

IACE

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

23RD June 2023

DESCRIPTIVE

❖ Axis Bank launches 'One-View' feature

- Axis Bank has launched its latest feature 'One-View', on Axis Mobile Application.
- It also becomes the first private sector Bank to introduce this new-age banking feature leveraging the Account Aggregator ecosystem.
- Aim: To create a seamless banking experience for its customers
- It helps in managing finances for customers, by providing them access to multiple bank accounts on a single platform
- It also enables them to track their balances and spending on a real-time basis.

❖ UK's Lloyds Banking Group to set up tech center in Hyderabad

- Lloyds Banking Group, one of the UK's largest financial services providers, would set up a technology center in Hyderabad.
- The group, which has brands such as Lloyds Bank, Halifax, and Bank of Scotland under its belt, is planning to expand its digital capabilities through the tech center.
- It won't offer banking services in the country, rather it will focus on using technology and digital data, and analytics capabilities to drive innovation and end-to-end product delivery

❖ UNDP partners with DAY-NULM towards empowering women entrepreneurs

➤ The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has joined hands with India's Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

➤ Reason: To empower women to make well-informed career choices in the field of entrepreneurship

➤ The partnership will provide support for women looking to start and expand their own enterprises, particularly in sectors such as the care economy, digital economy, electric mobility, waste management, food packaging, and more.

❖ Surat has set a new Guinness World Record in the Yoga event

➤ The city of Gujarat, Surat has set a Guinness World Record with over 1.53 lakh people participating in a yoga event at one place on the International Day of Yoga (IDY), organized on 21st June.

➤ Guinness officials handed over the certificate to chief minister Bhupendra Patel at the venue.

➤ Two 4km-long stretches of roads, each around 300 meters wide, connecting the Y junction were covered with carpet for participants

➤ The participants were divided into groups of 1,000 each.

❖ Fitch raises India's GDP forecast to 6.3%

- Fitch Ratings has raised its forecast for India's economic growth to 6.3% for the current fiscal year 2023-24 from 6%.
- This is primarily because of a stronger outturn in the first quarter and near-term momentum.
- The growth forecast compares with a 7.2% GDP expansion in FY23.
- It estimated growth of 6.5% each for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 fiscal years.
- The Fitch stated that the GDP growth in January-March was higher than expected.

❖ Amul Girl creator, Sylvester daCunha passes away

- Sylvester daCunha, the man behind the iconic Amul Girl 'utterly butterly' campaign, passed away.
- He conceived the 'Utterly Butterly' campaign for Amul, the brand owned by Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), in 1966.
- In 1969, daCunha solidified his legacy by establishing daCunha Communications.
- The 'Utterly Butterly' campaign for Amul had celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2016.

❖ Retired Allahabad HC judge Umesh Kumar appointed chairman of DERC

- Former Allahabad High Court judge Umesh Kumar was appointed the chairman of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC), by the President of India.
- President Droupadi Murmu has exercised the powers conferred by Section 45(b) of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023, read with sub-section 2 of Section 84 of the Electricity Act, 2003.
- He served as the justice of Allahabad High Court till July 2022.

❖ Agriculture Ministry and APPPC organize workshop on Fruits Flies Management

- The Asia Pacific Plant Protection Commission unanimously elected India as chair of the Standing Committee on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for the biennium 2023-24 during their 32nd Session held in Bangkok in November 2022.
- The APPPC Workshop on Systems Approach for the management of fruit flies on mango has been scheduled from 19-23 June 2023 in Navi Mumbai.
- The Minister of State for Agriculture, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje inaugurated the workshop.

❖ Florence Nightingale Award to TS ANM

- Tejavath Susheela, an Auxiliary Nurse and Midwife (ANM) from Telangana, is one of the recipients of the prestigious National Florence Nightingale Awards.
- President Droupadi Murmu conferred these awards on 30 individuals from across the country during a ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

➤ Susheela works as an ANM with Erragunta primary Healthcare Centre in Bhadradi - Kothagudem district.

➤ The awards were presented for the years 2022 and 2023 to nursing professionals at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

➤ The awardees included 15 names from 2022 15 names from 2023 .Susheela was awarded for her service rendered in 2022.

➤ The award consists of a certificate , a medal, and a cash prize of 50,000.

❖ GE, HAL sign MoU for manufacture of jet engines in India; U.S. Congress approval awaited

➤ GE Aerospace announced that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to produce fighter jet engines for the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA).

➤ Amid the ongoing U.S. visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, engine manufacturer GE Aerospace on June 22 announced that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to produce fighter jet engines for the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA).

➤ The proposal needs authorisation from the U.S. Congress before an agreement can be concluded.

➤ The agreement includes the potential joint production of GE Aerospace's F414 engines in India, and GE Aerospace continues to work with the U.S. government to receive the necessary export authorisation for this.

➤ The effort is part of the Indian Air Force's (IAF) LCA Mk2 programme," a statement from GE Aerospace said. "Today's agreement will advance GE Aerospace's earlier commitment to build 99 engines for the IAF as part of the LCA Mk2 programme."

❖ **Rayaan wins bronze in Asian U-21 snooker**

➤ Indian cueist Rayaan Razmi signed off with a bronze medal after suffering a heartbreaking 3-4 defeat at the hands of Milad Pourali Darehchi of Iran in the semi-finals of the Asian Under-21 Snooker Championship in Tehran, Iran.

➤ The 21-year-old Mumbai-based cueist had topped Group-D and finished as the top ranked player in the knockout phase.

➤ However, Darehchi on Wednesday managed to clinch the semifinal with the frame scores reading 23-86, 80-50, 71-11, 1-81, 24-59, 47-33 and 70-32 in his favour.

➤ Pakistan's Ahsan Ramzan emerged champion after recording an authoritative 5-2 win.

➤ The Pakistan cueist compiled breaks of 47 and 52 during his 48-46, 70-5, 61-6, 62-29, 30-71, 55-67 and 101-27 victory in the summit clash.

➤ Rayaan started on a promising note, rolling in a break of 75 points to pocket the first frame, but was unable to carry on the momentum and lost the next two to trail 1-2.

❖ **Ganges grandmasters, upgrad Mumba begin on winning note at Global Chess League in Dubai**

➤ UpGrad Mumba Masters and Ganges Grandmasters secured victories on the opening day of the inaugural edition of the Global Chess League being held in Dubai .

➤ In the first match, led by Levon Aronian, a super Grandmaster who has long been among the world's best players, the Triveni Continental Kings played a steady match upGrad Mumba Masters. Despite the initiative of the first move, the Kings failed to capitalise on their advantage.

➤ In the second match, Ganges Grandmasters. with five-time World champion Viswanathan Anand leading the charge, proved too good for Chingari Gulf Titans and emerged victorious with a 10-4 verdict.

❖ **Carborundum Universal names Sridharan Rangarajan as MD**

➤ Murugappa Group-owned Carborundum Universal Ltd (CUMI) announced that its board of directors has appointed Sridharan Rangarajan as the managing director of the company with effect from August 3. Sridharan is currently Director-Finance and Strategy.

➤ He succeeds N Ananthaseshan, who is retiring and stepping down as director on August 2.

➤ Sridharan is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, a graduate member of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India, and holds a bachelor's degree in commerce from Madurai University.

➤ He joined CUMI in June 2011 as chief financial officer.

➤ In January 2018, he took over as president and group CFO of the Murugappa Group. In April 2021, he was appointed Director- Finance and Strategy of CUMI.

❖ UAE leader welcomes Iranian foreign minister in latest softening of Persian Gulf tensions

- DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The president of the United Arab Emirates met with Iran's visiting foreign minister on Thursday in the latest sign of improving relations between Arab Gulf countries and the Islamic Republic.
- The UAE, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries have long harbored suspicions about Iran because of its nuclear program and support for militant groups across the region, and have cultivated close defense ties with the U.S. But in recent months they have charted a more independent path, reaching out to U.S. adversaries as Washington increasingly focuses on Russia and China.
- Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian “discussed the importance of building on positive developments to benefit the people of the region and enhance regional stability and prosperity,” the UAE's state-run WAM news agency reported.

❖ International Widows Day - 23 June

- International Widows Day is observed annually on 23 June.
- The day aims to raise awareness about the challenging circumstances faced by widows, especially poverty.
- The theme for International Widows Day 2023 is "Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality".
- The United Nations introduces a new theme each year to highlight the challenges faced by widows.

➤ The theme chosen for 2023 emphasizes the role of innovative solutions and technological advances in promoting gender equality.

History of International Widows Day:

➤ It was established in 2005 by The Loomba Foundation.

➤ In 2010, the United Nations officially adopted International Widows Day, increasing its importance globally.

❖ PM Modi becomes most popular leader of the world with 75% approval rating

➤ According to the Global Leader Approval Rating report by US-based consulting firm Morning Consult, PM Modi became the most popular leader in the world with an approval rating of 75%.

➤ Swiss President Alain Berset is second in the approval rating. Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador is in third place.

➤ US President Joe Biden ranks 8th in the approval rating. British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is ranked 13th among 22 world leaders.

➤ The latest approval ratings are based on data collected from June 7 to 13.

➤ The ratings are calculated using a seven-day moving average of adult residents in each country, with sample sizes varying by country.

➤ Prime Minister Modi has been consistently on top in the previous ratings as well.

❖ Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched PM Kisan mobile app with face authentication feature

- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched the PM Kisan mobile app with a face authentication feature for e-KYC.
- The app allows remote farmers to complete the KYC process by scanning their face, without the need for OTP or fingerprint verification.
- The scheme is comprehensive and ambitious and the central government in collaboration with the states can provide installments to around 8.5 crore farmers after completing their KYC.
- PM Kisan Yojana is one of the largest DBT schemes in the world, which provides direct transfer of six thousand rupees per year to farmers in three installments.
- So far, more than 11 crore farmers have received a total transfer of Rs 2.42 lakh crore through PM Kisan Yojana.