

## CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 2023

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## Awards and Honours

Awardee Name	Award Name	Extra Information
When Climate Change Turns Violent	WHO award	A documentary titled 'When Climate Change Turns Violent' has won a special prize in the 'Health for All' category at the 4th Annual Health for All Film Festival held at the World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva.
Shaktikanta Das	Governor of the Year	Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das has been conferred with the award of 'Governor of the Year' at London's Central Banking Awards 2023.
Lalitha Natarajan	2023 Iqbal Masih Award	Chennai-based lawyer and activist Lalitha Natarajan has won US Department of Labor's 2023 Iqbal Masih Award for the Elimination of Child Labour.
Gita Press	Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021	This prestigious award recognizes Gita Press' exceptional contribution to social, economic, and political transformation through non-violent and other Gandhian methods.
India	Intercontinental Cup champions	India lifted the Intercontinental Cup as it tamed a young Lebanon side by two second-half goals at the Kalinga Stadium.
Arundhati Roy	45th European Essay Prize for 'Azadi'	The French translation 'Liberte, fascisme, fiction' appeared in Gallimard, a leading French publishing group.
Salman Rushdie	German peace prize 2023	The Peace Prize of the German Book Trade for 2023 has been awarded to British-American author Salman Rushdie, "for his indomitable spirit, for his affirmation of life and for enriching our world with his love of storytelling."
Acharya Gopi	Prof. Jayashankar Award	Acharya N. Gopi, a renowned poet, <b>literary critic, and recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Award,</b>



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		<b>has been chosen as the recipient of the Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar Award.</b>
NTPC	Most Preferred Workplace of 2023-24	<b>NTPC Ltd., India’s largest power generator, has been recognized by Team Marksmen as the “Most Preferred Workplace of 2023-24.”</b>
K. Venugopal	Alappuzha (City in Kerala) for the Indian Medical Association (IMA) awards	He will receive the award at a function to be held at IMA headquarters in New Delhi on July 1,2023
Shankar Mahadevan	honorary doctorate by Birmingham City University (BCU)	The honorary doctorate was presented to him by Professor Philip Plowden, the Vice-Chancellor of Birmingham City University, during a ceremony held in Birmingham.
PM Narendra Modi	Egypt’s highest honour ‘Order of the Nile’	During his official visit to Egypt, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was bestowed with the highest state honor of Egypt, known as the ‘Order of the Nile.’
Priya A.S	Sahitya Akademi Award 2023	Priya A S, a talented writer, <b>has been honored with the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2023 in the Malayalam language for her novel “Perumazhayathe Kunjithalukal” (The Children Who Never Withered).</b>
Rajindar Singh Dhatt	Points of Light Award	Rajindar Singh Dhatt has been the driving force behind the “Undivided Indian Ex-Servicemen’s Association,” an organization focused on uniting British Indian war veterans.
Mary Kom	Global Indian Icon at UK-India Awards	Sporting legend and India’s first-ever Olympic medallist in women’s boxing, Mary



		Kom, has been honoured with the Global Indian Icon of the Year award at the annual UK-India Awards in Windsor, south-eastern England.
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## Appointments

Name	Designation Name	Extra Information
Rajesh Kumar Anand	Air Officer-in-Charge Administration (AOA)	Air Marshal Rajesh Kumar Anand, VishishT Seva Medal took over as Air Officer-in-Charge Administration (AOA) on 01 Jun 2023.
P Upadhyay	Director General of Naval Armament (DGONA)	He joined Naval Armament Organization of Indian Navy on 12 Jul 1989.
Bidyut Bihari Swain	Office and Secrecy as Member, UPSC	Shri Bidyut B. Swain <b>joined the Indian Administrative Service in 1988 in the Gujarat Cadre. Between the year 1989 &amp; 2018, Shri Swain served the Government of Gujarat in various posts, in the Districts and at the State Level.</b>
Amarendu Prakash	SAIL chairman	Amarendu Prakash <b>has taken charge as the new</b> Chairman and Managing Director of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) <b>from May 31. He was previously the Director (In-charge) of SAIL's Bokaro steel plan.</b>
Sanjay Varma	Managing Director (additional charge) of Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL)	He has also had extensive exposure by being on the boards of ONGC-Mangalore Petrochemicals Ltd and Shell-MRPL Aviation.
Celeste Saulo	1st female Secretary-General – WMO	Celeste Saulo of Argentina has been appointed as the first female Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).



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Smriti Mandhana	Wrangler – Brand Ambassador	Ace Turtle Omni Pvt Ltd., a retail company, has appointed Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana as the brand ambassador of its Wrangler brand. The company is the exclusive licensee of the denim brand in India.
Nirmala Lakshman	Chairperson of The Hindu Group	Ms. Nirmala Lakshman <b>has been appointed</b> Chairperson of the Board of Directors of The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited (THGPPL) <b>for a term of three years.</b>
Rajesh Kumar Anand	Air Officer-in-Charge Administration	Air Marshal Rajesh Kumar Anand, who was awarded the Vishisht Seva Medal, took over as Air Officer-in-Charge Administration (AOA)
Janardan Prasad	Director-General of Geological Survey of India	Janardan Prasad <b>has been appointed as the new</b> Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI). <b>Prasad has taken charge of the 174-year-old institution, succeeding Dr S Raju who has been the Director General since 2020.</b>
V Anantharaman	TransUnion Cibil chairman	V Anantharaman, <b>a seasoned banker with</b> extensive experience in the banking industry, <b>has been appointed as the</b> non-executive chairman of credit bureau TransUnion CIBIL
Amit Agrawal	UIDAI CEO	Senior IAS officers Amit Agrawal and Subodh Kumar Singh have been appointed as the CEO of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and Director General of the National Testing Agency (NTA), respectively.
Nitin Agarwal	Director- General of the Border Security Force (BSF)	Mr. Agarwal is currently posted as the Additional DG of operations at the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) headquarters in Delhi.
Rashmika Mandanna	Epson India – Brand Ambassador	Printer company Epson India has signed actor Rashmika Mandanna as its brand ambassador.



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Uttam Lal	NHPC's Director of Personnel	Uttam Lal <b>has assumed the role of</b> Director (Personnel) at NHPC Limited India, a <b>leading</b> hydropower company in India. <b>Before joining NHPC, Mr. Lal held the position of Chief General Manager (HR-CSR/R&amp;R/LA) at NTPC Limited.</b>
Ravi Sinha	RAW chief	Sinha, a 1988 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre, is currently serving as the PSO (Personal Security Officer) and Special Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat (SR).
Amit Agrawal	CEO of UIDAI	Senior Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Shri Amit Agrawal assumed charge as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). He is an officer of the 1993 batch IAS from the Chhattisgarh cadre.
Swaminathan Janakiraman	RBI Deputy Governor	The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has selected State Bank of India Managing Director Swaminathan Janakiraman for the post of Deputy Governor in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
Hasmukh Adhia	Chairman of Gujarat International Finance-Tec City	GIFT City, or Gujarat International Finance Tec-City, <b>is a central business district under construction in Gandhinagar district in Gujarat, India.</b>
Daniel Zhang	Alibaba – CEO	Alibaba Group Holding, a <b>Chinese e-commerce company that has been facing challenges in market share and growth recovery after the Covid-19 pandemic, is undergoing leadership changes.</b>
Rajat Verma	Managing Director – DBS Bank	DBS Bank <b>India has appointed</b> Rajat Verma as <b>managing director and head of institutional</b>



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		<b>banking in India. The current head of institutional banking Niraj Mittal has recently moved to a new role as country head of DBS Bank in Australia.</b>
Michael Miebach	Directors of the US-India Strategic and Partnership Forum (USISPF).	This strategic alliance aims to foster collaborations in various sectors and promote the growth and development of both economies.
Kyriakos Mitsotakis	Greek Prime Minister	<b>Kyriakos Mitsotakis, leader of the centre-right New Democracy party, has been sworn in as the prime minister of Greece for a second term following a resounding election victory.</b>
Nutan Roongta	Director of USA East Coast	The Indian Economic Trade Organization (IETO) has recently announced the appointment of Nutan Roongta as the Director of the USA East Coast Chapter.
Aarti Hola-Maini	Director of the United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)	The announcement of Aarti's appointment was made by the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.
Manoj Kohli	senior advisor – Deloitte	<b>Deloitte has hired Manoj Kohli, an experienced professional, as a senior advisor. With a remarkable career spanning 44 years and encompassing 30 countries, Kohli held significant positions such as the Country Head of Softbank India.</b>
TS Singh Deo	Chhattisgarh Deputy Chief Minister	Singh Deo's appointment was announced in a review meeting held to discuss the upcoming Chhattisgarh Assembly elections at the



		Congress headquarters in Delhi.
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### Banking & Finance

#### Razorpay Launches 'Turbo UPI' for Seamless One-Step Payments to Online Merchants

**Razorpay**, a leading fintech unicorn, has introduced '**Turbo UPI**,' a revolutionary one-step payment solution for the **Unified Payments Interface (UPI) network**.

In collaboration with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Axis Bank**, **Razorpay** aims to streamline the payment process for users, allowing them to make payments directly without being redirected to a third-party UPI app during checkout.

This article delves into the key features and benefits of Razorpay's Turbo UPI, highlighting its potential impact on online businesses and the increasing adoption of UPI in India.

#### Federal Bank Launches 'I am Adyar, Adyar is Me' Campaign in Chennai

The **Federal Bank** has initiated a unique campaign in Chennai, titled '**I am Adyar, Adyar is me**,' to celebrate the rich culture and stories of the local community.

The campaign transforms an entire bank branch into a museum of local stories, showcasing the struggles and triumphs of individuals who make Adyar special.

With vibrant paintings adorning the walls and an exclusive exhibition featuring 40 compelling stories, the campaign aims to capture the essence of Adyar.

The **Federal Bank's Adyar** branch has undergone a remarkable transformation for the '**I am Adyar, Adyar is me**' campaign. The branch has been converted into a living museum, showcasing the soul of Adyar through art and stories. Vibrant paintings now adorn the walls, reflecting the lively spirit of the locality.

#### RING digital credit platform now features NPCI UPI plug-in

**RING**, a digital credit platform in India, is collaborating with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** to implement its UPI Plug-in feature into its existing digital services.

This agreement will allow RING to provide its customers with a '**Scan & Pay**' option, as well as attracting new customers who prefer to use UPI for payments.

Key Points:





RING will be able to offer an all-in-one payment and credit solution, enabling customers to receive credit and pay merchants nationwide within the RING app.

With the **UPI payment feature**, RING users can link their bank account to create a UPI ID, and then make payments by scanning a merchant's QR code.

### **Paytm Collaborates with Arunachal Pradesh to Foster Startup Ecosystem**

**Paytm Payment Services Limited (PPSL)** entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Arunachal Pradesh** Innovation and Investment Park (APIIP) to establish a thriving startup ecosystem for the youth in the northeastern state.

The partnership aims to nurture entrepreneurship and encourage young business ventures during their early stages of development.

### **Canara Bank Offers UPI Payments Through RuPay Credit Cards**

Canara Bank, in collaboration with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**, has announced that its customers can now utilize their RuPay Credit Cards on the **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** platform.

This joint initiative aims to provide safe, secure, and convenient payment transactions for **Canara Bank customers**.

The introduction of **RuPay Credit Cards on UPI** opens up new opportunities for both customers and merchants, revolutionizing the credit ecosystem.

## **Indian Affairs**

### **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates National Training Centre for Food Safety and Standards Authority of India**

“As we aim to become a developed nation in our Amrit Kaal, it is essential that our citizens are healthy. Swasth Nagrik creates a Swastha Rashtra, which leads to a Samruddha Rashtra.”

This was stated by Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, **Dr Mansukh Mandaviya** at the inauguration of the state-of-the-art National Training Centre for Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh yesterday.

Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, Minister of State (HFW) and General (Dr.) V.K. Singh, Minister of State (Civil Aviation, MoRTH) were also present at the event.

### **FCI becomes leading recruiter in recent years by recruiting a large number of youth every year**

**Food Corporation of India (FCI)**, one of the largest **Public Sector Undertakings** under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution for ensuring the food security of



the nation has been one of the leading recruiters in recent years, recruiting a large number of youth every year.

The recruitment process of FCI is conducted only through online mode of examination and is widely advertised in the Employment News as well as leading National/Local Newspapers.

The selection is done through open competition and is on a purely merit basis. FCI ensures utmost transparency and genuineness by strictly adhering to the Rules and Regulations of the Corporation / Government of India.

### **IICA and RRU sign MoU for academic and research collaboration**

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between **Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA)** and **Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU)**.

The MoU intends to synergise the professional capabilities of IICA and RRU towards capacity building, education, research and consulting in the domain of **Internal Security, Financial Crimes, Law Enforcement, Corporate Frauds** and other subject matters common to their mandate and objectives.

The MoU also provides for exchange of knowledge and resources between IICA and RRU for conducting research, training and consultancy.

### **India's Internet Economy Poised for \$1 Trillion Growth by 2030**

**India's internet economy** is projected to reach \$1 trillion by 2030, showing substantial growth from **\$175 billion in 2022**, as per a joint report by Google, Temasek, and Bain & Company.

The report highlights that the expansion of the digital sphere is propelled by increased digital consumption in sectors like **e-commerce, online travel, food delivery, and ride-hailing**.

By 2030, the Internet economy is expected to contribute **62% to India's technology sector**, a notable increase from **48% in 2022**. Furthermore, as stated in the report, it is anticipated to account for 12-13% of India's GDP, up from 4-5% in 2022.

### **Coromandel Express Derails and Collides with Two Other Trains in Odisha**

A devastating train accident occurred in **Odisha**, resulting in a tragic triple train crash involving **Coromandel Express** and two other trains. The incident claimed the lives of at least 233 people and left approximately 900 injured.

The details surrounding the cause of the Coromandel Express derailment and subsequent collisions are still under investigation. The state government has declared a day of mourning, and rescue operations are underway to aid the victims and their families.



### Coromandel Express Collision

The **Shalimar-Chennai Central Coromandel Express**, bound for Chennai, collided with the derailed coaches of the Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express. The impact of the collision resulted in further damage and casualties.

### Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society renamed as Prime Ministers' Museum and Library Society

In a special meeting of the **Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society**, it was resolved to change its name to **Prime Ministers' Museum and Library Society**.

The Special Meeting was presided over by Defence Minister, **Shri Rajnath Singh** who is the Vice-President of the Society.

Prime Minister Shri Modi had mooted the idea of setting up of a museum dedicated to all the Prime Ministers of India on **Teen Murti Premises**, New Delhi in 2016.

The Executive Council, **NMML had in its 162nd meeting held on 25-11-2016** approved the construction of the Museum of all Prime Ministers in the Teen Murti Estate.

The project was completed and the **Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya** was opened to the public on 21st April 2022.

### Coal India to come under Competition Act: Supreme Court

In a recent judgment, the **Supreme Court of India** ruled that **Coal India Limited (CIL)** and its subsidiary companies are subject to the Competition Act, 2002.

The court held that the Competition Commission of India (CCI) can take action against CIL for abuse of its dominant position in the coal sector.

However, the court emphasized that CIL has the right to defend its actions under the law. This decision comes after CIL challenged a ruling by the CCI in 2014, which held the company guilty of abuse of dominant position and imposed a penalty.

### India's first hydrogen-powered train to run from Jind district, Haryana

In a significant step towards embracing sustainable transportation, **India is poised to launch its first-ever hydrogen-powered train.**

Hydrogen trains, which rely on fuel cells to convert **hydrogen and oxygen into electricity**, offer a clean and environmentally friendly alternative to traditional diesel trains.

This groundbreaking initiative marks a promising stride in India's efforts to reduce carbon emissions and combat pollution.



### **Airports Authority of India Launches Sustainable Green Airports Mission**

The **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** has launched a new initiative to make its airports more sustainable and carbon neutral.

The “**Sustainable Green Airports Mission**” (SUGAM) aims to reduce the environmental impact of airport operations by promoting the use of renewable energy, energy efficiency measures, and other sustainability initiatives.

A recent initiative was taken up by the publication of the **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** on sustainability in the form of a booklet titled “Sustainable Green Airports Mission”, It was launched on World Environment Day by Jyotiraditya Scindia, Union Minister of Civil Aviation.

### **Indian Council of Agricultural Research signs a MOU with Amazon Kisan to Empower Farmers**

**Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)**, New Delhi signed a MoU with **Amazon Kisan** to combine strengths and create synergy between the two organizations for guiding the farmers on scientific cultivation of different crops for optimum yield and income.

ICAR will provide technological backstopping to the farmers through Amazon’s network. It will improve farmers’ livelihood and boost crop yield. This MoU in farmer’s partnership with Amazon Kisan program will help ensuring access to high quality fresh produce for consumers across India, including through Amazon Fresh.

### **Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI), Hyderabad gets Accredited as “Athi Uttam”**

The **Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI)** functioning under the Ministry of Mines, has been awarded with the accreditation by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training (NABET) in recognition of the yeomen services it has rendered and high standards maintained in the field of earth science training.

The assessment was made on the basis of the inspection of all standard operating procedures and methodologies followed by the institute in different levels.

The team from **Capacity Building Commission (CBC)**, NABET and Quality Control of India conducted the on-site assessment and awarded the Certificate of Accreditation with the grading of Athi Uttam.

### **National Time Release Study (NTRS) 2023 Report**

The recently released **National Time Release Study (NTRS) 2023** report is a significant milestone in evaluating the performance of cargo release processes in India.

This study aims to provide valuable insights into import and export release times.

### **Understanding the Time Release Study (TRS)**



- The Time Release Study serves as a vital performance measurement tool that assesses the **duration of cargo release processes**.
- It measures the time taken from the arrival of cargo at Customs stations to its out-of-charge status for domestic clearance in imports or the departure of the carrier in exports.

### Minerals Security Partnership

The global initiative known as the **Minerals Security Partnership (MSP)**, also referred to as the critical minerals alliance, was announced in June 2022.

The primary goal of this partnership is to ensure the availability of stable supplies of critical minerals for participating countries' economies while reducing China's dominance in the global critical mineral market.

Focused Minerals: Cobalt, Nickel, Lithium, and Rare Earth Minerals

The MSP places a strong emphasis on the supply chains of critical minerals, including **cobalt, nickel, lithium, and the 17 "rare earth" minerals**.

These minerals are essential for manufacturing advanced technologies such as mobile phones, electric vehicles, solar panels, and defense applications.

## State related Affairs

### NTPC Green Energy Ltd. (NGEL) and Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (UPRVUNL) to collaborate for development of Renewable Energy Power Parks and Projects

**NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL)** and **Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (UPRVUNL)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Lucknow yesterday with an aim to collaborate in the development of **Renewable Energy Parks** and Projects and to facilitate in Government of India's efforts towards energy transition.

The MoU was signed by Shri Mohit Bhargava, CEO (NGEL) and Shri Nidhi Kumar Narang, Director (Finance), UPRVUNL in the presence of Shri P. Guruprasad, MD (UPRVUNL), Shri Praveen Saxena, Regional Executive Director (NR) of NTPC. Shri V V Sivakumar, GM (NGEL) and other senior officials of NTPC, NGEL and UPRVUNL were present during the occasion.

### Telangana on State's Formation Day is observed on June 02

**Telangana** was formed **out of Andhra Pradesh in 2014**. Its long journey to Statehood began in 1952 and culminated on June 2, 2014, when K. Chandrasekhar Rao took oath as the first Chief Minister of the new State.



With the State stepping into the 10th year, the development in important sectors and the road ahead for the young State.

### Padma Awardees From Haryana To Get Rs 10,000 Monthly

Haryana Chief Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** has announced a monthly pension of Rs 10,000 for the Padma awardees from the state.

Besides the monthly pension, the chief minister has also announced a free travel facility in the ‘**Volvo bus**’ service of the state government for Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awardees from Haryana.

The government has formulated various welfare policies to make life easier for the people of the state.

### Telangana’s 5 structures chosen for the Green Apple Awards

In the **Urban and Real Estate Sector** category, **Telangana** has been awarded with the International Green Apple Awards for Beautiful Buildings.

For the first time any building or structure in India has received these **prestigious awards**.

The awards are presented annually by The Green Organization, an independent **non-profit organisation based in London**, to recognize and promote global environmental best practices.

**The five selected buildings and structures from Telangana are as follows:**

1. **Mozzam-Jahi Market (Heritage category)**
2. **Durgam Cheruvu Cable Bridge (Bridge category)**
3. **B R Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat Building falls under the aesthetically designed office and workspace category**
4. **Integrated Command Control Center of Telangana Police is a distinctive type of office.**
5. **Yadadri Temple (Excellent religious structures category)**

### Karnataka Government Gruha Jyothi Scheme

The Karnataka Government recently launched its **Gruha Jyothi Scheme**, aimed at providing affordable housing to the poor and middle-class families of the state.

The scheme is a part of the state’s ambitious “Housing for All” plan and aims to provide housing to nearly **4.5 lakh families in the next five years**.

#### Introduction

Under the **Gruha Jyothi Scheme**, the Karnataka Government will provide financial assistance of up to **Rs. 2.5 lakh** to eligible beneficiaries for the construction of their own houses.



The government will also provide subsidies on the interest rate for loans taken for the construction of the house.

### **Assam's First Underwater Tunnel To Come Up Under Brahmaputra**

**Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma** recently announced the construction of **Assam's first-ever underwater tunnel**, connecting Numaligarh and Gohpur.

This groundbreaking project, estimated to cost Rs 6,000 crores, will be the **first rail-road tunnel under the Brahmaputra River** in northeast India.

The tenders for the project are scheduled to open next month, marking a significant milestone in the region's transportation infrastructure.

### **NHPC signs MoU with GRIDCO Odisha, for developing 2 GW Pumped Storage Projects and 1 GW Solar Energy Projects in Odisha**

**NHPC Limited**, the **largest hydropower development organization** in India, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **GRIDCO Odisha**, Government of Odisha, for **“Development of Pumped Storage Projects (PSPs) and Renewable Energy in the State of Odisha”**.

The MoU envisages setting up Self-identified Pumped Storage Projects of at least 2,000 MW and Renewable Energy Projects (Ground-Mounted Solar Projects / Floating Solar Projects) of at least 1,000 MW in the state.

The MoU was signed on 23rd June, 2023, by Executive Director (Strategy Business Development and Consultancy), NHPC, Rajat Gupta and Managing Director, GRIDCO Limited, Trilochan Panda; in the presence of Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Energy, Govt. of Odisha cum Chairperson, GRIDCO, Nikunja B. Dhal; Director (Projects), NHPC Limited, Biswajit Basu; and other senior officers of both organizations.

### **UP launches ‘Operation Conviction’ for cow slaughter**

The **Uttar Pradesh Police** has recently initiated a comprehensive program named **‘Operation Conviction’** to combat criminals and organized crime in the state.

This strategic initiative aims to expedite the conviction process, particularly in cases related to heinous crimes such as rape, murder, cow slaughter, religious conversion, and those registered **under the POCSO Act**.

By ensuring immediate arrests, robust evidence collection, meticulous investigations and effective representation in courts, the authorities seek to minimize the time taken for criminals to face justice.

### **Kerala started its own internet service**





**Kerala has become the first state** in the country to launch its **own internet service**. **Kerala Chief Minister P. Vijayan** launched the Kerala Fiber Optic Network in the state, in which users will get 1 Gbps speed.

On this occasion, he said that through this 20 lakh families will get free internet connection. The Government of Kerala has launched a new service named **Kerala Fiber Optic Network (K-FON)**.

### **U.P. Government to expand green cover with ‘one-tap-one-tree’ campaign**

The **Uttar Pradesh Government** is going to launch a campaign titled **‘one-tap-one-tree’** from July 1, aimed at expanding the State’s green cover along with the provision of potable tap water in rural areas simultaneously.

The campaign is being launched jointly by the **Namami Gange Programme** and Rural Water Supply Department under the State government.

Under the campaign, the State government has set the target of **planting five lakh saplings** within a week of the launch of the initiative between July 1- July 7, as part of the larger mission to have a green future for the State, and at the same time providing people safe drinking water to safeguard their health.

### **‘CM Learn and Earn scheme’ launched by MP Govt**

The Chief Minister of **Madhya Pradesh, Shivraj Singh Chouhan** is set to launch a Learn and Earn program that will equip young people with skills that are highly sought-after by employers. A total of **703 training areas** have been identified for the scheme.

#### **Key Points:**

- The program offers an **incentive of Rs 8,000 to 10,000 allowance** in addition to acquiring new skills.
- The initiative aims to provide **training to 100,000 young people**, and registrations for both training establishments and learners are now open.
- According to Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the government is committed to connecting young people with job opportunities. Successful participants of the program will begin working on August 1st.

### **Karnataka announces free bus travel ‘Shakti’ scheme for women**

The **Karnataka government** has advised the women to apply for **Shakti smart cards** to avail the free travel in state run buses, starting from June 11.

The government has already issued a set of guidelines on the **‘Shakti’** scheme, which is one of the major poll promises by the Congress party in Karnataka.

According to the **transport department of Karnataka**, women can apply for Shakti smart cards through [sevasindhu.karnataka.gov.in](http://sevasindhu.karnataka.gov.in) from June 11.





### ‘Nutri Garden Project’ in Lakshadweep

The project was launched as a result of the development objective of self-reliant India in which **vegetable seeds has been provided to 1000 farmers.**

Moreover, 7000 chickens of indigenous breeds were distributed to the women of **Lakshadweep families** with income less than **Rs.600 under the Backyard Poultry Scheme.**

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has appreciated ‘**Nutri Garden Project’ in Lakshadweep.** He said that this initiative has shown how enthusiastic the people of Lakshadweep are about learning and adopting new things.

### ADB, India sign \$130 million loan to promote horticulture in Himachal Pradesh

The **Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB)** (8th June 2023) signed a **\$130 million loan** to increase agricultural productivity, improve access to irrigation and promote horticulture agribusinesses to **raise farmers’ income in the state of Himachal Pradesh.**

The signatories to the Himachal Pradesh **Subtropical Horticulture, Irrigation, and Value Addition Project** were Mr. Rajat Kumar Mishra, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, for the Government of India, and Takeo Konishi, Country Director of ADB’s India Resident Mission, for ADB.

### Tamil Nadu Government Withdraws General Consent to CBI

In a significant development, the **Tamil Nadu government** has decided to withdraw the general consent accorded to the **Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)** to conduct probes in the state.

This decision, made by the home department, has drawn attention to the **functioning and jurisdiction of the CBI.**

#### The Purpose of General Consent

The general consent accorded to the CBI allows the agency to seamlessly investigate corruption cases involving central government employees.

It facilitates the agency’s access to conduct investigations without seeking specific permission for each case. The purpose of this consent is to expedite and ensure smooth proceedings in corruption-related investigations.

#### States that have Withdrawn General Consent

- The **Tamil Nadu government** joins a growing list of states that have **withdrawn the general consent accorded to the CBI.**
- This list includes **West Bengal, Rajasthan, Kerala, Mizoram, Punjab, Telangana, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Meghalaya.**



- These decisions reflect the states' desire to assert their authority and maintain control over investigations within their jurisdictions.

### Odisha celebrates 'Raja' agricultural festival

- Raja or Raja Parba or Mithuna Sankranti is a **three-day-long festival of womanhood celebrated in Odisha, India.**
- On this occasion, people enjoy by cooking traditional delicacies, relishing paan, playing cards and other games with family and friends.
- First day of the festival is called "**Pahili Raja**" which marks the beginning of the festival in which people do all types of preparations for the festival.
- Second day is called "**Raja/Mithuna Sankranti**" which signifies beginning of the solar month of Mithuna(June/July) from which the season of rains starts.
- Third day is called "**Bhumi Dahana or Basi Raja**" which signifies the middle day of the festival in which people take a break from their routine work to relax and enjoy.
- On the fourth day called "**Basumati snana**", people give bath to mother earth with turmeric paste and adore it with flower, sindoor etc.

### Karnataka's Anna Bhagya Scheme

The 'Anna Bhagya' scheme in Karnataka, which guarantees 10 kg of rice to **Below Poverty Line (BPL)** cardholders, has hit a roadblock due to a shortage of rice.

Despite approaching neighboring states for procurement, the Karnataka government is struggling to secure an adequate rice supply to implement the scheme.

The shortfall in rice availability poses a significant challenge to **Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's efforts to provide free rice to BPL families.**

## International Affairs

### France become the first country to restrict short-haul domestic flights

The **French government** has become the **first large economy to ban short-haul flights** where a train or bus alternative of two and a half hours or less exists—a move which was voted on in 2021 and comes into effect in April 2022.

The ban is an attempt to **reduce the country's carbon emissions** arising from plane travel—a move which The Guardian reported could eliminate 12% of French domestic flights.

### UAE Wins Presidency of World Meteorological Organization

**Dr. Abdulla Al Mandous**, Director-General of the National Centre of Meteorology (NCM) in the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)**, has been elected as the new President of the **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** for a four-year term from 2023 to 2027.



Dr. Al Mandous was elected by the representatives of WMO's 193 member states and territories who have convened in Geneva, Switzerland as part of the 19th session of the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-19), the supreme body of WMO being held from May 22 to June 2.

### UAE to Host World's Largest Conservation Conference in 2025

The **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** has emerged victorious in the bid to host the prestigious **World Conservation Congress (WCC)** in 2025. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has chosen Abu Dhabi as the venue for this momentous event.

The WCC, renowned as the world's largest gathering of conservationists, is expected to attract over **10,000 delegates** from more than 160 countries.

Taking place from October 10-21, 2025, the conference will serve as a critical platform for global environmentalists to address pressing challenges and formulate innovative solutions for a sustainable future.

### China inks deal with Pakistan to set up nuclear power plant

**China and Pakistan** have signed a significant agreement worth **USD 4.8 billion** to establish a **1,200-megawatt nuclear power plant**.

This deal reflects the deepening strategic cooperation between the two nations and comes as a welcome development for Pakistan.

Pakistan is determined to enhance its energy sector and overcome its economic difficulties by assuring the prompt initiation of the nuclear power plant project.

### Germany's Economic Downturn: Fourth Largest Global Economy Slips into Recession

**Germany**, the fourth largest economy in the world, is currently **facing a recession** due to a decline in the Euro and an unexpected contraction in the economy during the first three months of 2023.

This contraction, marking the second consecutive quarter of decline, meets one definition of a recession.

According to data released by the **Federal Statistical Office**, Germany's gross domestic product (GDP) decreased by 0.3 percent between January and March.

### \$95 Million Undersea Cable Connection Project in Micronesia

**Japan, the United States, and Australia** have recently announced their joint venture in signing a significant undersea cable project.

This initiative aims to improve network connectivity in the Indo-Pacific region, while also countering China's expanding influence.



### Connecting Nations and Enhancing Connectivity

The undersea cable will span approximately 2,250 kilometers, linking the state of Kosrae in the Federated State of Micronesia, Tarawa in Kiribati, and Nauru to the existing cable landing point situated in Pohnpei, Micronesia.

This ambitious undertaking will enable enhanced connectivity among these East Micronesia island nations, fostering socio-economic growth and development.

### US and UK Forge ‘Atlantic Declaration’ to Boost Economic Ties

The **United States and the United Kingdom** have recently unveiled a groundbreaking strategic pact known as the “**Atlantic Declaration.**”

This agreement reaffirms their longstanding “**special relationship**” and outlines a joint effort to **tackle challenges posed by Russia, China, and economic instability.**

Rather than pursuing a post-Brexit free-trade agreement, the two nations have opted to develop a new green economy through extensive industrial subsidies.

The Atlantic Declaration focuses on fostering industry collaboration in defense and renewable energy sectors to **effectively respond to China’s growing competition.**

In addition, it acknowledges the need to address the threats of authoritarian states, disruptive technologies, non-state actors, and transnational issues like climate change. This article explores the key terms and implications of the Atlantic Declaration.

### Canada launches ‘digital nomad strategy’ for foreign workers

**Canada** has taken a proactive approach to address its shortage of skilled workers, particularly in the tech industry.

During **Collision’s tech conference in Toronto**, the country’s immigration minister announced the launch of a digital nomad strategy aimed at attracting talented individuals from around the world.

Under the digital nomad strategy, foreign workers are permitted to stay in Canada for up to six months. If they receive job offers during their stay, they have the opportunity to extend their time in the country.

This initiative is designed to alleviate the shortage of skilled professionals in **Canada’s tech sector.**

### Everything about Iran Nuclear Deal

The **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)**, more commonly referred to as the Iran nuclear agreement, was established in July 2015 **between Iran and multiple global powers, including the United States.**



The objective of the agreement was for Iran to dismantle a significant part of its nuclear program and allow for more extensive international inspections. In return, **billions of dollars'** worth of sanctions relief was granted to Iran.

Iran Nuclear Deal: All Participants

- The **JCPOA** was put into effect in January 2016 and places limitations on Iran's civilian nuclear enrichment program.
- Negotiations involved the P5+1, comprising **China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States plus Germany, alongside the European Union.**
- **Saudi Arabia, among other Middle Eastern nations,** argued that they should have been consulted considering their potential vulnerability if Iran gained nuclear abilities.

### World Bank introduces its initial plan to enhance road safety in South Asia

The **World Bank (WB)** has initiated its first-ever project dedicated solely to **road safety in South Asia**, with a financial agreement of **USD 358 million** signed with the government of Bangladesh in Dhaka.

**Aim:**

- The project aims at reducing fatalities and injuries caused by road crashes in **high-risk highways**, district roads and selected cities.
- The project will focus on two national highways in Bangladesh, namely **Gazipur-Elenga (N4) and Natore-Nawabganj (N6).**

### Oman Creates History as First Foreign Government to Promote Country through Yoga

In a pioneering initiative, the Indian Embassy in the Sultanate of Oman has introduced an innovative video called '**Soulful Yoga, Serene Oman**' on the eve of the **International Day of Yoga 2023.**

The video showcases yoga enthusiasts from different countries performing beautiful yoga poses against stunning backdrops such as mountains, beaches, and sand dunes in and around Muscat

## Foreign Relations

### NHPC and VUCL, Nepal sign MoU for the development of Phukot Karnali Hydro Electric Project (480MW) in Nepal

**NHPC Limited** (A Govt. of India Enterprise) and **Vidhyut Utpadan Company Limited (VUCL), Nepal** signed an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) in New Delhi today for development of **Phukot Karnali Hydro Electric Project (480MW) in Nepal.**



The MoU was signed in the presence of Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Nepal Shri Pushpa Kamal Dahal ‘**Prachanda**’ at Hyderabad House in New Delhi.

### **India & Sri Lanka to accelerate digital education in Galle District**

The High Commissioner of **India to Sri Lanka**, Gopal Baglay, and the Secretary of the Sri Lankan Ministry of Education, M.N. Ranasinghe, exchanged diplomatic notes regarding the implementation of a digital education project in Sri Lanka’s Galle District.

This collaborative effort aims to enhance educational opportunities and foster digital literacy among underprivileged students in the region.

### **Meta Launches \$250K Mixed Reality Fund for 5 Indian Startups**

**Meta** has announced the launch of a new **Mixed Reality (MR) program in India**, offering a **\$250,000 award** to support homegrown startups and developers in building applications and experiences.

The program aims to foster innovation and establish a national XR technology ecosystem, with selected participants receiving monetary grants, mentoring from Meta Reality Labs specialists, and the opportunity to join Meta’s growing developer ecosystem.

#### **Building the XR Ecosystem in India:**

Sandhya Devanathan, VP for Meta in India, expresses Meta’s commitment to building the XR ecosystem in India. The Presence Platform, an integral part of Meta’s metaverse vision, aims to enhance virtual experiences and make them more accessible.

### **Micron, Gujarat govt ink deal to set up semiconductor plant**

**Micron Technology Inc**, a US-based semiconductor manufacturer, has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Gujarat government** to set up a state-of-the-art semiconductor unit in Sanand, near Ahmedabad.

The project, valued at **Rs 22,500 crore**, marks a significant milestone in India’s journey towards self-reliance in memory chip manufacturing.

The MoU signing ceremony was attended by Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Micron Technology’s senior vice-president, Gursharan Singh.

### **India, Vietnam hold 3rd Maritime Security Dialogue in New Delhi**

**India and Vietnam** recently held the **3rd Maritime Security Dialogue in New Delhi**, underscoring their commitment to sustaining a secure maritime environment amidst growing Chinese aggression in the region.

The dialogue brought together senior officials from both countries, focusing on reinforcing regional and international mechanisms to enhance comprehensive maritime security.



This article explores the significance of the maritime security dialogue and the various aspects that make **maritime cooperation** between India and Vietnam crucial.

### **Dubai Emerges as India's Top Choice for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)**

According to the latest **fDi Markets Report and the Dubai FDI Monitor**, Dubai has secured its position as the **leading destination for foreign direct investment (FDI) from India** in the calendar year 2022.

**India** ranked among the **top five source countries** for announced FDI projects and estimated FDI capital in Dubai, solidifying the emirate's appeal to Indian investors.

This article examines the key findings and highlights the sectors and trends contributing to this growing partnership.

### **India and UAE Target \$100 Billion Non-Oil Trade by 2030; Set Up Councils to Facilitate FTA Implementation**

**India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)** have set an ambitious target to increase their non-oil bilateral trade from the current **USD 48 billion to USD 100 billion by 2030**.

The decision was reached during the first meeting of the Joint Committee of India-UAE **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)**.

Both countries aim to double their non-petroleum trade in the next seven years, emphasizing the need to enhance trade cooperation beyond the oil sector.

### **India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway**

The **India-Myanmar-Thailand** Trilateral Highway project, an ambitious endeavor aimed at connecting Kolkata to Bangkok via Myanmar, is set to significantly boost regional connectivity and cooperation.

Established under the **Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)**, this highway project holds immense potential for economic development, cultural exchange, and people-to-people contact among member nations.

### **BIMSTEC: Promoting Cooperation and Integration**

BIMSTEC, established in 1997, comprises seven member countries, including **Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand**.

The organization focuses on fostering cooperation among member nations in various sectors, such as trade, investment, technology, energy, tourism, agriculture, fisheries, and more.

The India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway project is one of the crucial initiatives under BIMSTEC, aiming to enhance connectivity and integration in the region.





### India-Egypt Strategic Partnership

**India and Egypt** have taken significant steps to enhance their bilateral cooperation through a **strategic partnership agreement**.

During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Egypt, several key developments unfolded, solidifying the relationship between the two nations.

#### Enhancing Bilateral Cooperation

The strategic partnership agreement between **India and Egypt** aims to strengthen bilateral cooperation across various sectors.

Its primary purpose is to enhance the existing relationship between the two nations and foster closer ties on multiple fronts.

### FIFA appoints Indonesia as U-17 World Cup host

In a significant achievement for Indonesian sports, the Ministry of Youth and Sports has warmly welcomed **FIFA's decision** to choose **Indonesia as the host country** for the upcoming **U-17 World Cup**.

The announcement has sparked excitement and optimism among officials and sports enthusiasts alike.

**Minister Ariotedjo (Minister of Youth and Sports)**, expressed his gratitude and outlined the next steps to ensure a successful event.

#### Collaboration with Football Association of Indonesia (PSSI)

Minister Ariotedjo emphasized the importance of collaboration and synergy with the **Football Association of Indonesia (PSSI)** to ensure a seamless preparation for the U-17 World Cup.

The Ministry intends to invite PSSI officials to engage in fruitful discussions regarding the championship's organization and administration.

### India set to remain as the UAE's largest export destination by 2030

**India** is set to remain the **United Arab Emirates' (UAE) largest export destination by 2030**, according to a new report by Standard Chartered.

The report, titled "**Future of Trade: New opportunities in high-growth corridors**", forecasts that the UAE's exports will reach around USD 543 billion by 2030, showcasing a robust annual growth rate of 5.5 percent.

The report also highlights that trade corridors anchored in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East are expected to outpace the global trade growth rate by almost four percentage points,





propelling the combined trade volume in these regions to an astounding **USD 14.4 trillion**, accounting for 44 percent of global trade by 2030.

### **World Bank Grants USD 255.5 Million Loan to Enhance Technical Education in India**

The **World Bank** has approved a **USD 255.5 million** loan to support the enhancement of technical education in government-run institutions across India.

The project aims to improve the quality of education and provide more career opportunities to students.

Over the next five years, approximately **275 selected government-run technical institutions** will benefit from this funding, benefiting more than 350,000 students annually.

## **Business News**

### **Tata Group Signs \$1.6 Billion EV Battery Plant Deal in Gujarat**

**India's Tata Group**, a leading multinational conglomerate, has entered into an outline deal to construct a **lithium-ion cell factory in Gujarat, India**.

With an investment of approximately **130 billion rupees (\$1.58 billion)**, the plant aims to bolster the country's electric vehicle (EV) supply chain and reduce its dependence on battery imports.

The initiative aligns with India's goal of achieving 100% electric vehicle adoption and curbing carbon emissions by 50% by 2030.

### **Microsoft and AirJaldi Partner to Expand Internet Connectivity in Rural India**

**Microsoft and AirJaldi Networks**, a leading provider of internet connectivity solutions for rural areas, have joined forces through a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) titled '**Contentful Connectivity**.'

This strategic partnership aims to improve internet access and meaningful connectivity in rural regions of India by collaborating with **private, public, and non-profit sectors**.

The initiative, part of the Microsoft Airband program, focuses on expanding AirJaldi Networks, fostering broadband adoption, digital transformation, and uplifting underserved communities.

### **Infosys signs \$454 million deal with Danske Bank for digital transformation**

**Infosys and Danske Bank** have entered into a long-term collaboration aimed at accelerating the bank's digital transformation goals.



The collaboration, valued at **\$454 million for an initial 5-year period**, with the potential for three one-year extensions, is intended to support Danske Bank in achieving its strategic objectives of improving client experiences, operational efficiency, and implementing advanced technologies for a modernized technological environment.

This collaboration is expected to bring speed and scalability to **Danske Bank's digital transformation journey**.

### **Indian Oil Corp Partners with LanzaJet to Establish Aviation Fuel Plant in Haryana**

**Indian Oil Corp (IOC)**, one of India's largest oil refiners, has announced its collaboration with **LanzaJet**, a leading sustainable fuels technology company, to establish an aviation fuel plant in **Haryana**.

With an investment of approximately **23 billion rupees (\$280.1 million)**, this strategic partnership aims to promote the production of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) in the country.

IOC Chairman, **S.M. Vaidya**, shared this significant development during an **industry event held in New Delhi**.

### **Intel and Germany Sign \$32.8 Billion Chip Plant Agreement**

Intel has committed to invest **\$32.8 billion in Magdeburg**, a city in Germany for the establishment of two cutting-edge semiconductor facilities.

This collaboration, with financial support from Berlin, represents the largest foreign investment **ever made in Germany**.

The German government, recognizing the strategic **importance of the semiconductor industry**, has pledged to provide approximately 10 billion euros in financial support toward Intel's overall investment in the country.

The deal is poised to bolster the country's semiconductor industry and solidify Intel's position as a leading player in the market.

### **Air India signs agreement with Airbus, Boeing for 470 new aircraft**

**Air India** finalised the agreements for the purchase of **470 aircraft from Boeing and Airbus at the 2023 Paris Air Show**.

"This landmark step further positions Air India for long-term growth and success that, we have every hope, will come together to represent the best of modern aviation to the world," **Air India Chairman N Chandrasekaran said**.

### **TCS Secures \$1.9 Billion Deal to Digitally Transform UK's National Employment Savings Trust**



**IT services giant Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** has announced a significant expansion of its partnership with the **UK's National Employment Savings Trust (NEST)**, the country's largest workplace pension scheme.

The **£840 million (\$1.1 billion)** deal aims to digitally transform NEST's administration services over an initial tenure of 10 years, providing enhanced member experiences.

If extended to the full 18-year tenure, the contract's total maximum estimated value will reach **£1.5 billion (\$1.9 billion)**.

### **Apple to launch its credit card in India**

**Apple Inc** is planning to launch its credit card in India, also known as **Apple Card**. The iPhone maker is planning to tie up with **HDFC bank** to bring its credit card to its Indian customers.

About the Apple Card is in its primitive stage and there has been no concrete decision taken till now.

Other than holding discussions with the **HDFC Bank CEO**, Apple Inc executives have also held discussions with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) related to the legalities of the card, found Monecontrol.

### **CCI approves acquisition of TCNS Clothing Co. Limited by Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited**

The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** approves acquisition of **TCNS Clothing Co. Limited by Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited**.

The proposed combination involves acquisition of **51% of the Expanded Share Capital** of the Target by the Acquirer **TCNS Clothing Co. Limited (Target)** by the **Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited (Acquirer)**.

The Acquirer is a listed company and is part of the **Aditya Birla conglomerate**.

It is engaged in retailing of branded products within the apparel, footwear and accessories segment, through its retail stores, online retail platforms and e-commerce marketplaces.

The Target is a listed company engaged in the business of manufacturing, distribution and sale of women's apparel, jewellery, footwear, and beauty products, currently undertaken under the brands i.e., **W, Aurelia, Wishful, Elleven and Folk Song**.

The Target is also engaged in the business of wholesale cash and carry trading (including sale through franchisee outlets) of products in the aforementioned categories.



### Ranks

#### TCS, Reliance, Jio top best Indian brands 2023 ranking

**Interbrand**, a renowned global brand consultancy, has declared that headquartered technology giant **TCS** and India's most valuable company **Reliance Industries** have topped its list of the most valuable brands in India.

With a brand value of **Rs 1.09 lakh crore**, **TCS topped the 2023 list**, followed by Reliance Industries, led by billionaire Mukesh Ambani, with a brand value of Rs 65,320 crore.

Reliance Industries' telecom and digital unit, Jio, follows next, positioned at number 5, with a brand value of **Rs 49,027 crore**.

#### Reliance jumps 8 spots to 45th rank on Forbes' Global 2000 list

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) climbed eight spots to the **45th rank**, the highest for an Indian company, on **Forbes' latest Global 2000 list** of public companies worldwide.

The **Global 2000 ranks the largest companies in the world** using four metrics: sales, profits, assets, and market value, Forbes said while releasing the 2023 ranking of the world's top 2,000 companies.

JPMorgan, America's biggest bank with **USD 3.7 trillion** in assets, is at the top of the list for the first time since 2011 and has emerged stronger from this spring's regional banking crisis, with more deposits and opportunistic acquisition of the failed First Republic Bank, reported PTI, citing the list.

#### Meesho, NPCI only 2 Indian firms to feature on TIME's 100 Most Influential Companies 2023 list

**National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** and **Meesho** are the only two Indian companies that made it to **TIME's list of 100 Most Influential Companies 2023 released**.

"As smartphone and internet use have grown in India, the **NPCI launched United Payments Interface (UPI)**, which allows instant money transfers via mobile apps and QR codes, and has brought digital payments to nearly 300 million users, replacing debit and credit cards and enabling e-commerce growth in a country that has long clung to cash," Time magazine said in its list.

E-commerce app **Meesho, launched in 2015 by Vidit Aatrey and Sanjeev Barnwal**, also found a place on TIME's list, as the magazine said that India is "expected to see e-commerce sales nearly double by 2025 to \$133 billion."

#### India climbs to 100th spot in latest FIFA Men's Football rankings

The **Indian men's national football team** has climbed up to the 100th rank on **FIFA's latest world rankings** surpassing teams like Lebanon and New Zealand to achieve the feat.



This is after five years that the Indian men's football team entered the top 100 club after slipping away from the **96th position in 2018**.

The Indian men's football team reached the 100th rank with a total points of 1204.90.

This is the **fourth best ranking achieved by the Indian men's football team** in the history. The team's rank came up to 94th rank in 1996, 99th in 1993 and 96th rank in 2017 to 2018.

### Times Asia Rankings 2023: IISc Tops Among Indian Universities

In the recently released Asia University Rankings 2023 by **Times Higher Education (THE)**, the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** has emerged as the leading university in India.

The rankings highlight the performance and reputation of universities across Asia.

#### Key Points About the News

- **IISc Secures Top Position:** The **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** has claimed the highest position among Indian universities, securing the **48th spot in the Asia University Rankings 2023**.
- **Indian Universities in Top 200:** India has made a notable presence in the rankings, with a total of 18 universities featured among the **top 200 in Asia**. These institutions showcase the growing prominence of Indian higher education on the global stage.
- **Indian Rankings in Top 100:** Among the **top 100 universities in Asia**, India is represented by four institutions. Alongside IISc, JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research stands at 68th, Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences at 77th, and Mahatma Gandhi University shares the 95th spot with Xi'an Jiaotong University from China.

### IIT Bombay ranks in the top 150 in the QS World University Rankings

**IIT Bombay** has been ranked among the **first 150 universities in the QS World University Rankings**. Union Minister Rajiv Chandrasekhar has expressed happiness over this achievement.

It is noteworthy that the QS World University Rankings provide scores to universities around the world after assessing them on different scales.

Based on this, the ranking is prepared. **IIT Bombay has made it to the top 150 universities** in the world in the 2023 rankings.

IIT Bombay has the 149th position in this ranking. After this, the **second Indian institute** is **IIT Delhi**. He has been given the 197th rank.

### India ranked 67th on Energy Transition Index, Sweden on top: World Economic Forum

The **World Economic Forum** ranked India at the **67th place** globally on its Energy Transition Index and said it is the only major economy with energy transition momentum accelerating across all dimensions.



Sweden topped the list and was followed by **Denmark, Norway, Finland and Switzerland in the top five** on the list of 120 countries.

Releasing the report published in collaboration with Accenture, the WEF said the global energy transition has plateaued amid the global energy crisis and geopolitical volatilities, but India is among the countries that have made significant improvements.

### **NIRF 2023: IIT Madras retains top spot for 5th consecutive year**

The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras** has retained the top spot in the **National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF)**, 2023 for the fifth consecutive year, while the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru has been ranked as the best university, according to the Ministry of Education.

IISc Bengaluru has bagged the second spot in the “overall” category followed by **IIT Delhi**.

### **14 Indian cities in world’s 20 most polluted cities list**

**India** fared terribly in the air pollution index for the year 2022, according to a report by a **Swiss air quality technology company IQAir**.

In its report, the Swiss company has named 15 Indian cities in top 20 most polluted cities list and in the list of top 50 most polluted cities, it has named 39 Indian cities, indicating that the air quality in country is one of the worst in the world.

Although **India has dropped three places from its last year’s rank** to be ranked eighth among the most polluted countries in the world, Indian cities do not seem to have improved air quality.

**Here is the list of most polluted cities in the world:**

- 1) Lahore, Pakistan
- 2) Hotan, China
- 3) Bhiwandi, India
- 4) Delhi, India
- 5) Peshawar, Pakistan
- 6) Darbhanga, India
- 7) Asopur, India
- 8) N’Djamena, Chad
- 9) New Delhi, India
- 10) Patna, India
- 11) Ghaziabad, India
- 12) Dharuhera, India
- 13) Baghdad, Iraq
- 14) Chapra, India
- 15) Muzzafarnagar, India

**India has emerged as the 2nd Largest Producer of Crude Steel in the world: Union Minister of Steel & Civil Aviation Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**



The Minister started his address by highlighting the importance of **Steel sector in ensuring the pragati (growth) and vikas (development) of the country.**

“India currently ranks as the **World’s 2nd Largest Producer of Crude Steel**, surpassing Japan in 2018”, the minister said, while mentioning the remarkable growth recorded by India’s steel industry.

### Key Points:

- Export of 6.72 MT of finished steel witnessed against the import of 6.02 MT in year 2022-23
- In the past 9 years (2014-15 to 2022-23), Steel CPSEs used ₹90,273.88 crores of their own resources for CAPEX
- Six Vehicle Scrapping Centres opened in various cities, with three more planned to begin operations soon
- DMI&SP Policy has so far resulted in import substitution of ₹34,800 Crore approximately
- 57 MoUs involving 27 companies signed under the Productivity Linked Incentive Scheme
- To attract committed investment of ₹29,530 crore & employment generation potential of 55000
- 13 task forces identifying action points for each aspect of green steel production

### Community Spirit Index: Indian City Is Ranked Second Most Unfriendly City In the World

In the recent ranking by the Community Spirit Index, **53 cities from different countries** have been given ranks based on how friendly and unfriendly their residents are.

For this purpose, 6 metrics have been considered.

**Toronto and Sydney** are named the world’s top friendliest countries in the index while India’s capital New Delhi and Mumbai are among the most unfriendly cities in the world.

**New York, Dublin, Copenhagen, Montreal and Manchester** are also among the world’s top friendliest countries.

India’s financial capital Mumbai is ranked the second most unfriendliest city in the world by Preply which prepared the Community Spirit Index.

### Most friendly cities in the world

1. **Toronto**
2. **Sydney**
3. **Edinburgh**
4. **Manchester**
5. **New York**
6. **Montreal**
7. **Melbourne**





8. **San Francisco**
9. **Dublin**
10. **Copenhagen**

### These are the world's most liveable cities for 2023

This year, the index covered 172 cities and for the second year in a row, **Vienna, Austria**, has been named the **best city to live in the world**.

Denmark's capital **Copenhagen** also retained its **second-place** position in the list. Following it are two Australian cities, **Melbourne and Sydney**, respectively.

Three Canadian cities – **Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto** — also made it to **the top ten list**. From Asia, Japan's Osaka was ranked number 10 in the rankings.

### HDFC Set to Join Ranks of World's Most Valuable Banks Following Merger

In a historic milestone for India's banking industry, **homegrown company HDFC** will soon be counted among the world's most valuable banks. Following the completion of a merger with Housing Development Finance Corp.,

HDFC has secured the **fourth position in terms of equity market capitalization**. This achievement places HDFC in direct competition with leading American and Chinese lenders, including JPMorgan Chase & Co., Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd., and Bank of America Corp.

With a valuation of approximately **\$172 billion**, the new entity is poised to redefine the global banking landscape.

### Mumbai Tops the List as India's Costliest City for Expatriates

According to Mercer's **Cost of Living** survey, **Mumbai** has been identified as the **most expensive city for expatriates in India**.

The survey analyzed **227 cities across five continents** to determine the cost of living for expats. **Following Mumbai, New Delhi and Bengaluru ranked second and third respectively on the list**.

### Global Ranking and Asian Comparison

- In the 2023 survey, **Mumbai was positioned at 147 in the global ranking, with New Delhi at 169, Chennai at 184, Bengaluru at 189, Hyderabad at 202, Kolkata at 211, and Pune at 213.**
- Interestingly, Mumbai and Delhi were noted as cost-efficient destinations for multinational corporations (MNCs) due to their lower cost of living and expat accommodation costs compared to major cities in the Asia Pacific region like Shanghai, Beijing, and Tokyo.
- On a **global scale**, the most expensive cities for expats were **Hong Kong, Singapore, and Zurich**.





- The survey assessed the cost of various items in each location, including **housing, transportation, food, clothing, household goods, and entertainment.**
- This data helps employers design fair and effective compensation packages for international assignees in over 400 locations worldwide.

### **Tata Retains Title of India's Most Valuable Brand, Taj Strongest Brand for 2nd Year in a Row: Brand Finance Report**

The **Tata Group** has once again secured its position as **India's most valuable brand**, achieving a brand value of **\$26.4 billion**. This significant milestone marks the first time an Indian brand has surpassed the \$25 billion mark, placing Tata in the top 100 of the Brand Finance Global 500 2023 rankings.

Additionally, the **Taj Group**, a luxury hotel giant, emerged as **India's strongest brand** for the second consecutive year, with a brand value of **\$374 million**.

### **J&K maintains first rank in UT category in Food Safety Index 2022-23; for third time in row**

In a significant achievement, Jammu and Kashmir has maintained its first rank in the **Union Territory (UT)** category in Food Safety Index 2022-23. The Department of Food and Drugs Administration J&K has received the award third time in a row for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

The index is released annually by the **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** to measure the performance of states and UTs on various parameters of food safety.

### **Global Slavery Index 2023: Where does India rank?**

The **fifth edition of the Global Slavery Index** provides a global overview of modern slavery and is based on the 2022 estimates.

The index is created by Walk Free, a human rights organization, and is based on data from the **Global Estimates of Modern Slavery**, produced by the International Labour Organization (ILO), Walk Free, and **International Organization for Migration (IOM)**.

### **Global Slavery Index 2023: Findings**

**There are three sets of key findings:**

- The countries with the **highest prevalence of modern slavery include North Korea, Eritrea, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Tajikistan.**
- The countries with the **lowest prevalence include Switzerland, Norway, Germany, Netherlands, and Sweden.**
- The countries with the **highest number of people living in modern slavery include India, China, North Korea, Pakistan, Russia, and Indonesia.**

### **Kerala tops FSSAI's national food safety index**



**Kerala** topped the national food safety index released by the **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)**, which is a first for the state, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.

He said the “**historic achievement**” by the state was thanks to the various initiatives such as the food safety grama panchayat scheme implemented in 140 panchayats and the Safe and Nutritious Food at School project carried out in 500 schools.

### **CSE Report Shows Telangana Ranks 1st for Overall Environmental Performance**

The **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)**, a non-profit organization, released its annual compendium of data, ‘State of India’s Environment 2023: In Figures’, on the eve of World Environment Day.

The report includes statistics on various aspects of the environment, including climate and extreme weather, health, food and nutrition, migration and displacement, agriculture, energy, waste, water, and biodiversity.

### **NTPC climbs up 52 positions to 433rd rank in Forbes’ “The Global 2000” List of top companies**

**NTPC Limited**, India’s largest power generation company, has climbed 52 positions to secure the 433rd rank in Forbes’ “**The Global 2000**” List for 2023.

Rising from **485th rank** in the list in the year 2022, the climb of 52 positions in just one year demonstrates **NTPC’s emergence** as a strong force in the global market.

It is evidence of the company’s steady expansion, sound financial condition, and persistent dedication to excellence.

“**The Global 2000**” List recognizes the world’s largest companies based on four key metrics: sales, profits, assets and market value.

Considering Indian companies, **NTPC** has climbed up one place to secure the 10th rank among the largest Indian companies in the 2023 List.

This ranking further solidifies NTPC’s status as a leading player in **India’s corporate sector**.

### **Akashvani and Doordarshan top trusted electronic media in India**

**DD India and All India Radio** have been acknowledged as the **most dependable electronic media entities** in the nation in accordance with the 2023 issue of the Reuters Institute’s Digital News Report.

The report indicates that although overall news trust has decreased by 3 percentage points, public broadcasters and print brands have managed to preserve a comparatively higher level of credibility among the public.

### **Tata Power becomes most attractive employer brand; Amazon follows: Report**



According to the latest **Randstad Employer Brand Research (REBR) 2023**, Tata Power Company has emerged as India's most attractive employer brand, followed closely by Amazon and Tata Steel.

This marks a significant rise for Tata Power, which was ranked ninth in the previous year's report.

Additionally, the report highlights the preferences and expectations of the **Indian workforce** when choosing an employer, with work-life balance, good reputation, and attractive salary and benefits being the key drivers.

### 2023 IMD World Competitiveness Ranking

The 2023 Global Competitiveness Index, published by the **International Institute for Management Development (IMD)**, has named Denmark, Ireland, and Switzerland as the top three most competitive economies among **64 nations** surveyed.

The report highlights the unique approaches taken by these countries to achieve competitiveness and emphasizes the importance of long-term value creation.

In this article, we will delve into the rankings, key findings, and notable advancements and challenges faced by various countries.

### Denmark Reigns Supreme

In the highly anticipated ranking, **Denmark emerged as the top-ranked country for competitiveness.**

This achievement reflects the country's consistent excellence across all four measured factors: economic performance, government efficiency, infrastructure, and business efficiency.

### Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2023: Bengaluru Startup Ecosystem Ranks 20th

The recently released **Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2023 (GSER 2023)** by Startup Genome provides a comprehensive analysis of startup ecosystems worldwide.

With data from millions of startups across various ecosystems, the report offers valuable insights into the global startup landscape.

Bengaluru, known as India's Silicon Valley, has secured the 20th position on the list, climbing two spots from the previous year.

### Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2023: Top Ecosystems

The report highlights that the top three ecosystems—**Silicon Valley, New York City, and London**—have maintained their positions from 2020, securing the top spots.



However, Boston and Beijing have slipped out of the top five, making room for **Los Angeles to rise to #4 and Tel Aviv to #5.**

### **India now has the world's 2nd largest road network after US: Govt**

India now has the **world's second-largest road network** after an increase of 59% in the last nine years, Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari has said.

India's road network now stands at 1,45,240 km as compared to 91,287 km in 2013-14, Gadkari said. The **US currently has the world's largest road network**, he added.

## Defence News

### **India Conducts Asia's First Demonstration of Performance-Based Navigation for Helicopters**

**India** recently achieved a significant milestone in the field of aviation as it conducted **Asia's first demonstration of performance-based navigation for helicopters.**

The successful flight from Juhu to Pune showcased the utilization of **GAGAN satellite technology**, a joint development by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the **Airports Authority of India (AAI).**

This groundbreaking achievement highlights India's innovation and expertise in the aviation sector.

### **Maiden INDIA-FRANCE-UAE Maritime Partnership Exercise**

The first edition of **India, France and UAE Maritime Partnership Exercise** commenced on 07 Jun 23 in the **Gulf of Oman.** INS Tarkash and French Ship Surcouf both with integral helicopters, **French Rafale aircraft and UAE Navy Maritime Patrol Aircraft** are participating in the exercise.

The exercise scheduled over two days will witness a wide spectrum of naval operations such as Surface Warfare, involving tactical firing and Drills for Missile engagements on surface targets, **Helicopter Cross Deck Landing Operations**, Advanced Air Defence Exercise and Boarding operations.

The exercise would also include cross embarkation of personnel for exchange of best practises.

### **First Barge of the series LSAM 15 delivered to Indian Navy**

Under the Contract for construction of **Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile (ACTCM)** Barges with M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt Ltd, Thane, a MSME, First Barge the series LSAM 15 (Yard 125) has been delivered to Indian Navy.



The deal was established under ‘**Aatmanirbhar Bharat**’ initiatives of the Government of India

A total of eleven such barges are under construction which when ready will be **delivered to the Indian Navy**.

### **Twin CBG operation: INS Vikramaditya, Vikrant lead Navy’s mega ops in Arabian Sea**

The **Indian Navy** carried out a massive operation in the Arabian Sea involving more than **35 aircraft** as part of a **Carrier Battle Group (CBG)**.

This was one of the most significant demonstrations of the Navy’s operational capabilities to date, and comes at a time when there are increasing Chinese forays into the Indian Ocean.

#### **Key Points**

- A **CBG** is a naval fleet comprising an aircraft carrier and multiple escort vessels.
- This was a **twin CBG operation**, with both of India’s aircraft carriers, **INS Vikramaditya and INS Vikrant**, involved, along with a diverse fleet of escort ships, submarines, and aircraft.
- The primary purpose of the exercise was to showcase India’s commitment to safeguarding its national interests and maintaining regional stability.

### **‘Sanshodhak’ 4th warship of Indian Navy launched**

The fourth ship of the **Survey Vessels (Large) (SVL)** Project, named ‘**Sanshodhak**’ meaning ‘Researcher’, was launched at Kattupalli, Chennai by L and T/ GRSE for the Indian Navy.

The Ship was launched to the chanting of invocation from Atharva Veda and the chief guest of the Launch Ceremony was VAdm Adhir Arora, Chief Hydrographer to Government of India.

### **Indian Army contingent participates in multinational joint exercise “Ex Khaan Quest 2023” in Mongolia**

Multinational Peacekeeping Joint Exercise “**Ex Khaan Quest 2023**” featuring participation from military contingents and observers from over 20 countries has commenced in Mongolia today.

Mr Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh, the Hon’ble President of Mongolia inaugurated the Exercise in a ceremony organised at the exercise location in Mongolia.

The exercise is co-sponsored by Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) and **United States Army Pacific Command (USARPAC)**.

## **Science related Affairs**



### Parul University becomes the youngest private university in the country

**Parul University**, located in **Vadodara, Gujarat**, has recently set a new record by **becoming the country's youngest private university**.

The university has already received a **NAAC A++ grade** in the first assessment cycle, which is a great achievement for an educational institution. Its cumulative grade point average is 3.55 CGPA.

Getting such Highest Achievable Grade was not easy for Parul University.

Several parameters were included for assessment such as teaching-learning methods, research and innovation policies, pedagogy, etc. A three-member NAAC team, that visited the university, found that the parameters were meeting the prescribed standards.

### Microsoft joins Indian govt to train 6K students, 200 educators in cybersecurity skills

**Microsoft** has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Directorate General of Training (DGT)** under the Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) to **train 6,000 students and 200 educators** in digital and **cyber-security skills** in the country.

As part of this collaboration with, Microsoft will offer a wide range of courses, including training in AI, cloud computing, web development and cybersecurity skills for students and 200 faculty members at government-led **Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and National Skills Training Institutions (NSTIs)**.

### Agni Prime' ballistic missile successfully flight-tested by DRDO off Odisha coast

New Generation Ballistic Missile '**Agni Prime**' was successfully flight-tested by **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha on June 07, 2023. During the flight test, all objectives were successfully demonstrated.

This was the first pre-induction night launch conducted by the users after three successful developmental trials of the missile, validating the accuracy and reliability of the system.

Range Instrumentation like Radar, **Telemetry and Electro Optical Tracking Systems** were deployed at different locations, including two down-range ships, at the terminal point to capture flight data covering the entire trajectory of the vehicle.

### China Unveils World's Most Powerful Hypersonic Wind Tunnel for Advancing Aerospace Ambitions

**China** has achieved a major milestone in its pursuit of **hypersonic technology** with the completion of the world's most powerful wind tunnel.

Known as the JF-22, this groundbreaking facility is set to play a pivotal role in **China's hypersonic ambitions**, enabling the country to make significant strides in the development of hypersonic vehicles.



The **JF-22 wind tunnel**, located in Beijing's Huairou district, boasts impressive capabilities, including the ability to simulate hypersonic flight conditions at speeds up to Mach 30.

### **IIT Madras Researchers Develop Data Science, IoT-Based Method for Mobile Pollution Monitoring**

Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras)** have made significant progress in the field of air pollution monitoring by developing a low-cost mobile air pollution monitoring framework.

This innovative approach utilizes data science, **Internet of Things (IoT)** technology, and low-cost pollution sensors mounted on public vehicles to dynamically monitor air quality at a high spatial and temporal resolution.

The project, known as **Kaatru (meaning "air" in Tamil)**, aims to address the limitations of traditional stationary monitoring stations and provide valuable insights for policy-making and mitigation strategies.

## **Book News**

### **Shashi Tharoor released a book titled "Ringside" written by Dr. Vijay Darda**

Renowned author and Congress MP Dr. Shashi Tharoor released the book "**Ringside**" written by **Lokmat Media Group Editorial Board Chairman and former MP Dr. Vijay Darda**.

"**Ringside**" is a compilation of Dr Darda's weekly articles published between 2011 and 2016 in Lokmat Media Group newspapers and other leading national and regional dailies.

### **A book titled "Kathakali Dance Theatre: A Visual Narrative of Sacred Indian Mime" by KK Gopalakrishnan**

**KK Gopalakrishnan** has recently released a captivating book titled "**Kathakali Dance Theatre: A Visual Narrative of Sacred Indian Mime.**"

The book offers a behind-the-scenes look into the world of Kathakali, focusing on the green room, artists' struggles, and the unique bonds forged during long make-up hours.

### **Ramachandra Guha's book wins Elizabeth Longford Prize**

Historian and writer **Ramchandra Guha's** book **Rebels Against the Raj: Western Fighters for India's Freedom** has won the Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography 2023.

Guha has been **awarded £5,000 (₹5 lakhs approximately)** and a bound copy of Elizabeth Longford's memoir.





The jury was chaired by Roy Foster. The judging committee also included Antonia Fraser and Flora Fraser (daughter and granddaughter of Longford respectively), Richard Davenport-Hines and Rana Mitter.

### **A book titled “Master Residential Real Estate” by Ashwinder Singh**

**Ashwinder R Singh** is a well-known real estate expert in India, and his new book, **Master Residential Real Estate**, is a comprehensive guide to the industry.

The book covers a wide range of topics, from finding the right property to financing a **home purchase**.

Singh also provides valuable insights into the current state of the **real estate market** and offers advice on how to make the most of your investment.

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### **Journalist A.K. Bhattacharya authored a new book titled “India’s Finance Ministers”**

**Veteran Journalist Ashok Kumar Bhattacharya (AK Bhattacharya)** has authored a new book titled **“India’s Finance Ministers: From Independence to Emergency (1947-1977)”** which highlights the role of India’s finance ministers who shaped India’s economy in the first 30 years (from 1947 to 1977) after Independence.

The book is published by Penguin Business an imprint of Penguin Random House.

### **A book titled ‘The Yoga Sutra for Children’ by Roopa Pai**

After her award-winning bestselling book **‘The Gita for Children’**, author **Roopa Pai’s** upcoming children’s book will unravel the secrets of Patanjali’s 2,000-year-old text on Yoga.

**‘The Yoga Sutras for Children’**, published by Hachette India, aims to connect and relate the practice of Yoga to children’s everyday lives and helps them use their mind power to bring out the best in themselves.

## Sports News





## CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 2023

Name	Tournament & Title name	Extra Information
Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team	Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023	The Indian hockey team eked out a close 2-1 win over arch-rivals Pakistan in the final of the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 in Salalah, Oman to successfully defend its title.
Max Verstappen	Spanish Grand Prix 2023	Max Verstappen emerged victorious at the Spanish Grand Prix, clinching the pole position and extending his lead in the Formula One championship by 53 points. Red Bull's dominance continued as they celebrated their seventh consecutive triumph of the season.
Serbia and USA	FIBA 3×3 World Cup 2023	Serbia's men and the United States women won the FIBA 3×3 World Cup 2023, which took place in Vienna, Austria. In the men's category, Serbia extended their historic World Cup heroics, capturing their sixth title in just 8 editions after defeating USA (21-19) in the final.
India	Asia Cup 2023	The Indian Junior Women's Hockey Team achieved a remarkable triumph in the Women's Junior Asia Cup 2023, which took place in Kakamigahara, Gifu Prefecture, Japan.
Novak Djokovic	French Open 2023	Novak Djokovic won his men's-record 23rd Grand Slam title with a victory over Casper Ruud in French Open Final. Djokovic broke a tie with rival Rafael Nadal for the most major singles trophies in the history of men's tennis.
Australia	ICC World Test Championship 2023	Australia clinched the title of World Test Champions in a commanding fashion, securing a resounding 209-run victory over India in the thrilling WTC Final at The Oval.



## CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 2023

Uruguay	FIFA U20 World Cup 2023	Uruguay beat Italy 1-0 to win its first Under-20 World Cup title held in Argentina. The Celeste's victory ends a streak of four consecutive wins of European teams in the tournament.
Max Verstappen	Canadian Grand Prix	Max Verstappen, the reigning world champion, showcased an outstanding performance at the Canadian Grand Prix, securing a dominant victory and marking the 100th Formula One win for his Red Bull team.
Egypt	World Squash Championship	Egypt have been crowned the SDAT (Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu) WSF (World Squash Federation) Squash World Cup Champions after beating Malaysia.
Bhavani Devi	First Indian to win Asian Fencing Championship Medal	Bhavani's outstanding performance and determination earned her a well-deserved bronze medal in this prestigious event.
Calcutta team	Dubai Women's Kabaddi Final	In a significant milestone for women's Kabaddi, Dubai hosted the world's first international Women's Kabaddi final, featuring the Calcutta and Punjab teams also.

## Obituary News

Name	Associated Field
Ved Kumari Ghai	Noted Sanskrit scholar
Ama Ata Aidoo	Ghanaian writer and feminist
Sulochana Latkar	Veteran actress
Aamir Raza Hussain	Renowned theater actor and director
Gitanjali Aiyar	Award-winning DD anchor
Alby D'Cruz	Kerala's first 'Ashoka Chakra' winner Havildar
Cormac McCarthy	Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist



## CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 2023

Rakesh Master	Famous Tollywood Choreographer
Alan Arkin	Oscar-winning actor

### Important Days

Days	Date	Themes
World Milk Day	June 01	Showcasing how dairy is reducing its environmental footprint, while also providing nutritious foods and livelihoods
Global Parents Day	June 01	
World Bicycle Day	June 03	Riding Together for a Sustainable Future
International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression	June 04	
World Environment Day	June 05	solutions to plastic pollution
International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing	June 05	
Russian Language Day	June 06	
World Food Safety Day	June 07	Food standards save lives
World Oceans Day	June 08	Planet Ocean: The Tides are Changing
World Accreditation Day	June 09	
World Day Against Child Labour	June 12	Social Justice for All. End Child Labour
World Blood Donor Day	June 14	Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often
World Elder Abuse Awareness Day	June 15	
Global Wind Day	June 16	<b>Global Wind Day, also known as World Wind Day, is a global event celebrated annually on June 15th.</b>
International Day of Family Remittances	June 16	Digital remittances towards financial inclusion and cost reduction
International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict	June 19	Bridging the gender digital divide to prevent, address and respond to conflict-related sexual violence
National Reading Day	June 19	
World Sickle Cell Awareness Day	June 19	
World Refugee Day	June 20	Hope away from home
International Yoga Day	June 21	One Earth, One Family, One Future



## CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 2023

International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice	June 21	
International Olympic Day	June 23	Let's Move
International Widows' Day	June 23	Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality
International Day of Women in Diplomacy	June 24	Breaking Barriers, Shaping the Future: Women in Diplomacy for Sustainable Development
Day of the Seafarer	June 25	MARPOL at 50 – Our commitment goes on
World Drug Day	June 26	People first: Stop stigma and discrimination, strengthen prevention
World MSME Day	June 27	Future-ready MSMEs for India@100
National Insurance Awareness Day	June 28	
Statistics Day	June 29	Alignment of State Indicator Framework with National Indicator Framework for Monitoring Sustainable Development Goals
International Day of Parliamentarism	June 30	

