varsity and draw from their experiences and perspectives to develop quality legal scholarship.
- It is open to those who have at least three years of demonstrable experience working on issues that have a significant interface with the law.

❖ **India-US launched 'Operation Broader Sword'**

- India and the USA, jointly conducted an 'Operation Broader Sword' to stop the illegal shipment of drugs through the International Mail System.
- It targeted shipments of illicit, potentially dangerous, unapproved prescription drugs, combination medical devices, and synthetic drug precursors shipped through International Mail Facilities.
- The operation resulted in the interception of over 500 shipments of illicit and unapproved prescription drugs bound for US consumers.