



CURRENT AFFAIRS

June 2024

KP CLASSES

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Banking & Finance

1. Reserve Bank of India cancels 10-year green bond auction for first time

- **In a first, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cancelled the auction of 10-year green bonds as traders refused to pay greenium, said dealers.**
- Greenium signifies the premium investors are willing to pay for green bonds because of their sustainability impact.
- Funds generated via the sale of green bonds will be allocated to public-sector projects aimed at decreasing the carbon footprint of the economy.
- Diverging from the pattern of issuing green bonds in the latter half, the government plans to issue green bonds worth Rs 12,000 crore in the first half of the current financial year.
- The green bonds were planned to be issued in two tranches of Rs 6,000 crore each for a period of 10 years.

2. RBI imposes monetary penalty on SBM Bank (India)

- **The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of Rs 88.70 lakh on SBM Bank (India) for non-compliance with certain regulatory norms.**
- In a statement, the central banks said the penalty has been imposed for non-compliance with licensing conditions imposed by the RBI, and specific directions to stop undertaking Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) transaction.

3. Adani One launches two variants of co-branded credit cards with ICICI Bank

- **Adani One, the digital platform of the Adani Group, and ICICI Bank announced the launch of two variants of co-branded credit cards in collaboration with card network Visa.**
- The co-branded credit card partnership marks the Adani Group's foray into the retail financial sector.
- Available in two variants ' Adani One ICICI Bank Signature Credit Card and Adani One ICICI Bank Platinum Credit Card ' the credit cards will offer a reward programme to its customers.

4. Axis Bank, Bajaj Allianz forge strategic bancassurance partnership

- **Axis Bank, a private sector bank, and Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, a private general insurer, have entered a strategic bancassurance partnership to boost insurance penetration and financial inclusion in the country.**
- Under this Bancassurance tie-up, a comprehensive suite of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance products will be distributed through Axis Bank's network.

Bancassurance is an insurance distribution model where companies partner with banks to sell policies. This arrangement benefits both the bank and insurance companies get to benefit

from this arrangement. While the bank earns a commission from the insurance company, the insurer gains from bank's distribution network.

5. PNB Board approves 10% stake dilution via IPO in Canara HSBC Life Insurance

- **Punjab National Bank's board has approved the initiation of the process for divesting 10 percent shareholding in its associate company Canara HSBC Life Insurance through an initial public offering (IPO) route.**
- Currently, PNB holds a 23 percent stake in Canara HSBC Life Insurance.
- According to the exchange filing made, The Board in its meeting has accorded its approval for initiating the process of diluting a 10 percent stake of the Bank in Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company, an associate company of the bank, by listing the company in Stock Exchanges (BSE/NSE) through Initial Public Offer (IPO). The same shall be subject to regulatory approvals.

6. SBI and Muthoot Microfin join forces to support women entrepreneurs

- **Muthoot Microfin on 6th June announced a strategic co-lending partnership with the State Bank of India to extend its financial services to women in the economically weaker segment in rural and semi-urban regions across India.**
- The loan amounts will range from Rs 10,000 to Rs 3 lakh, Muthoot said.
- Muthoot Microfin and SBI will co-lend to members of joint liability groups who are engaged in agricultural and allied activities as well as other income-generating enterprises.

7. RBI maintains status quo for 8th time in a row; repo rate unchanged at 6.5%

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to keep the policy rate unchanged for the eighth time in a row, saying it will maintain a tight vigil on inflation.
- **The rate increase cycle was paused in April last year after six consecutive rate hikes, aggregating to 250 basis points since May 2022.**
- **Announcing the second bi-monthly monetary policy for the current financial year, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has decided to keep the repo rate unchanged at 6.5 percent.**
- **The RBI raised the growth projection to 7.2 percent from an earlier estimate of 7 percent for the current financial year.**

8. Mkt regulator Sebi's warning to ICICI Bank over ICICI Securities delisting

- **The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on 6th June issued a warning to ICICI Bank for flouting norms during its outreach programme to the shareholders of broking firm ICICI Securities to vote in favour of the delisting.**
- The market regulator has termed the outreach programme by ICICI Bank as 'inappropriate' and directed the bank to take action on its officials.

- Sebi also directed the bank to take action against the officials who violated guidelines and examine the investor complaints on Sebi's 'Scores' portal.
- The market watchdog also pointed out that the claim of providing 'balanced factual' perspective does not stand as ICICI Bank is a promoter with over 74 % shareholding and the interested party in ICICI Securities' delisting.

9. RBI Forms Committee To Examine Various Aspects For Setting Up Digital Payments Intelligence Platform To Mitigate Payment Fraud

- The Reserve Bank has constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of former MD and CEO of National Payments Corporation of India, Mr. A P Hota to examine various aspects of setting up a digital public infrastructure for Digital Payments Intelligence Platform.
- According to an official statement, RBI is mulling to set up a Digital Payments Intelligence Platform to mitigate payment fraud risks.
- The Committee is expected to give its recommendations within two months.
- Domestic payment frauds jumped by 70.64 per cent to Rs 2,604 crore during the six-month period ended March 2024 from Rs 1,526 crore in the same period of last year. The volume of frauds also rose to 15.51 lakh during the March 2024 period from 11.5 lakh in the previous six-month period, RBI data shows.

10. South Korea's Mirae Asset mulls \$150 mn capital infusion in Sharekhan

- South Korea's financial services major Mirae Asset Capital Markets plans to infuse over \$150 million into retail broking arm Sharekhan for expansion into wealth and portfolio management business, said sources.
- In April this year, Mirae Asset received approval from the Competition Commission of India (CCI).
- Sharekhan is the second broking platform in Mirae Asset's kitty.
- It launched discount brokerage firm m.Stock in 2022.
- According to sources, the company plans to focus on diversifying the business of Sharekhan beyond the brokerage business.
- As of March 2024, Sharekhan stood in eighth place among the discount brokers with over 700,000 active clients.

11. Moody's maintains stable outlooks on three Indian public sector banks

- Moody's Ratings (Moody's) on 8th June affirmed the Baa3 ratings on three Indian public sector banks -- Bank of Baroda (BOB), Canara Bank, and Punjab National Bank (PNB).
- The rating agency maintained stable outlooks on the long-term ratings of all three banks.
- Moody's also believes that India's strong operating environment will continue to support their credit fundamentals over the next 12-18 months.

- BOB's, Canara's and PNB's NPL ratios respectively declined to 2.9 per cent, 4.2 per cent and 5.7 per cent as of 31 March 2024 from 3.8 per cent, 5.4 per cent and 8.7 per cent a year earlier, supported by lower bad loans (or slippage) as well as stronger recoveries and higher write-offs.
- Bank of Baroda is headquartered in Mumbai and reported consolidated assets of Rs 16.5 trillion (USD 197.8 billion) as of March 31, 2024.
- Punjab National Bank is headquartered in New Delhi and reported consolidated assets of Rs 16.0 trillion (USD 191.8 billion) as of March 31, 2024.
- Canara Bank is headquartered in Bangalore and reported consolidated assets of Rs 15.4 trillion (USD 184.6 billion) as of March 31, 2024.

12. RBI permits automatic replenishment of UPI Lite wallet

- The Reserve Bank of India on 8th June proposed a facility to allow customers to automatically replenish their UPI Lite wallets to promote small-value digital payments.
- **Currently, the UPI Lite has a daily limit of '2,000, while the upper limit for a single payment is '500. UPI Lite is a simplified version of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI).**
- It acts as an on-device wallet for small-value transactions.
- Presently, the UPI Lite app can only hold a maximum of '2,000 at a time.
- **UPI Lite was introduced in September 2022** to enable small value payments in a quick and seamless manner through an on-device wallet.

13. HDFC Bank raises FD rates by 20 basis points with effect from June 10

- **HDFC Bank ' the largest private sector lender ' has hiked retail fixed deposit rates by upto 20 bps across various buckets with effect from June 10.**
- The move comes even if the RBI decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged in the June review of monetary policy. The regulator, however, asked banks to re-strategize in view of widening gap between credit and deposit growth
- The highest interest rate offered by HDFC Bank is for the 18 months to less than 21 months category where the rate is 7.25 per cent.
- The bank offers 7.10 per cent for 15 to 18 months category. In the one year to 15 months bucket, HDFC Bank will offer 6.60 per cent. Senior citizens will get 50 bps more than the rate offered to others.

14. SBI launches 'SME Digital Business Loans', to sanction loans in 45 minutes

- **The country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI), has floated 'SME Digital Business Loans' with the aim of sanctioning loans in 45 minutes.**
- The proposition eliminates the need for traditional credit underwriting and lengthy appraisal processes, ushering in a new era of simplicity, speed, and accessibility in MSME lending.
- SBI's outstanding SME book has risen from Rs 2.67 trillion at the end of March 2020 to Rs 4.33 trillion at the end of March 2024.

- The asset quality of this book has also improved, with gross non-performing assets declining from 9.43 per cent in March 2020 to 3.75 per cent in March 2024.

15. ESAF SFB to discontinue business correspondent services of ESMACO

- **ESAF Small Finance Bank (ESAF SFB) has decided to discontinue the services of business correspondent ESAF Swasraya Multi State Agro Co-operative Society Limited (ESMACO) to reduce concentration risks and absorb its 5,000 plus employees on the rolls of the lender.**
- The discontinuation will reduce the contribution of ESMACO to the management of the gross advances to 14.90 %.

16. RBI cancels licence of Purvanchal Co-op Bank, Ghazipur

- **The Reserve Bank has cancelled the licence of Purvanchal Co-operative Bank, Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh as it does not have adequate capital and earning prospects.**
- The Commissioner for Cooperation and Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Uttar Pradesh has also been asked to issue an order for winding up the bank and appoint a liquidator, the RBI said in a statement.

On liquidation, every depositor would be entitled to receive deposit insurance claim amount of his/her deposits up to '5 lakh only from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC). As per the data submitted by the Purvanchal Co-operative Bank, about 99.51 per cent of the depositors are entitled to receive full amount of their deposits from DICGC.

17. SBI approves raising up to Rs 20,000 crore via long-term bonds for FY 2025

- **State bank of India approved to raise up to 20 thousand crore rupees by issuing long-term bonds in the Financial Year 2025 for funding infrastructure projects and affordable housing units.**
- Following the announcement of the new bond issuance plan, SBI's share were ended 0.95 percent up at rupees 853 as compared to its last closing price.
- Earlier this month, SBI raised 100 million dollar through its London branch by selling three-year senior unsecured floating-rate bonds that were sold at a spread of 95 basis points above the secured overnight financing rate (SOFR).
- **Meanwhile, in January SBI raised 5000 crore rupees through perpetual bonds at an 8.34% coupon rate.**

18. RBI cancels licence of Mumbai-based The City Co-operative Bank SECTIONSRBI cancels licence of Mumbai-based The City Co-operative

- **The Reserve Bank on 19th June cancelled the licence of The City Co-operative Bank, Maharashtra for lacking adequate capital and earning prospects.**

- The Commissioner for Cooperation and Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Maharashtra has also been asked to issue an order for winding up the bank and appoint a liquidator, RBI said.
- On liquidation, every depositor would be entitled to receive deposit insurance claim amount of his/her deposits up to a monetary ceiling of Rs 5 lakh only from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC). As per the data submitted by the bank, about 87 per cent of the depositors are entitled to receive full amount of their deposits from DICGC," RBI said.

19. RBI revises its incentive framework to push banks to increase the flow of priority sector credit

- The Reserve Bank of India has revised its incentive framework to push banks to increase the flow of priority sector credit to districts with lower credit flow in order to address the regional disparities at the district level.
- **This effectively means that if a bank gives Rs 100 loan in low credit flow district, it will be considered as Rs 125 priority sector loan.**
- Accordingly, the central bank has assigned a higher weight of 125% to the incremental priority sector credit in the districts with per capita priority sector credit less than Rs 9000, with effect from FY25.
- Earlier from FY22 onwards till date, RBI followed a rule of higher weight of 125% in districts where per capita priority sector credit flow was Rs 6000.

20. Kotak Mahindra Bank to add up to 200 branches in FY25

- India's Kotak Mahindra Bank will increase its pace of opening new branches and add about 175 to 200 branches in the financial year 2024-25, a senior official at the bank said, months after the central bank barred the private lender from sourcing new customers digitally.
- In April, the Reserve Bank of India stopped Kotak from adding new customers via its online and mobile banking channels, and from issuing new credit cards, due to information technology-related deficiencies. About 95% of its new personal loans by volume were disbursed digitally in the October-December quarter, while it issued 99% of new credit cards through digital channel.

21. HDFC Bank launches digital investment platform SmartWealth

- **HDFC Bank has launched a new digital investment platform to take wealth services to every Indian and make investments simple and transparent.**
- Incorporating cutting-edge technology, the **HDFC Bank SmartWealth** comes loaded with first-ever features that allow investors to make the right investment decisions and plan their financial journey.

22. ICICI Bank unveils 'SmartLock', a new safety feature for iMobile Pay

- **ICICI Bank announced 'SmartLock,' a novel safety feature that lets users lock and unlock several banking services at once without contacting customer support via phone or email.**

- Customers can take control of their account security by simply clicking a button to lock or unlock their access to internet banking, UPI, credit cards and debit cards.

23. SBI raises Rs. 10,000 crores through infra bonds

- **State Bank of India (SBI) has raised '10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.36 per cent through its fifth infrastructure bond issuance.**
- The issue attracted an overwhelming response from investors, with bids in excess of '19,884 crore, and was oversubscribed by around four times against the base issue size of '5,000 crore.
- Based on the response, the bank has decided to accept '10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.36 per cent payable annually. This represents a spread of 21 bps over the corresponding FBIL G-Sec par curve. The instrument is rated AAA with stable outlook.

24. Digital Rupee transactions slump after reaching initial RBI target

- **The Reserve Bank of India started a pilot for the e-rupee, devised as a digital alternative to physical cash, in December 2022, and successfully reached a target of 1 million retail transactions per day by December 2023.**
- e-rupee has since then seen a sharp decline in usage, dropping to 10% of its December peak. e-rupee/CBDC is of 2 types- retail CBDC and wholesale CBDC.
- A retail CBDC is used by the general public, while a wholesale CBDC is used for transactions between banks and other financial institutions. The central bank had started the pilot on CBDC on the wholesale side from November 1, 2022, while the retail testing was started on December 1.
- Wholesale CBDC in circulation is Rs. 0.08 crore whereas retail CBDC in circulation is Rs 234.04 crore. Globally, among 86 central banks surveyed by the Bank of International Settlements, a third are running a pilot CBDC.

RBI Activities



RBI Forms Committee to examine various Aspects for setting up digital payment's intelligence platform to mitigate payment fraud

Reserve Bank of India cancels 10-years green Bond auction for first time in June

Reserve Bank of India has announced 8 % Interest rate on the Floating Savings Bond (FSRB) 2034

RB imposes monetary penalty on SBM Bank (India) of Rs. 88.70 lakh

RBI permits automatic replenishment of UPI Lite wallet

RBI maintains status quo for 8th time in a row; repo rate unchanged at 6.5 %

RBI cancels license of Mumbai-based the city-operative Bank.

RBI cancels licence of Purvanchal co-op Bank, Ghazipur

SOME BANK ACTIVITIES

| ICICI BANK | HDFC BANK | SBI |
|---|--|---|
| SmartLock, a new safety feature for iMobile Pay | Launches investment platform SmartWealth | SBI approves raising up to Rs. 20,000 crores via long-term bonds for FY25 |
| | | SBI raises Rs. 10,000 crores through infra bonds |
| | | Launches SME "Digital Business Loans" to sanction loans in 45 minutes |

Economy

1. India's GDP grows 8.2% in FY24 against 7% in FY23

- **India's real GDP is estimated to grow by 8.2 percent in the Financial Year 2023-24 as compared to the growth rate of 7 percent registered in Financial Year 2022-23.**
- According to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, real GDP or GDP at constant prices is estimated to attain a level of over 173 lakh crore rupees in the year 2023-24.
- Nominal GDP or GDP at current prices is estimated to attain a level of over 295 lakh crore rupees in the year 2023-24, against 269.50 lakh crore rupees in 2022-23, showing a growth rate of 9.6 percent.

2. Combined Index of Eight Core Industries increases by 6.2% (provisional) in April, 2024 as compared to April, 2023

- **The combined Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) increased by 6.2 per cent (provisional) in April, 2024 as compared to the Index in April, 2023.**
- The production of Electricity, Natural Gas, Coal, Steel, Refinery Products, Crude Oil and Cement recorded positive growth in April 2024.
- The Eight Core Industries comprise 40.27 percent of the weight of items included in IIP.
- The ICI measures the combined and individual performance of production of eight core industries viz. Cement, Coal, Crude Oil, Electricity, Fertilizers, Natural Gas, Refinery Products and Steel.
- The final growth rate of the Index of Eight Core Industries for January 2024 is revised to 4.1 per cent.

3. India's fiscal deficit in FY24 improved to 5.6% of GDP: Govt data

- Aided by higher than expected tax receipts, **the Union government contained the fiscal deficit ' at 5.6 per cent of the gross domestic product in 2023-24, compared with the Revised Estimates of 5.8 per cent.**
- The fiscal deficit stood at Rs 16.54 trillion in FY24, against the budgetary target of Rs

17.86 trillion, according to government data.

- The Interim Budget presented in February had revised the fiscal gap estimate from the initial 5.9 per cent of GDP to 5.8 per cent for FY24. A fiscal deficit arises when government spending exceeds its revenue.
- According to the data, net tax receipts for FY24 were above projections at Rs 23.27 trillion.
- The total amount spent (expenditure) that year stood at Rs 44.43 trillion, which was 99 per cent of the budgeted amount.
- The fiscal deficit for April stood at 12.5 per cent, or Rs 2.1 trillion, of the full-year target, on unexpected revenue expenditure.

4. GST collection rises 10% to Rs 1.73 lakh crore in May

- **The gross Goods and Services Tax revenue for month of May this year stood at 1.73 lakh crore rupees.**
- Ministry of Finance said that this represents a 10 per cent year-on-year growth.
- Out of the total collection in the month of May, CGST is over 32,000 crore rupees, SGST is over 40,000 crore rupees, IGST is over 87,781 crore rupees and cess is over 12 thousand crore rupees.
- The Ministry added that after accounting for refunds, the net GST revenue for the last month stands at 1.44 lakh crore rupees, reflecting a growth of 6.9 per cent compared to the same period last year.
- The gross GST collections in the financial year 2024-25 stood at 3.83 lakh crore rupees. This represents an impressive 11.3 per cent year-on-year growth.

5. SBI joins the Rs 8-trillion m-cap league; eyes \$100 billion m-cap

- **The State Bank of India (SBI) became the first public sector bank and the seventh Indian company to cross the Rs 8 trillion market capitalisation (m-cap). HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank are the only other lenders with m-cap of over Rs 8 trillion.**
- SBI achieved the milestone as its shares surged 9.5 per cent.
- In the last year, SBI is up nearly 55 per cent, while the Nifty PSU Bank index has almost doubled during the period.
- **At present, six Indian companies are valued over Rs 8 trillion. Apart from SBI, Reliance Industries, TCS, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, and ICICI Bank are in the Rs 8 trillion league. Infosys had also crossed the milestone but is now valued at Rs 5.8 trillion.**

6. Netherlands emerges as India's 3rd largest export destination in 2023-24

- **The Netherlands has emerged as India's third largest export destination after the US and UAE during 2023-24, even as the country's merchandise shipments dipped by over 3 per cent, according to the commerce ministry data.**
- The main commodities which registered healthy exports growth in the Netherlands include petroleum products, electrical goods, chemicals and pharma.
- **India's trade surplus with the Netherlands has increased to USD 17.4 billion in the last fiscal from USD 13 billion in 2022-23.**
- **The Netherlands has taken over major destinations such as the UK, Hong Kong, Bangladesh and Germany.**
- India's exports to the Netherlands rose by about 3.5 per cent to USD 22.36 billion in 2023-24 as against USD 21.61 billion in 2022-23.
- In 2023-24, the bilateral trade between the two countries marginally dipped to USD 27.34 billion as against USD 27.58 billion in 2022-23.
- **The Netherlands is among the top trading partners of India in Europe, after Germany, Switzerland, the UK and Belgium.**

7. SBI MF assets top Rs 10 trn; becomes first fund house to achieve milestone

- **SBI Mutual Fund (SBI MF) made history by becoming the first fund house in the country to achieve the Rs 10 trillion milestone in assets under management (AUM).**
- The industry leader has adeptly navigated the post-pandemic equity boom and capitalised on the increasing awareness of MF investing.
- It is been driven by the equity market rally and expanding MF investor base.
- As of April 2024, SBI accounted for Rs 2 trillion of SBI MF's AUM. Over Rs 5 trillion of the AUM was in direct plans, with the remaining Rs 2.2 trillion linked to other distributors. Most other top five fund houses are also backed by leading banks.
- **ICICI Prudential MF, HDFC MF, Nippon India MF, and Kotak MF complete the top five.**

8. Sebi mulls raising limit for basic service demat account to Rs 10 lakh

- **Capital markets regulator Sebi proposed to enhance the threshold for the basic service demat account (BSDA) to Rs 10 lakh from the current Rs 2 lakh in a bid to boost the participation of retail investors in the securities market.**
- A basic service demat account, or BSDA, is a more basic version of a regular demat account for BSDA.
- The facility was introduced by Sebi in 2012 for reducing the burden of demat charges on investors with small portfolios.
- **At present, an individual can hold debt securities worth up to Rs 2 lakh and other than debt securities worth up to Rs 2 lakh in a single demat account to be eligible for BSDA.**
- It has proposed to review the maximum annual maintenance charges.

9. Urban-rural consumption expenditure differential falls to 71% in 2022-23: Survey: MoSPI Survey

- **The Survey on Household Consumption Expenditure by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has found that Rural India's average monthly capital expenditure stood 71 percent lower than Urban India in the period from August 2022 to July 2023.**
- The National Sample Survey Office has been regularly conducting household consumption expenditure surveys since 1950.
- **The survey said that rural India on average, clocked a monthly Per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) of three thousand 773 rupees in the period under review.**
- **Urban India's average estimated MPCE during the period stood at 6,459 rupees.**
- The survey stated that in the 2022-23 period, Rural India spent 46 percent of its household consumption expenditure towards food.

10. RBI plans to raise bulk deposit limit to Rs. 3 crores from Rs. 2 crores

- **With deposit growth lagging credit growth, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said it plans to revise upwards the definition of bulk deposits for scheduled commercial banks (excluding regional rural banks), small finance banks and local area banks.**
- This is aimed at helping banks' garner more deposits to support loan growth.
- RBI is proposing to revise the definition of bulk deposits as 'single Rupee term deposit of '3 crore and above' for scheduled commercial banks/SCBs (excluding regional rural banks/RRBs) and Small Finance Banks.
- **Currently, 'single Rupee term deposit of '2 crore and above' are classified as bulk deposits by these banks.**
- Further, the central bank also plans to define the bulk deposit limit for Local Area Banks as 'Single Rupee term deposits of '1 crore and above', as applicable in case of RRBs.

11. RBI ups GDP growth projection for FY25 at 7.2%

- **The Reserve Bank of India has upped real GDP growth projection for 2024-25 to 7.2 per cent from 7.0 per cent projected earlier.**
- The quarterly projections are: Q1 at 7.3 per cent (7.1 per cent earlier projection), Q2 at 7.2 per cent (6.9 per cent); Q3 at 7.3 per cent (7.0 per cent); and Q4 at 7.2 per cent (7.0 per cent). The risks are evenly balanced.
- **CPI inflation projection for 2024-25 has been retained at 4.5 per cent with Q1 at 4.9 per cent; Q2 at 3.8 per cent; Q3 at 4.6 per cent; and Q4 at 4.5 per cent.**

12. World Bank revises India's FY25 growth forecast to 6.6%

- **The World Bank on 11th June retained its growth forecast for India at 6.6 per cent for FY25. For FY26 and FY27, the World Bank projected India's economy to grow at 6.7 per cent and 6.8 per cent, respectively.**
- In FY24, the National Statistical Office has estimated gross domestic product (GDP) to have grown at 8.2 per cent.
- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in its latest monetary policy review last week raised its growth projection to 7.2 per cent for FY25 from 7 per cent estimated earlier.**
- The World Bank said in India the fiscal deficit was projected to shrink relative to GDP partly because of increased revenues generated by the authorities' efforts to broaden the tax base.

13. Retail inflation eases to a 12 month low in May, IIP slows in April

- **Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based headline retail inflation eased to a 12-month low of 4.75 per cent in May on the back of a softening core and fuel inflation, even though food inflation remained elevated.**
- Separately, the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) also moderated to 5 per cent in April from an upwardly revised figure of 5.4 per cent in the preceding month.

- Data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) showed that food inflation remained sticky at 8.69 per cent in May from 8.7 per cent in April,

14. Fitch Ratings Increases India's Growth Forecast For Current Fiscal Year To 7.2% From 7%

- **Fitch Ratings increased India's growth forecast for the current fiscal year to 7.2 per cent, up from 7 per cent projected in March.**
- This revision is due to a recovery in consumer spending and increased investment. Fitch Ratings quarterly Global Economic Outlook report published today also depicted raised the world growth forecast for 2024 to 2.6 per cent from 2.4 per cent.

15. Gross direct tax collections for FY 2024-25 surge by 22.19%

- Gross and net direct tax collection witnessed robust growth in the current financial year in comparison to corresponding period of previous financial year 2023-24.
- **Gross Direct Tax collections till 17th of June in this financial year, registered a growth of 22.19 percent while net tax collection witnessed a growth of around 21 percent over the collection of FY 2023-24.**
- According to the Finance Ministry, the provisional figures of gross collection of Direct Taxes for the current financial year till 17th of June stand at over 5.15 lakh crore rupees compared to over 4.22 lakh crore rupees in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year. The net tax collection stands at over 4.62 lakh crore rupees.

16. Fitch Ratings raises India's growth forecast by 20 bps to 7.2% for FY25

- **Fitch Ratings raised its growth estimates for India by 20 basis points to 7.2 per cent ' same as that of the Reserve Bank of India citing positive economic outlook driven by recovering consumer confidence and increased investment.**
- The Indian economy grew at an impressive rate of 8.2 per cent in FY24, driven by a stronger-than-expected expansion of 7.8% in fourth quarter.
- The World Bank last week maintained India's growth forecast at 6.6 per cent for FY25, affirming the country's position as the fastest-growing economy among major economies. Meanwhile, the RBI raised its growth projection for FY25 to 7.2 per cent from an earlier estimate of 7 per cent in its last monetary policy review.

17. India's downstream oil and gas profits to fall; upstream to remain strong: Fitch Ratings

- India's oil and gas sector is poised for a nuanced fiscal performance in FY24, with anticipated declines in downstream profits contrasting with robust upstream growth, according to the latest analysis from Fitch Ratings. Fitch projects a 3 per cent-4 per cent increase in India's petroleum product demand for the fiscal year ending in March 2025 (FY25).
- Diesel and petrol will continue to dominate the consumption landscape, accounting for over half of the overall demand, which grew by 5 per cent in FY24 and 2 per cent in the initial

months of FY25. In FY24, India's crude oil import dependency climbed to 87.8 %, up from 87.4 per cent in FY23, with Russia emerging as the largest oil supplier, accounting for 36 % of imports.

18. S&P Global Ratings retains India's growth forecast for FY25 at 6.8%

- **The S&P Global Ratings on 24 June retained its growth forecast for India at 6.8 per cent for FY25, citing high interest rates and lower fiscal boost tempering demand in the non-agricultural sectors.**
- For FY26 and FY27, S&P projected India's economy to grow at 6.9 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively.
- **The rating agency expects the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to reduce its policy rate to 6 per cent in the current financial year from 6.5 per cent at present.**
- Additionally, it anticipates further cuts in the lending rate to 5.5 per cent and 5.25 per cent in 2025-26 and 2026-27, respectively.

19. ICICI Bank mcap tops \$100 bn; becomes only sixth Indian co to hit milestone

- **ICICI Bank's market capitalisation crossed the \$100-billion mark for the first time, becoming only the sixth company to do so.**
- The private sector lender joins the likes of Reliance Industries, Tata Consultancy Services, HDFC Bank, and Bharti Airtel'the four other domestically listed companies with a market value of more than \$100 billion.
- Previously, Infosys had also achieved the milestone. After hitting a record high of Rs 1,207, shares of ICICI Bank last closed at Rs 1,199, up 2.5 per cent, valuing the firm at Rs 8.44 trillion (\$100 billion).
- Over the past year, ICICI Bank's share price has risen nearly 29%, surpassing the 27 percent gains of the NSE Nifty 50 and the 20 percent gain of the Bank Nifty.

20. Short debt's share in total external debt down 2.1 percentage points: RBI

- **Reflecting the country's robust external sector profile, the share of short-term debt with an original maturity of up to one year in total external debt declined to 18.5 per cent at end-March 2024 from 20.6 per cent at end-March 2023.**
- The ratio of short-term debt to foreign exchange reserves declined to 19.0 per cent at end-March 2024 from 22.2 per cent at end-March 2023.
- India's external debt stood at \$663.8 billion at the end of March 2024, an increase of \$39.7 billion over its level at end-March 2023. US dollar-denominated debt remained the largest component of India's external debt, with a share of 53.8 per cent at end-March 2024, followed by INR-denominated debt (31.5 %), yen (5.8 %), SDR (5.4 %), and euro (2.8%).
- The external debt to gross domestic product ratio declined to 18.7 per cent at end-March 2024 from 19.0 per cent at end-March 2023. According to RBI data, loans remained the largest component of external debt, with a share of 33.4 per cent, followed by currency and deposits (23.3 per cent), trade credit and advances (17.9 per cent), and debt securities (17.3 per cent).

21. India likely to grow at 7.5% in FY25: NCAER

- **The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) forecasts India's FY25 GDP growth at about 7.5%, driven by strong economic activity.**
- NCAER's Director General, Poonam Gupta, highlighted buoyancy in the first quarter, robust investment policies, and macroeconomic stability.
- The RBI has raised its real GDP growth forecast for the FY25 to 7.2% from 7%.

22. India's FY24 CAD reduces to 0.7% of GDP from 2% in FY23, records surplus of 0.6% in Q4

- **India's current account deficit improved significantly to 0.7% of GDP, or \$23.2 billion in FY24, down from 2% of GDP, or \$67 billion the previous year, attributed to a decrease in merchandise trade deficit, according to the Reserve Bank of India.**
- The country's current account balance showed a surplus of 0.6% of GDP in Q4 FY24, a turnaround from deficits in earlier quarters.

23. Mindspace becomes first Indian REIT to issue sustainability-linked bonds

- **K Raheja-backed Mindspace Business Parks REIT announced that it has raised funds by issuing Sustainability-linked bonds worth Rs 650 crore from the International Finance Corporation (IFC).**
- **It became the first Indian real estate investment trust to issue such bonds.**
- The bonds have been issued for the tenure of seven years.
- The coupon of these bonds is fixed in nature & shall be stepped down, in a staggered manner, the basis of the achievement of the set targets. These include reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, increasing the share of green certified area for existing buildings, and reduction in energy intensity. Mindspace Business Parks REIT was listed on the Indian bourses in August 2020.

National

1. REC board approves raising borrowing limit in foreign currency to \$24 bn

- **REC Ltd said its board has approved raising the borrowing limit in foreign currency to \$24 billion from \$20 billion.**
- The overall borrowing limit in Indian rupees was however retained at Rs 6 lakh crore, the company said in an exchange filing. The board also approved raising up to Rs 1,45,000 crore through private placement of unsecured/secured non-convertible bonds.
- REC, under Ministry of Power, is a non-banking finance company, public financial institution, and infrastructure financing company.

2. FSSAI issues directive mandating all FBOs to remove any claim of 100% fruit juices from labels

- **The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has issued a directive mandating all Food Business Operators (FBOs) to remove any claim of 100 percent fruit juices from the labels and advertisements of reconstituted fruit juices with an immediate effect.**
- It has also instructed all FBOs to exhaust all existing pre-printed packaging materials before 1st September 2024.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in a statement said that it has come to the attention of FSSAI that several FBOs have been inaccurately marketing various types of reconstituted fruit juices by claiming them to be 100%. FSSAI has also said that according to the Food Safety and Standards (Advertising and Claims) Regulations, there is no provision for making a 100% claim

3. DoT Launches Initiative To Support MSMEs Along With Startups In Industry 4.0 Transformation

- **Department of Telecommunications(DoT has launched an initiative to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises along with Startups in Industry 4.0 transformation.**
- It has called for proposals for 'Industry 4.0 Baseline Survey among MSMEs' that aligns with the broader vision of fostering digital transformation and preparing industries for the advent of 5G and 6G technologies.
- The survey will seek to cover five sectors each in North and Southern parts of India. The Department said that the key recommendations will form the platform for policy interventions to achieve the transformative adoption of Industry 4.0. Organizations and Startups are invited to submit proposals by 11 June to participate in this survey.

4. Instant flour mixes cannot be classified as sattu, to attract 18% GST

- **Instant mixes, including idli, dosa and khaman flour, cannot be classified as chhatua or sattu and 18 per cent GST should be levied on them, the Gujarat Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling has ruled.**

- The company sells flour mixes of gota, khaman, dalwada, dahi-wada, dhokla, idli and dosa in powder form and pleaded that it is akin to Sattu and should attract GST of 5%
- **The appellate authority also said that merely because the end consumer of the instant mix flour is required to follow certain food preparation processes before such products can be consumed is no grounds that 18 per cent GST should not be levied on it.**

5. National Health Claim Exchange to be launched

- **The Health Ministry along with the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) are working on measures aimed at allowing patients to access quality healthcare swiftly and with reduced out-of-pocket expenditure.**
- **The IRDAI's objective is to achieve 'Insurance for All by 2047'.**
- The Ministry and IRDAI are launching the National Health Claim Exchange (NHCX), a digital platform which will bring together insurance companies, healthcare sector service providers and government insurance scheme administrators.
- The NHCX will serve as a gateway for exchanging claims-related information among various stakeholders in the healthcare and health insurance ecosystem. The integration with NHCX is expected to enable seamless interoperability of health claims processing, enhancing efficiency and transparency in the insurance industry, benefiting policyholders and patients.

6. PM Modi allocates portfolios; Rajnath, Shah, Sitharaman, Jaishankar retain ministries

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was sworn in as prime minister for the third consecutive term along with his 71 ministers, allocated portfolios to the newly elected ministers in his cabinet on June 10. The first cabinet meeting took place in the national capital, Delhi.**
- Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Nitin Gadkari, JP Nadda, Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Nirmala Sitharaman, S Jaishankar; ML Khattar, HD Kumaraswamy, Piyush Goyal, Dharmendra Pradhan, Jitan Ram Manjhi, Rajeev Ranjan Singh, Sarbananda Sonowal and Dr Virendra Kumar among others took oath.
- JD(S) leader H D Kumaraswamy, HAM (Secular) chief Jitan Ram Manjhi, JD(U) leader Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan', TDP's K Ram Mohan Naidu and LJP-RV leader Chirag Paswan took oath as Cabinet ministers. Each of these five allies got one cabinet berth each.

7. GAIL to set up India's largest ethane cracker project at investment of Rs 60,000 cr in MP

- **GAIL, the country's top gas supplier, has announced that it intends to set up 1500 KTA ethane cracker project at Ashta, district Sehore in Madhya Pradesh, having product slate of various ethylene derivatives.**
- **GAIL said that the project will entail projected investment of Rs 60,000 crore.**
- It is noteworthy that this project involving an investment of about Rs 60,000 crore will be the country's largest ethane cracker project.
- A green field petrochemical complex is also proposed in this project.
- Under this, petrochemicals like LLDPE, HDPE, MEG and propylene will be produced.

8. UGC allows universities to offer biannual admissions like foreign varsities

- Indian universities and higher education institutions will now be allowed to offer admissions twice a year on lines of foreign universities with the University Grants Commission (UGC) giving a go ahead to the plan, UGC chief Jagadesh Kumar said.
- The two admission cycles will be July-August and January-February from the 2024-25 academic session.

9. FIU imposes over Rs 1.66 crore fine on Axis Bank for failing to detect fraud NSG account

- **The Financial Intelligence Unit has fined Axis Bank over Rs 1.66 crore for failure to detect and report suspicious transactions involving a fraudulent account created in the name of the NSG counter-terrorist force.**
- The agency's order under the PMLA found Axis Bank employees complicit in a large-scale fraud.
- The federal agency has issued an order on June 3 under Section 13 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) that empowers its Director to impose a monetary penalty on a reporting entity (like Axis Bank) if the agency finds that its designated director on the board or any of its employees failed to comply with the obligations mandated under the said law.

10. Cabinet approves offshore wind energy projects in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu with total outlay of Rs 7,453 Cr

- Union Cabinet has taken a landmark decision by approving India's first offshore wind energy project.
- These will be 1GW offshore wind projects, 500 MW each (off the coast of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu).
- **The Union Cabinet approved 1 GW offshore wind energy projects in Gujarat and Tamil Nadu with the total outlay of Rs 7,453 crore.**
- The successful commissioning of 1 GW offshore wind projects will produce renewable electricity of about 3.72 billion units annually, which will result in annual reduction of 2.98 million ton of CO2 equivalent emission for a period of 25 years, as per the government.
- **The Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme for offshore wind energy projects includes an outlay of Rs.6853 crore for installation and commissioning of 1 GW of offshore wind energy projects, and grant of Rs.600 crore for upgradation of two ports to meet logistics requirements for offshore wind energy projects.**
- The VGF scheme is a step towards implementation of the **National Offshore Wind Energy Policy notified in 2015** with an aim to exploit the vast offshore wind energy potential that exists within the exclusive economic zone of India.

11. Cabinet Approves Rs 76,000-Crore All-Weather Vadhavan Port In Maharashtra

- **The Union Cabinet met for the first time in the third tenure of the Narendra Modi government and approved the construction of an all-weather greenfield deep draft port at**

Vadhavan near Dahanu, nearly 110 km from Mumbai, in Maharashtra, with a budget of Rs 76,000 crore.

- The port will be developed **by Vadhavan Port Project Ltd.'a joint venture between Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority Ltd., which will hold a 74% stake, and Maharashtra Maritime Board, which will hold the remainder' in two phases under the landlord model.** The budget includes the project's land acquisition costs.
- Upon completion, Vadhavan Port is poised to rank among the top ten ports globally. A 'deep-draft' describes a port that can accommodate large vessels such as big cargo ships. **Vadhavan port is declared the 13th major port as part of the Indian government's Sagarmala initiative, which aims to make Indian ports major contributors to GDP.**

12. Government Approves Increase In Minimum Support Prices For 14 Kharif Crops

- **The Union Cabinet announced minimum support price (MSP) for 14 Kharif season crops including paddy, ragi, bajra, jowar, maize and cotton which will have a financial implication of Rs two lakh crore for the government and entail gain of Rs 35,000 crore to farmers over the previous year.**
- The highest absolute increase in MSP over the previous year has been recommended for oilseeds and pulses.
- The increase in MSP for Kharif Crops for Marketing Season 2024-25 is in line with the Union Budget 2018-19 announcement of fixing the MSP at a level of at least 1.5 times of the All-India weighted average cost of production.

13. Union Cabinet approves Rs 2869.65 crore for development of Varanasi's Lal Bahadur Shastri international airport

- **The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved a comprehensive development plan for Lal Bahadur Shastri international airport in Varanasi, with a projected cost of Rs 2869.65 crore.**
- The Airports Authority of India will oversee the project, which aims to significantly enhance the airport's passenger handling capacity.

14. Ministry of Women and Child Development Launches 100-Days Special Awareness Campaign on Women Empowerment

- **The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) organized the "National Workshop on SANKALP: Hub for Empowerment of Women - Launch of the 100-Days Special Awareness Campaign" at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.**
- The workshop marks the commencement of a nationwide 100-days awareness campaign focused on women-centric issues, scheduled from 21st June to 4th October 2024.
- The one-day workshop featured sessions on legal provisions, communication strategies, and counselling techniques for grassroots functionaries of SANKALP: HEWs which are operational in 693 districts across India.

15. Government can take control of all telecom networks in times of emergency under new Telecom Act

- **The central government will be able to take control of any telecommunications services or networks in times of emergency after the implementation of the Telecommunications Act 2023**, which will be effective on June 26. According to the notification, the government may take control of the telecom services on the grounds of security, public order, or prevention of offences.
- Section 20, which will be effective on June 26 states, "On the occurrence of any public emergency, including disaster management, or in the interest of public safety, the Central Government or a State Government or any officer specially authorised in this behalf by the Central Government or a State Government can take temporary possession of any telecommunication service or telecommunication network from an authorised entity; or provide for appropriate mechanisms to ensure that messages of a user or group of users authorised for response and recovery during a public emergency are routed on priority."
- **After the rules of the Act comes into effect, the Universal Service Obligation Fund will become Digital Bharat Nidhi, which can be used for funding research and development, and pilot projects instead of just supporting the establishment of telecom services in rural areas.**

16. Ministry of Coal initiates India's First Ever Pilot project for Underground Coal Gasification in Jharkhand

- **Under the strategic direction of the Ministry of Coal, Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) has embarked on an innovative pilot project for Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) at the Kasta coal block in Jamtara District, Jharkhand.**
- This underscores the Ministry's proactive diversification efforts within the coal sector.
- In December, 2015, the Ministry of Coal approved a comprehensive policy framework for UCG in coal and lignite-bearing areas. In alignment with this policy, Coal India selected the Kasta coal block to implement UCG technology tailored to Indian geo-mining conditions. The first phase, which commenced on June 22, 2024, involves preparing a Technical Feasibility Report.

17. Health dept to launch 2-month 'Stop Diarrhoea' drive on July 1

- The Union Health Minister JP Nadda has launched National STOP Diarrhea Campaign 2024. The campaign aims at reducing the child deaths due to diarrhea. The campaign will be implemented in two phases - the preparatory phase from June 14 to 30, and the campaign phase from July 1 to August 31. The campaign's slogan, "Diarrhoea ki roktham, Safai aur ORS se rakhen apna dhyan."
- Key activities during this period include the distribution of ORS and zinc co-packages by ASHA workers to households with children under five, setting up ORS-Zinc corners at health facilities and Anganwadi centres, intensifying advocacy and awareness efforts for effective disaster management.
- India was the first country to introduce the Rotavirus vaccine.

KP CLASSES

International

1. 77th World Health Assembly adopts amendments to International Health Regulations 2005 based on 300 proposals by member states

- In a landmark achievement in the global health security agenda, **the 77th World Health Assembly agreed to the package of amendments to the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005) based on 300 proposals made by member countries after the Covid-19 pandemic.**
- The targeted amendments to the International Health Regulations (IHR) aim at improving countries' ability to prepare for and respond to Public Health Emergencies of International Concern (PHEIC) and Pandemic Emergencies (PE).
- As a result, on 1st June, 2024 the Resolution to amendment of IHR (2005) was adopted by consensus in the 77th World Health Assembly.

2. \$135M UNDP, GEF Initiative to Aid Small Islands Fight Environment Degradation

- **UNDP and Global Environment Facility launched a new \$135 million Blue and Green Islands Integrated Programme during the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing State.**
- The BGI-IP will support 15 SIDS, selected through "Expressions of Interest" process, representing all SIDS sub-regions: the Caribbean, Pacific, Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea.
- This initiative aims to emphasize the crucial role of nature and expand nature-based solutions to combat environmental degradation in three key sectors: urban development, food production, and tourism.

3. Volvo to issue world's first EV battery passport ahead of EU rules

- **Volvo Cars is launching the world's first EV battery passport recording the origins of raw materials, components, recycled content and carbon footprint for its flagship EX90 SUV, which is about to start production.**
- The passport was developed by Volvo (VOLCARb.ST) which is owned by China's Geely (GEELY.UL), in partnership with UK startup Circular.
- Battery passports will be mandatory for electric vehicles (EVs) sold in the European Union from February 2027 showing the composition of batteries, including the origin of key materials, their carbon footprint and recycled content.

4. South Korea Establishes National Space Agency, KASA

- **South Korea has officially launched its space agency, the Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA), to lead policy and industrial development in its aerospace sector.**
- The establishment was made possible after the Country's national assembly passed a special law in January to unify government organizations in charge of space policy and projects.

- South Korea plans to make a Mars landing by 2045 and spend 100 trillion won (\$72.6 billion) until then on space exploration.
- South Korea became the seventh country to own an indigenous space launch vehicle and satellite development technology with the launch of the Nuri rocket in May last year that put a commercial grade satellite in orbit.

5. Nokia CEO Pekka Lundmark makes world's first 'immersive' phone call

- **Nokia CEO Pekka Lundmark made a phone call using a new technology called "immersive audio and video" that improves the quality of a call with three-dimensional sound, making interactions more lifelike.**
- The call was held with Stefan Lindstrom, Finland's Ambassador of Digitalisation and New Technologies.
- Current smartphone calls are monophonic which compresses audio elements together and sound flatter and less detailed, but the new technology will bring 3D audio where a caller will hear everything as if they were there with the other person.
- Nokia made the call using a regular smartphone over a public 5G network.
- The technology is part of the upcoming 5G Advanced standard and Nokia aims to get licensing opportunities with the technology which would likely take a few years to be available widely.
- A vast majority of smartphones have at least two microphones with which this technology can be implemented by transmitting in real time the spatial characteristics of a call.

6. United Nations Declares 2025 As The Year To Focus On Quantum Advancements

- **The United Nations proclaimed 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology (IYQ).**
- According to the proclamation, this year-long, worldwide initiative will "be observed through activities at all levels aimed at increasing public awareness of the importance of quantum science and applications."
- **Led by the nation of Mexico, in May 2023 the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) endorsed a resolution encouraging official UN proclamation,** followed by an endorsement of the full UNESCO General Conference in November 2023, which was co-sponsored by nearly 60 countries.

7. Turkey removed from FATF money laundering grey list in boost to standing

- **The international crime watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF) removed Turkey from its "grey list" of countries that require special scrutiny, in a boost to the country's economic turnaround plan.**
- **Turkey was downgraded to the "grey list" in 2021 on concerns about money laundering and terrorist financing.**
- Turkey has made "significant progress" in improving its regime of anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism, the Paris-based body said in a statement after its plenary meeting in Singapore.

- Turkish officials welcomed the move, which is seen as improving its international standing and potentially drawing in fresh investment.

KP CLASSES

Sports

1. BFI agrees to become a member of World Boxing

- **The Boxing Federation of India (BFI) has agreed to become a member of World Boxing, the International Federation established to ensure boxing remains at the heart of the Olympic Movement.**
- The membership application has been approved by the BFI's General Assembly, and will be ratified by World Boxing's Executive Board.
- World Boxing was launched in April 2023 and aims to ensure that boxing remains at the heart of the Olympic movement.
- The BFI president, Ajay Singh, recently met with World Boxing's President and Secretary General to discuss ways in which India can support the International Federation in growing its member base in Asia where FBI is one of the largest National Federation.

2. Pugilist Amit Pangal secures Paris Olympic quota in men's 51 kg category

- **Indian pugilist Amit Pangal has secured the prestigious Paris Olympic quota in the men's 51 kg category.**
- He triumphed over Liu Chuang of China at the World Boxing Qualifiers in Bangkok, with a commanding 5-nil quarter-final victory.
- Amit is the fifth Indian boxer to qualify for the Paris Olympics, following Nishant Dev, Nikhat Zareen, Preeti Pawar and Lovlina Borgohain.

3. India Bag 7 Medals Including 3 Gold, 3 Silver, One Bronze at Taiwan Athletics Open

- **In the Taiwan Athletics Open 2024, the Indian contingent concluded the campaign with a remarkable medal haul, bagging seven medals including three golds, three silvers and one bronze medal.**
- In women's Long Jump, Nayana James clinched the gold medal, registering the best jump of 6.43 metres today. Sumire Hata of Japan won the silver.
- In Men's 800 metres, India's Ankesh Choudhary bagged the gold, clocking 1 minute 50.63 seconds, while compatriot Somnath Chouhan won the silver medal clocking 1 minute 50.88 seconds. In Men's pole vault, Dev Meena won the silver medal. DP Manu in men's Javelin throw clinched the gold medal with the best effort of 81.58 metres. In women's 100 metre hurdles.
- Nithya Ramraj bagged the silver medal with a timing of 13.23 seconds. While, Vismaya V K won the bronze in the women's 400m race.

4. Tanvi Sharma bags women's singles title of Bonn International Badminton Tournament

- **India's Tanvi Sharma bagged the women's singles title of the Bonn International Badminton Tournament, in Germany.**

- The young Indian shuttler defeated Wang Pei Yu of Taiwan in straight sets, 21-19, 22-20. This is the first senior title for the 15-year-old Tanvi.

5. Dinesh Karthik announces retirement from all forms of cricket

- **Just a week after his retirement from the Indian Premier League (IPL), Indian cricketer Dinesh Karthik has called time on his career entirely.**
- Karthik played 26 Tests, 94 ODIs and 60 T20Is for India in a career spanning nearly two decades since he first represented the country in the 50-overs format against England at Lord's in September 2004.

6. Kedar Jadhav announces retirement from all forms of cricket

- **Kedar Jadhav has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket at the age of 39.**
- Jadhav played 73 ODIs and nine T20Is for India after making his international debut in 2014. Initially a part of the Royal Challengers Bengaluru development squad, he was drafted in by the Delhi franchise in 2010. He has represented Kochi Tuskers, RCB, Chennai Super Kings and SRH.

7. India's Sarabjot Singh Clinches Gold In Men's 10m Air Pistol Event At ISSF World Cup

- **Indian shooter Sarabjot Singh won the gold medal in the men's 10m air pistol event at the ISSF World Cup 2024 in Munich, Germany 6th June 2024.**
- He won the first medal for India in the event. This was the second individual ISSF World Cup gold medal for Singh. He had won the same shooting event at the ISSF World Cup in Bhopal last year. He also won the air pistol mixed team gold medal in Baku in 2023.

8. India's Aman Sehrawat Clinches Silver Medal At Budapest Ranking Series 2024 In Hungary

- **In wrestling, India's Aman Sehrawat clinched the silver medal at the Budapest Ranking Series 2024 in Hungary.**
- Aman lost his final bout to the World Championships Silver medallist Rei Higuchi of Japan, 1-11, via technical superiority, in the men's freestyle 57 kg category.

9. Sift Kaur Samra Bags Bronze Medal In Women's 50m Rifle 3-Position In ISSF Rifle Pistol World Cup

- Women's 50m rifle 3-positions specialist Sift Kaur Samra won a bronze medal on 7th June on the concluding day of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Rifle/Pistol in Munich, as India ended the competition with two medals.
- Sift shot 452.9, to give up silver by an agonizing 0.1 to China's Han Jiayu, the reigning Air Rifle Women's World Champion.

10. French Open: Iga witek wins Women's Singles title, 3rd time in a row

- **In the French Open Tennis Women's singles final, World No. 1 Iga Swiatek of Poland overcame an early wobble to beat first-time Italy's Jasmine Paolini 6-2, 6-1 at Roland Garris.**
- She became only the third woman in the Open era to clinch three straight French Open titles.

11. Magnus Carlsen and Ju Wenjun winners at Norway Chess tournaments

- **World number-one Magnus Carlsen has won his sixth Norway Chess title after beating GM Fabiano Caruana in armageddon while GM Hikaru Nakamura was held to an incredibly tense classical draw by GM Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu.**
- The young Indian won the armageddon but still takes third place behind Nakamura.
- Women's World Champion Ju Wenjun took the Women's Norway Chess title and a prize of around \$65,000 after scoring a smooth classical win against her great rival GM Lei Tingjie. That allowed GM Anna Muzychuk to climb into second place with an armageddon win over GM Koneru Humpy.

12. French Open Tennis: Spain's Carlos Alcaraz Garfia grabbed Men's singles title at Roland Garros in Paris

- **In Tennis, Spain's Carlos Alcaraz Garfia grabbed his first-ever French Open Men's singles title at the Roland Garros in Paris.**
- Alcaraz triumphed over Alexander Zverev of Germany in the final, 6-3, 2-6, 5-7, 6-1, and 6-2. Alcaraz has now won more Grand Slams at the age of just 21, than every man born in the 1990s combined.
- The Spaniard also became the second youngest player in the Open era to claim a major title on all three surfaces.
- Alcaraz entered the final beating Jannik Sinner, while Zverev secured his place in the final by overcoming Casper Ruud.

13. India's Sumit Nagal clinches Heilbronn Neckarcup Challenger in Germany

- In tennis, India's Sumit Nagal clinched the Heilbronn Neckarcup Challenger in Germany. He defeated Alexander Ritschard of Switzerland, 6-1, 6-7, 6-3 in the men's singles title clash. This is his 6th ATP Challenger title.
- With this victory, Sumit virtually qualified for the upcoming Paris Olympics. He also achieved an all time high World Ranking of 77 in the Live ATP ranking

14. Divya Deshmukh wins World Junior Girls' Chess Championship

- India's Divya Deshmukh won the World Junior Girls' Chess Championship after beating Bulgaria's Beloslava Krasteva in the final round at the Gift City Club in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

- Top-seeded Divya beat Krasteva in the 10th round with just 26 moves to claim her maiden U-20 title. She finished unbeaten in championship by winning nine of her games while drawing the other two.

15. Shruti Vora scripts history and becomes the first Indian rider to win 3-star Grand Prix event

- **In Equestrian, Shruti Vora scripts history as she becomes the first Indian rider to win a three-star Grand Prix event.**
- Shruti along with her astride Magnanimous, scored 67.761 points in the CDI-3 event in FEI Dressage World Cup held in Lipica, Slovenia. She finished ahead of Moldova's Tatiana Antonenco, who scored 66.552 points.
- Veteran rider Shruti Vora has also represented India in Dressage World Championship 2022 and in the Asian Games of 2010 and 2014.

16. Motie and Athapaththu named ICC Players of the Month for May

- **The West Indies' left-arm spinner Gudakesh Motie wins ICC Men's Player of the Month award after wicket-taking feats against South Africa in the buildup to the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024**
- **Sri Lanka's Chamari Athapaththu caps another exceptional month with her second ICC Women's Player of the Month prize**

17. World Champion Neeraj Chopra wins gold in javelin throw at World Athletics Continental Gold Tour in Finland

- **Olympic and World Champion Neeraj Chopra has won the Gold medal in the men's javelin throw competition at the World Athletics Continental Gold Tour at the Paavo Nurmi Stadium in Turku, Finland.**
- He topped an eight-man field with a best effort of 85.97 meters last night. Chopra began steadily with a throw of 83.62 meters.

18. Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi wins Stepan Avagyan Memorial 2024 crown

- **India's highest-rated chess player Grandmaster Arjun Erigasi, has won the Stepan Avagyan Memorial 2024 crown in Jermuk, Armenia,** with a round to spare. The 20-year-old chess player from Telangana defeated Russian GM Volodar Murzin in 63 moves in the eighth and penultimate round to take his six points with four wins and as many draws.
- The victory also helped Arjun jump to a career-high live rating of No. 4. Arjun has been in fine form this year, bagging the Menorca Open crown in April, finished second in the TePe Sigeman Chess Tournament in May and also finished joint-fifth in the Sharjah Masters Open tournament.

19. Jyoti Surekha Vennam, Parneet Kaur, And Aditi Swami Clinched Gold In Compound Team Event At Antalya Archery World Cup 2024

- **In archery, India's Jyoti Surekha Vennam, Parneet Kaur, and Aditi Swami have clinched gold in the compound team event at the Antalya Archery World Cup 2024 in Turkiye.**
- The women's trio defeated Estonia 232'229 in the summit clash this afternoon. With this victory, the Indian team completed a clean sweep this season, bagging all three World Cup Stage Gold medals.

KP CLASSES

Agreements & MoUs

1. TCS & IIT-Bombay Partner To Develop India's 1st Quantum Diamond Microchip Imager

- **The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay has entered a strategic partnership with Tata Consultancy Services to develop India's first Quantum Diamond Microchip Imager.**
- This advanced sensing tool will hold the potential to unlock new levels of precision in the examination of semiconductor chips, reduce chip failures and improve the energy efficiency of electronic services.
- Semiconductor chips are essential to all modern electronic devices, making them smart and efficient.
- With the ability to process data and complete tasks, these chips act as the brains of devices across industries such as communications, computing, healthcare, military systems, transportation and clean energy.

2. School Education Department Signs MoU With National Book Trust

- **The Department of School Education signed an MoU with the National Book Trust in New Delhi to create an institutional framework for the Digital Library Platform, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya.**
- The Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya will be available round-the-clock, irrespective of the geographic location of the readers, making the books more accessible to them.

3. MoD inks MoUs with four banks to onboard them as SPARSH Service Centres across 1,128 branches pan India

- **Defence Accounts Department (DAD), Ministry of Defence has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Bank of India, Canara Bank, Central Bank of India and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank in New Delhi to onboard them as SPARSH [System for Pension Administration (Raksha)] Service Centres across 1,128 branches of the four banks across the country.**
- With these MoUs, SPARSH Services would now be available at over 26,000 branches of a total of 15 banks across the country. This is in addition to 199 dedicated service centres of DAD, and more than 3.75 lakh Common Service Centers across the country. SPARSH is an initiative of the Ministry of Defence which aims to provide comprehensive solution to the defence pensioners.

4. NPCI International signs partnership with Reserve Bank of Peru to enable UPI payments

- **NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) and the Reserve Bank of Peru have announced a partnership to enable UPI-like real-time payments system in the Latin American country.**

- This collaboration marks a significant milestone, making Peru the first country in South America to adopt the globally renowned Unified Payment Interface (UPI) technology, NIPL said in a statement. CEO of NPCI International: - Ritesh Shukla

5. Nokia and Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya Forge Partnership for Transportation and Logistics Research

- **Nokia signed an MoU with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, to pursue research and development opportunities in the areas of transportation and logistics in India.**
- It will team up to do research opportunities in 5G/6G communications targeting air, land and sea transportation use cases, standards development, smart factory/automation, and AI/GenAI labs.
- The collaboration has a research focus specifically on leveraging Nokia's Network as Code platform with a developer portal and digital twins for transportation and logistics sectors, fibre sensing and AI, and optical network planning. In October 2023, Nokia established a 6G Lab at its Global R&D centre in Bengaluru.

6. CSC signs MoU to convert 10,000 FPOs into CSCs

- **An MoU between CSC SPV and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare** was signed on 7 June to convert FPOs registered under 'Formation & Promotion of 10,000 FPOs scheme' into CSCs and help them to deliver citizen-centric services.
- As per MoU, 10,000 FPOs will be converted into CSCs. CSC SPV will enable them to provide the services that are available on the Digital Seva Portal
- The Government of India launched the Central Sector Scheme for 'Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)' in the year 2020 that is enabling farmers to enhance their bargaining power, leverage economies of scale, reduction in cost of production and enhancing farmers' incomes through aggregation of their agricultural produce.

7. World Athletics signs five-year broadcasting services deal with Tata Communications

- **World Athletics announced a five-year global broadcasting deal with Tata Communications,** making the Indian telecom major a key partner for marquee events starting with the Tokyo World Championships. The agreement aims to enhance innovation and audience engagement.
- Tata Communications will be the host broadcaster for World Athletics Series events, delivering immersive coverage and custom live content across continents. Strategic initiatives include expanding the sport's reach and supporting sustainability efforts.

8. Oracle announced it would support the training of two lakh students in India

- **Cloud major Oracle has announced that it will support the training of two lakh students in India in cloud computing, data science, artificial intelligence (AI), and other emerging technologies.**

- Teachers and academicians will deliver the training as part of the curriculum on campus. Specific modules will be offered as a digital learning experience through Oracle MyLearn.
- The company and Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation have launched a specialised programme under the state's massive skill enhancement initiative, Naan Mudhalvan, to provide employment-linked training to students in the state.
- Since the introduction, over 60,000 students representing engineering, arts, and science streams from more than 900 colleges have registered.
- The programme will provide students and professionals with a foundation in cloud computing and a better understanding of other core concepts such as AI, machine learning (ML), data science, or blockchain, the company said.

9. Adani Enterprises' defence arm partners EDGE group to tap global military market

- Adani Enterprises' defence arm Adani Defence & Aerospace has entered into an agreement with UAE-based EDGE Group to cater to the military requirements of both global and local customers. Under this, both the firms aim to establish a global platform leveraging the defence and aerospace capabilities of both companies to bring together their respective product portfolios.
- The firms will evaluate cooperation across EDGE's and Adani's core product domains, including missiles & weapons covering airborne, surface, infantry, ammunition, and air defence products, platforms & systems covering unmanned aerial systems (UAS), loitering munitions, counter drone systems, unmanned ground vehicles (UGV), as well as electronic warfare (EW) and cyber tech.

10. Namdev Finvest Partners with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

- Namdev Finvest, a Jaipur-based NBFC, has entered into a strategic alliance with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, a leading insurance platform, to offer comprehensive financial solutions, including insurance and NBFC services, to its customers.
- The strategic alliance leverages Namdev's customer network and geographic presence, backed by Bajaj General Insurance.

11. MSDE partners with Australian Government to energise Agriculture Sector of India with emerging skills

- The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), in collaboration with the Australian Government, hosted a comprehensive and productive roundtable to discuss the learnings from the Australia-India Critical Agriculture Skills Pilot Project.
- The findings were shared with MSDE and the Australian Government and subsequently 107 emerging job roles were mapped to identify the 5 critical emerging job roles in the agriculture sector for the pilot projects.
- The six pilot projects nearing completion have been implemented in 4 states, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.

12. CERT-In & Mastercard India Collaborate To Enhance Cybersecurity In Financial Sector

- **Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) and Mastercard India have signed a MoU for collaboration in cyber security to enhance India's cyber-resilience in the financial sector.**
- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology said the two entities will leverage their shared expertise to strengthen the financial sector's cybersecurity incident response.
- Mastercard and CERT-In will hold training programs and workshops for cyber capacity building, the latest market trends and best practices to enhance the cyber security of financial sector organizations. The two entities will also share relevant cyber threat trends, technical information, threat intelligence, and vulnerability reports to strengthen the financial sector.

13. IPPB partners with Ria Money Transfer to enhance doorstep financial services nationwide

- **India Post Payments Bank has partnered with Ria Money Transfer, a global leader in cross-border money transfers to provide convenient and affordable doorstep financial services to customers in remote areas across the country.**
- The partnership will enhance access to banking services at customers' doorsteps, allowing them to withdraw only the amounts they need immediately.

14. NHAI Signs MoU with IIIT Delhi to Enhance Road Safety by deploying Artificial Intelligence

- In order to enhance road safety, **NHAI has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (Delhi), a Technical University established by Government of National Capital Territory (NCT)** to leverage Artificial Intelligence (AI) based solutions for improvement in the availability of road signs on National Highways.
- As a part of the agreement, IIIT Delhi will conduct surveys for collecting imagery and other related data related to availability and condition of road signages on selected National Highways stretches.
- The tentative length to be covered under this project shall be around 25,000 km. The data collected through surveys will be processed by IIIT Delhi through deployment of AI.

15. ACE partners with Bank of Baroda for construction equipment financing

- **Action Construction Equipment Ltd., a prominent player in India's construction equipment manufacturing sector, has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bank of Baroda to facilitate financing solutions for construction equipment businesses.**
- Under this partnership, ACE customers across the country will have access to tailored financing options provided BoB.

16. Pixxel wins iDEX challenge, to build satellites for Indian Air Force

- **Innovations for Defence Excellence, the flagship initiative of the MoD, signed the landmark 350th contract in New Delhi on June 25, 2024.**
- The contract was inked with SpacePixxel Technologies Pvt Ltd for the design and development of a 'Miniaturised satellite capable of carrying Electro-Optical, Infrared, Synthetic Aperture Radar, and Hyperspectral payloads up to 150 kgs'.
- iDEX, the recipient of the esteemed Prime Minister Award for Public Policy in Innovation Category in 2021, has emerged as a game-changer in the defence ecosystem. Established by the DIO under Department of Defence Production, iDEX has launched 11 editions of the Defence India Start-up Challenge (DISC).

17. ADB & Aadhar housing partners to give housing loans to low-income women

- **The Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a USD 60 million nonconvertible debentures financing agreement, disbursing USD 30 million to Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL)** to provide housing loans to women and address the shortage of financing in the low-income and affordable housing segment in India.
- As per a release, half of the funds will be deployed in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal

Schemes

1. Government to provide assistance to construct 3 crore rural and urban houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)

- **Govt of India is implementing Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana since 2015-16 to provide assistance to the eligible rural and urban households for construction of houses with basic amenities.**
- Under PMAY, total total 4.21 Crore houses have been completed for the eligible poor families under the housing schemes in the last 10 years.
- All the houses constructed under PMAY are provided the other basic amenities such as Household Toilets, LPG connection, Electricity connection, Functional Household Tap Connection etc. through convergence with other schemes of Central Government and State Governments.

2. Centre approves Rs. 50 lakh grants each for 7 startups in technical textiles to boost innovation and sustainability

- The Ministry of Textiles has approved the startups in Technical Textiles to boost innovation and sustainability and to foster transformative developments that will shape the industry's future.
- Secretary of the Ministry of Textiles Rachna Shah has said this while chairing the 7th meeting of the Empowered Programme Committee of the National Technical Textiles Mission in Delhi
- National Technical Textiles Mission's Grant for Research and Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles encourages young innovators, scientists, technologists, and startup ventures in the field of Technical Textiles to translate their ideas into commercial products and make India self-reliant. It supports individual entrepreneurs or start-ups.
- **The Empowered Programme Committee has approved 7 startup proposals under the GREAT scheme.**
- The Government is providing a maximum fund support of Rs 50 lakhs per startup.
- As of date, 8 startup proposals have been approved under NTTM, focusing on sustainability, composites, high-performance textiles, Meditech, & smart textiles, driving significant advancements in these areas.

3. Prime Minister Modi clears PM-Kisan 17th instalment

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi signed the release of the 17th instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN Nidhi) scheme. The move will benefit more than 93 million farmers by disbursing more than Rs 20,000 crore. 16th Installment of PM KISAN scheme was released on 28th February 2024.
- PM-KISAN Nidhi is a central government scheme launched in December 2018 to support the income of farmers by providing an annual financial assistance of Rs 6,000. The money is given

in three equal instalments of Rs 2,000 every four months directly into the beneficiaries bank accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer.

4. Cabinet approves Central Sector Scheme 'National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme' (N.F.I.E.S.)

- **The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of Ministry of Home Affairs for Central Sector Scheme 'National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES) with a total financial outlay of Rs. 2254.43 crore during the period from 2024-25 to 2028-29.**
- Financial outlay of the Central Sector Scheme will be provisioned by the Ministry of Home Affairs from its own budget.

The Cabinet has approved the following components under this Scheme:

- Establishment of Campuses of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) in the country.
- ii. Establishment of Central Forensic Science Laboratories in the country.
- iii. Enhancement of existing infrastructure of the Delhi Campus of the NFSU.

With the enactment of the New Criminal Laws which mandates forensic investigation for offences involving punishment of 7 years or more, a significant increase in the workload of forensic science laboratories is expected. Further, there is a significant shortage of trained forensic manpower in the Forensic Science Laboratories (FSL) in the country.

5. GoI approves new transmission schemes worth '13,595 crore to evacuate 4.5 GW RE power each from Rajasthan and Karnataka

- **The Government of India has approved new Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) schemes to evacuate 9 GW of RE power from Rajasthan and Karnataka.**
- These schemes will be implemented through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) mode. These schemes are part of 500 GW RE capacity by 2030 out of which 200 GW is already connected.
- The power evacuation scheme of Rajasthan Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) will evacuate 4.5 GW of RE power from Rajasthan. It comprises 1 GW from Fatehgarh complex, 2.5 GW from Barmer Complex and 1 GW from Nagaur (Merta) Complex. This power will be transferred to Mainpuri Region, Fatehpur and Orai of Uttar Pradesh. The completion period of the scheme is two years.
- Cost of the scheme is about '12,241 crore. The System strengthening scheme of Karnataka will evacuate 4.5 GW RE power from Koppal area and Gadag area. The scheme will be completed by June 2027. Cost of the scheme is about '1,354 crore.

6. Government enhances allocation for Fertilizer Sector under SIGHT Programme of the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM)

- **Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) is implementing the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) with a target to achieve production capacity of 5 million tonnes per annum of Green Hydrogen in the country by the year 2030.**
 - The National Green Hydrogen Mission was launched on 04th January 2023 with an outlay of Rs. 19,744 crores up to FY 2029-30.
 - Under the Mission, MNRE had issued the Scheme Guidelines for implementation of SIGHT Programme ' Component II: Incentive for Procurement of Green Ammonia Production (under Mode2A) of the NGHM on 16.01.2024. Mode 2A caters to the requirements of the fertilizer sector. As per the said Guidelines, the capacity available for bidding under Tranche I of Mode 2A was 5,50,000 tonne

7. NPS logs over 110,000 fresh subscribers in April, reveals NSO data

- **The National Pension System (NPS) was launched on 1st January, 2004 with the objective of providing retirement income to all the citizens.**
- Initially, NPS was introduced for the new government recruits (except armed forces). With effect from 1st May, 2009, NPS has been provided for all citizens of the country including the unorganised sector workers on voluntary basis.
- Managed by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, the NPS is designed on a defined contribution basis. Here, both the subscriber and the employer contribute an equal amount to a person's account. The Union government has mandated the National Pension System for all its new employees.
- The corporate component of the scheme is voluntary in nature and includes people working in public sector organisations, private limited companies, or public sector banks among others. Any citizen of India between 18 and 70 years of age is eligible for the scheme. However, Hindu Undivided Families and Persons of Indian Origin are not eligible for subscribing to NPS.
- 110,655 fresh subscribers joined the National Pension System in April, with state government employees constituting nearly two-thirds of these new subscribers. Overall, 937,000 subscribers joined the National Pension System during FY24, 13.6 per cent higher than the 824,700 subscribers logged in the preceding financial year.
- The NPS assets under management has reached '11.73 lakh crore ('8.98 lakh Crore) in FY24

Appointments & Resignations

1. IRDAI approves appointment of Sandeep Batra as ICICI Prudential Board chairman The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority

- **The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India has approved the appointment of Sandeep Batra, as Chairman of the Board of Directors of ICICI Prudential.**
- The appointment of Batra will be effective from June 30, 2024.
- Batra has been associated with ICICI group since September 2000 and is currently an Executive Director on the Board of ICICI Bank since 2018.

2. Mexico elects Claudia Sheinbaum as country's first female president

- **Claudia Sheinbaum won a landslide victory to become Mexico's first female president,** inheriting the project of her mentor and outgoing leader Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador whose popularity among the poor helped drive her triumph.
- Sheinbaum, a climate scientist and former mayor of Mexico City, won the presidency with between 58.3 per cent and 60.7 per cent of the vote.

3. Cricket legend Kapil Dev takes over as Professional Golf Tour of India president

- Deepening his growing links with the game in India, 1983 cricket World Cup-winning captain **Kapil Dev has taken over as president of the Professional Golf Tour of India, the apex body for the men's domestic game, marking a new page in its growth.**

3. Cashfree Payments appoints Abhaya Hota as Independent Director

- **Payments and API banking company Cashfree Payments has announced the appointment of former NPCI MD & CEO Abhaya Hota as an Independent Director of the company.**
- He was the Managing Director & CEO of the National Payments Corporation of India, where he played a critical role in the design, development, and implementation of payment systems and policies in India.

4. Asirvad Micro Finance appoints Satish Nair as President and CEO

- **Asirvad Micro Finance Limited, a subsidiary of Manappuram Finance Limited, has appointed Satish Nair as President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO).**
- Asirvad, headquartered in Valapad, Kerala, is the third largest microfinance institution (in terms of AUM as of June 2023), offering microfinance loans to low-income women.

5. Sameer Bansal appointed CEO of PNB MetLife

- PNB MetLife India Insurance Co. Ltd., a prominent life insurer, announced the appointment of Sameer Bansal as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, starting July 1, 2024, subject to the necessary regulatory approvals. He joined PNB MetLife in 2007 and currently serves as Chief Distribution Officer and a member of the leadership team.

6. Shri Kamal Kishore Soan takes over the charge of Director General, ESIC

- Shri Kamal Kishore Soan, a senior IAS officer from Jharkhand Cadre (Batch : 1998) currently serving as an Additional Secretary and Director General, Labour Welfare in the Ministry of Labour & Employment, took over the additional charge of Director General of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) under Ministry of Labour & Employment, on 31.05.2024.

7. Raj Priy Singh (IFoS) appointed as Director in Department of Rural Development

- **Raj Priy Singh (IFoS) has been selected for the appointment as Director in the Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Rural Development.**
- According to an order issued from the Department of Personnel & Training(DoPT), Singh has been selected for the appointment under the Central Staffing Scheme (CSS) for a period with effect from the date of taking over charge

8. Narendra Modi takes oath for third consecutive term as PM

- **Prime Minister-designate Narendra Modi took oath for a third straight term as the head of a coalition government after two full tenures in which the BJP enjoyed a majority on its own.**
- Mr. Modi, 73, equalled the feat of the first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, who won in the 1952, 1957 and 1962 general elections.
- Leaders from India's neighbourhood and the Indian Ocean Region including Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe, the Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu, and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attended the event.

9. Prem Singh Tamang takes oath as Sikkim Chief Minister for second term

- **Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM) convener Prem Singh Tamang was sworn in as the chief minister of the Himalayan state for the second consecutive term.** The ruling SKM secured a resounding victory in the state, clinching a landslide win by capturing 31 out of 32 seats in the assembly elections.
- Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya administered the oath of office and secrecy to Prem Singh Tamang and his Council of Ministers during the swearing-in ceremony at Paljor Stadium.

10. Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi To Be Next Chief Of Army Staff

- **Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi has been appointed as the next Chief of the Army Staff. He will take charge from 30th June.**
- The present Chief of the Army Staff, General Manoj C Pande will demit office on 30th June. Born on 1st July 1964, Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi was commissioned into the Infantry (Jammu and Kashmir Rifles) of the Indian Army on 15th December 1984
- During his long and distinguished service spanning nearly 40 years, he has served in different capacities. In the rank of Lieutenant General, the officer has tenanted important appointments including Director General Infantry and General Officer Commanding in Chief (Headquarters Northern Command) from 2022 to 2024, before getting appointed as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff

11. Mohan Charan Majhi takes oath as Odisha's first BJP CM

- **Four-time MLA Mohan Charan Majhi was named next chief minister of Odisha by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). BJP leader Mohan Charan Majhi took oath as the Chief Minister of Odisha, in Bhubaneswar. Governor Raghubar Das administered him the oath to office.**
- Along with Majhi, two deputy Chief Ministers 'Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo and Pravati Parida' were also sworn in. Pravati Parida has become the first woman deputy chief minister of the state. Biju Janata Dal (BJD) leader Naveen Patnaik, who served as Chief Minister of Odisha for 24 years, was also present on the stage.

12. Pema Khandu takes oath as Arunachal Pradesh CM

- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) legislature party leader, Pema Khandu, took oath as chief minister of Arunachal Pradesh for the third consecutive term at a ceremony held in the state capital Itanagar. He was administered oath of office and secrecy by Governor Lt Gen (Retd) KT Parnaik.
- Chowna Mein, who was the deputy CM in the previous Khandu-led governments since 2016, took oath for the same post one more time. In the 2024 assembly elections in the state, BJP emerged victorious by securing 46 seats in the 60-member Arunachal Pradesh assembly.

13. Ajit Doval gets 3rd term as national security advisor

- **Ajit Doval to continue as National Security Advisor (NSA) for the third term. PK Mishra will also continue as the Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.**
- Doval has become the first NSA to be appointed to the key post for three consecutive terms.
- Ajit Doval's appointment will be co-terminus with the term of Prime Minister Narendra Modi or until further orders.

14. Dr Kapil Dua Announced as President of the Asian Association of Hair Restoration Surgeons

- Dr Kapil Dua, a pioneer in hair transplant surgery in India with over two decades of experience, has been announced as the President of the Asian Association of Hair Restoration Surgeons (AAHRS).
- The announcement was made at the 8th Annual Scientific Meeting and Surgical Workshop of AAHRS, held from June 6th to 9th in China.

15. Dhanlaxmi Bank appoints Ajith Kumar KK as MD and CEO

- **Private sector Dhanlaxmi Bank on 18th June said it has appointed Ajith Kumar KK as Managing Director (MD) of the bank.**
- He will take charge on June 20, Kerala-based Dhanlaxmi Bank said in a regulatory filing.
- Private sector Dhanlaxmi Bank on 18th June said it has appointed Ajith Kumar KK as Managing Director (MD) of the bank. He will take charge on June 20, Kerala-based Dhanlaxmi Bank said in a regulatory filing.
- The board at its meeting held on 18th approved the appointment of Ajith Kumar KK as Managing Director & CEO of the bank for a period of three years with effect from June 20, 2024, and on such remuneration as approved by RBI vide letter dated April 18, it said.

16. Paytm names Ex-SEBI Official Rajeev Agarwal as non executive independent director

- In a significant shift, Neeraj Arora, the former Chief Business Officer of WhatsApp, has resigned from the board of One97 Communications, the parent company of fintech giant Paytm.
- 'The Board, at its meeting held on June 17, 2024, took note of the resignation tendered by Shri Neeraj Arora, Non-Executive Independent Director of the Company on account of pre-occupation.

17. Nachiket Pantvaidya appointed General Manager of Sony Pictures India

- **Sony Pictures Entertainment said it has appointed Nachiket Pantvaidya as General Manager of Sony Pictures International Productions (SPIP), India.**
- He will oversee local Indian production while working alongside Shony Panjikanan, General Manager and Head of Sony Pictures Releasing International, India.

18. Dhanlaxmi Bank appoints Ajith Kumar KK as MD & CEO for 3-year tenure

- **Private sector Dhanlaxmi Bank said it has appointed Ajith Kumar KK as Managing Director (MD) of the bank.**
- The board at its meeting held approved the appointment of Ajith Kumar KK as Managing Director & CEO of the bank for a period of three years with effect from June 20, 2024, and on such remuneration as approved by RBI vide letter dated April 18.

19. Govt appoints Girija Subramanian as CMD of New India Assurance Company

- **The government has appointed Girija Subramanian as chairman and managing director (CMD) of the largest general insurer, New India Assurance, effective from June 19, 2024, until she attains the age of superannuation or until further orders.**
- She is a fellow member of the Insurance Institute of India and also an associate member of the Chartered Insurance Institute, London.

20. HDFC ERGO General Insurance elevates Anuj Tyagi as MD and CEO

- **HDFC ERGO General Insurance promoted Anuj Tyagi as the new managing director and chief executive, succeeding Ritesh Kumar effective July 1.**
- Tyagi, with the company since 2008, previously served as joint managing director. Kumar will transition to ERGO International's board and become the deputy COO focusing on Asian growth markets.

21. ESAF SFB chief Paul Thomas elected Chairperson of Sa-Dhan

- **Paul Thomas, MD & CEO of ESAF Small Finance Bank, has been elected as Chairperson of the board of Sa-Dhan, which is an association of microfinance and impact finance institutions.**
- Sayeed has been re-elected for the second term on the board of Sa-Dhan at the Association's Annual General Body meeting held on June 21st.

22. JPMorgan India bank CEO Singh quits before end of term

- **Prabdev Singh, CEO of JPMorgan Chase Bank in India, has stepped down prematurely from his three-year term.**
- Pranav Chawda, currently heading commercial banking, will expand his role to lead India Corporate Banking. Singh, known as PD, joined JPMorgan in 2010 after a decade at HSBC. JPMorgan has operated in India since 1922, with four branches nationwide.

23. RBI inducts addl director on Bandhan Board ahead of CEO Ghosh's retirement

- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has inducted an additional director on the board of Bandhan Bank, weeks before the current managing director (MD) & chief executive officer (CEO) Chandra Shekhar Ghosh's retirement.**
- Arun Kumar Singh, former chief general manager (CGM) of RBI, will be on the board for one year, from June 24, 2024, to June 23, 2025.

24. Om Birla elected Lok Sabha speaker for second term

- **Senior BJP MP Om Birla was re-elected as the Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha.**

- He was elected with a voice vote as the opposition, which fielded Congress MP K. Suresh for the post, did not press for voting in the House.
- Birla will now serve his second term as Speaker. Congress's Balram Jakhar is the only MP who completed two full terms as the Lok Sabha Speaker.
- After 1952, 1967 and 1976, this was the fourth contest for the Speaker's post in the history of Lok Sabha. Birla, 61, is a three-term MP from Rajasthan's Kota.
- According to the Indian Constitution, Article 93 provides for the election of both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker. It is the members of the Lok Sabha who elect its presiding officer by a simple majority.

25. NATO Allies select Mark Rutte as next Secretary General

- NATO has decided to appoint Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte as the next Secretary General of NATO, succeeding Jens Stoltenberg. He will assume this role from 1 October 2024. Jens Stoltenberg was the Secretary General for a decade. NATO is a Western security alliance founded on April 4, 1949, with 12 founding members. Presently, it has 32 members.
- NATO headquarters is located at Brussels, Belgium. Its newest member is Sweden.

Awards

1. NIMHANS awarded Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion for 2024

- **The National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) in Bengaluru has been awarded the Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion for 2024 by the World Health Organization (WHO).** The institute is an Institute of National Importance under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

About Nelson Mandela Award: -

- The Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion, established by WHO in 2019, recognizes individuals, institutions, governmental or non-governmental organizations that have demonstrated remarkable contributions to health promotion.

2. C-DOT wins UN's WSIS 2024 PRIZE 'Champion' Award

- **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), the premier Telecom R&D centre of the Government of India, awarded UN's WSIS 2024 'Champion' Award** for the project 'Mobile-Enabled Disaster Resilience through Cell Broadcast emergency Alerting', recognised under AI, C-7, E-environemnt, in the category of 'Benefits in all aspects of life - E-environment'.
- The C-DOT's mobile' enabled Cell Broadcast Emergency Alerting Platform is an end-to-end solution for near real time delivery of life-saving emergency information to mobile phones through cellular networks. This indigenous system has enabled geo-targeted multi-hazard alerting with multi ' language support, improving overall efficiency of disaster management.
- The initiative aligns with global Early Warnings for All (EW4All), International Telecommunication Unions (ITU's) ' Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), 'Call to Action' and promotes SDGs (Sustainable Development Goal) targets while enhancing country's capacity building efforts towards disaster resilience.

3. Vellayan Subbiah named the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year 2024

- **Vellayan Subbiah, Executive Vice-Chairman of Tube Investments of India (TII) and Chairman of Cholamandalam (Chola) Investment and Finance Co. Ltd., was named the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year 2024** at an award ceremony held in Monaco's Salle des Etoiles.
- He is the fourth winner from India in the award's 24-year history and his win also makes India the only country among EY regions to win the global entrepreneurship award four times. Narayana Murthy, Uday Kotak and Kiran Mazumdar Shaw are the other Indians to win this award.

4. Sebi recognised for innovative regulatory practices by The Asian Banker

- **Sebi has been given 'Best Conduct of Business Regulator' award in Asia Pacific by The Asian Banker for its role in enhancing the regulatory framework for securities markets in India.**
- The award was received by Sebi's Whole Time Member Kamlesh Chandra Varshney in a ceremony held in Hong Kong.
- SEBI has been actively working towards instantaneous settlement. **In 2021, T+1 settlement was introduced in a phased manner, which was fully implemented from January 2023.** This move has provided investors with faster access to their funds following trade execution and settlement, enhancing market efficiency and liquidity,
- The Asian Banker creates platforms to build a greater sense of community amongst players in the financial services industry, from traditional banks and digital disruptors to fintechs and platform players. It also publishes rankings and ratings of institutions, people and processes to establish high standards in the delivery of finance products and solutions.

5. Renowned Wildlife Filmmaker Shri Subbiah Nallamuthu announced as winner of V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award at 18th MIFF

- **The 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) is honoring the illustrious wildlife filmmaker Shri Subbiah Nallamuthu by conferring upon him the much coveted V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award,** announced Dr. L. Murugan, the Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting today.
- His passion for the Royal Bengal Tiger has translated into five tiger-centric international documentaries for National Geographic Channel and BBC. His prolific filmography includes Tiger Dynasty (2012-2013), Tiger Queen (2010) and The World's Most Famous Tiger (2017). Shri Subbiah Nallamuthu has won several national and international awards including the five National Film Awards

About Dr. V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award: -

- The prestigious Dr. V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award is presented in every edition of MIFF, to a filmmaker for seminal contribution to documentary films and its movement in India. It carries a cash award of 10 lakh rupees, trophy and a citation. Other illustrious recipients of the award in previous years include Shyam Benegal, Vijaya Mulay and other prominent filmmaker. The award is instituted in memory of legendary filmmaker V Shantaram.

6. SAHITYA AKADEMI YUVA PURASKAR 2024

- The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi in its meeting, under the Chairmanship of its President, Sri Madhav Kaushik approved selection of 23 writers who were selected on the basis

of recommendations made by the Jury comprising three members each in the concerned language in accordance with the rules and procedure laid down for the purpose.

- The Award in the form of a casket containing an engraved copper-plaque and a cheque of Rs. 50,000/- will be presented to the awardees at a special function to be held at a later date.

Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2024

- Nayanjyoti Sarma (Jaal Kota Jui (Short Stories)) (Assamese),
- Sutapa Chakraborty [Deraje Halud Ful, Gatajanma (Poetry)] (Bengali)
- Self-Made Rani Baro [Saikhlum (Short-Stories)] (Bodo)
- Heena Choudhary [Ik Rang Tere Range Chaa (Poetry)] (Dogri)
- K. Vaishali [Homeless: Growing up Lesbian and Dyslexic in India (Memoir)] (English)
- Rinku Rathod [...To Tame Raaji? (Ghazal)] (Gujarati)
- Gaurav Pandey [Smritiyon Ke Beech Ghiri Hai Prithvi (Poetry)] (Hindi)
- Shruthi B. R. [Zero Balance (Poetry)] (Kannada)
- Mohd. Ashraf Ziya [Aene Baedas (Articles)] (Kashmiri)
- Adwait Salgaonkar [Pedanyacha Samaaram (Essays)] (Konkani)
- Rinki Jha Rishika [Nadi Ghati Sabhyata (Poetry)] (Maithili)
- Shyamkrishnan R. [Meeshakkallan (Short Stories)] (Malayalam)
- Waikhom Chingkheinganba [Ashiba Turel (Poetry)] (Manipuri)
- Devidas Saudagar [Usvan (Novel)] (Marathi)
- Suraj Chapagain [Canvas Ko Xitiz (Poetry)] (Nepali)
- Sanjay Kumar Panda [Hu Baieaa (Short-Stories)] (Odia)
- Randhir [Khat Jo Likhno Reh Gaye (Poetry)] (Punjabi)
- Sonali Suthar [Sudh Sodhun Jag Angane (Poetry)] (Rajasthani)
- Anjan Karmakar [Jangbaha (Poetry)] (Santali)
- Lokesh Raghuraman [Vishnu Vandhar (Short Stories)] (Tamil)
- Ramesh Karthik Nayak [Dhaavlo (Short Stories)] (Telugu)
- Javed Amber Misbahi [Stepney (Short-Stories)] (Urdu)

7. Reserve Bank of India bags 'risk manager of the year award 2024' by London's Central Banking publication

- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been awarded the "Risk Manager of the Year Award 2024" by Central Banking**, a renowned publication headquartered in London. This prestigious accolade highlights the RBI's significant progress in cultivating a robust risk culture and heightened awareness, solidifying its essential role in maintaining the stability of India's financial system

8. Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank gets national award for APY implementation

- **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), a regional rural bank sponsored by Canara Bank, has been honoured with a national award by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** for significant enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY). APY provides a safety net for workers in the informal sector, ensuring a pre-defined pension after 60 years.

9. GRSE wins Sustainable Governance Champion Award

- **Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) Limited has been honoured with the "Sustainable Governance Champion Award" at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024.** The Award is a testament to GRSE's efforts in integrating sustainability into its core operations, driving innovation, and promoting environmental stewardship within the maritime sector. INS Sandhayak was built by GRSE.11. Sanjana Thakur's short story wins UK Commonwealth Prize
- **Sanjana Thakur, a 26-year-old writer from Mumbai, beat competition from over 7,359 entrants worldwide to be named the winner of the GBP 5,000 Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2024 in London.**
- Sanjana's story entitled 'Aishwarya Rai' takes its name from the famed Bollywood actress to reimagine and reverse the traditional adoption story. The literary magazine 'Granta' has published all the regional winning stories of the 2024 Commonwealth Short Story Prize.

10. Arundhati Roy wins the prestigious 2024 PEN Pinter Prize

- **Indian author and activist Arundhati Roy has been awarded the PEN Pinter Prize 2024. The annual award was set up in 2009 by English PEN in memory of Nobel laureate playwright Harold Pinter.**
- The author will be honoured at a ceremony co-hosted by the British Library on October 10 later this year. She will also deliver an address.

11. Dr Usha Thakur Awarded 12th Vishwa Hindi Samman In Hindi Samvad Event

- **Dr Usha Thakur was awarded 12th Vishwa Hindi Samman in an Hindi Samvad event organised by Embassy of India in Nepal recognising her contribution in development of Hindi literature.** She has translated more than 40 literatures in Hindi and Nepali and strengthened Hindi language. This award is given by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.
- **12th World Hindi Conference was held in Fiji in 2023.** As Dr Thakur could not attend the event in Fiji, she was given the award in an event organised in Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu. She emphasised that Hindi is a widespread contact language for tourists and locals in Nepal.

Ranks & Reports

1. QS World University Rankings 2025: IIT Bombay, Delhi in top 150; MIT tops

- **IIT Bombay has secured the top spot in India in the latest QS World University Rankings 2025.** QS World University Rankings said that 61 per cent of Indian universities have improved their standings as compared to last year.
- Globally, **the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has maintained its position as the best institute in world for the 13th consecutive year.**
- **The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B) has risen from 149th in 2024 to 118th in the 2025 rankings, marking an improvement of 31 places. IIT Bombay is followed by IIT Delhi and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, which are ranked second and third in India, respectively.**
- The Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT-KGP) has secured the fourth spot, moving up from 271 in 2024 to 222 this year. It is followed by IIT Madras, which climbed 58 ranks (from 285 to 227). IIT Madras has overtaken IIT Kanpur, which, despite improving from 278 to 263, has slipped to the sixth position.
- The Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IITR), Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IITG), and Anna University have secured the 8th, 9th, and 10th ranks, respectively. University of Delhi (DU), which jumped 79 ranks, from 407 last year to 328 this year in world rankings.

2. India Slips in Global Gender Gap Index, Ranks 129th; Strong in Education & Political Empowerment

- **India has slipped two places on the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap index to 129th place, while Iceland retained its top position in the rankings published.** Within South Asia, India was ranked fifth after Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bhutan, while Pakistan was ranked last.
- Globally, **Sudan was ranked last on the index of 146 countries, while Pakistan slipped three places to 145th.**
- India figured among the economies with the lowest levels of economic parity, alongside Bangladesh, Sudan, Iran, Pakistan, and Morocco. All of them registered less than 30 per cent gender parity in estimated earned income.
- **Iceland was followed by Finland, Norway, New Zealand and Sweden in the top five.** The UK was ranked 14th, while the USA was at 43rd place. The WEF said the world has closed 68.5 per cent of the gender gap, but at the current pace it will take another 134 years -- equivalent to five generations -- to achieve full gender parity.
- The Global Gender Gap Index annually benchmarks the current state and evolution of gender parity across four key dimensions: Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, and Political Empowerment. Since launching in 2006, it is the longest-standing index tracking the progress of numerous economies' efforts towards closing these gaps.

3. TCS ranks 46, Infosys at 74 in Kantar's most valuable brand report

- **IT bellwether Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) is the most valuable Indian brand, ranked 46th globally, followed by Infosys at number 74, according to Kantar BrandZ Most Valuable Global Brands report.** TCS is ranked 16th in the top 20 business technology and services platforms, and Infosys at 20th.

4. Over 52% urban Indians availed of Ayush benefits, says Mospi survey

- **Around 46% of rural & 53% of urban individuals in India availed of Ayush for the prevention or treatment of ailments in the past year, according to findings of a survey released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. Among systems of Ayush, Ayurveda is the most commonly used system for treatment, with 40.5% & 45.5% in rural and urban India respectively.**
- **Ayush refers to the six Indian systems of medicines, namely Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa and Homeopathy are majorly prevalent in the country.** The findings are a part of the first exclusive all-India survey on Ayush conducted by National Sample Survey Office from July 2022 to June 2023, as part of the 79th round of the National Sample Survey.
- Around 24 per cent of the households have at least one member aware about folk medicine or local health tradition in both rural and urban India. MoSPI's report states that 79 per cent and 80 per cent of the households in rural and urban India have at least one member aware of medicinal plants and home medicines.

5. Visakhapatnam Port breaks into top 20 rankings in World Bank's Container Port Performance Index

- **State-owned Visakhapatnam Port has broken into the top 20 rankings in the Container Port Performance Index 2023 (CPPI 2023), developed by the World Bank and S&P Global Market Intelligence. Visakhapatnam Port was ranked 19 in the Index, higher than Mundra Port (ranked 27) run by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ).**
- The Index is a comparable assessment of performance based on vessel time in port. Visakha Container Terminal Pvt Ltd, a wholly owned unit of J M Baxi Ports & Logistics, runs a 1.35 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) capacity terminal at Visakhapatnam Port on the country's eastern coast.
- The CPPI ranked 405 global container ports by efficiency, focusing on the duration of port stay for container vessels. Its primary aim is to identify areas for enhancement for the benefit of multiple stakeholders in the global trading system and supply chains, from ports to shipping lines, national governments, and consumers.
- **China's Yangshan Port clinched the top spot for the second consecutive year, while Oman's Port of Salalah retained the number two position. In the CPPI by region (West, Central and South Asia) from Saudi Arabia to Bangladesh, Visakhapatnam was ranked 18 with Mundra at 22.**

- These metrics highlight the port's efficiency in handling container ships and significantly influence customer preference. Seven other Indian ports, which secured ranks in the top 100, are Pipavav (41), Kamarajar (47), Cochin (63), Hazira (68), Krishnapatnam (71), Chennai (80) and Jawaharlal Nehru (96).

6. Trend upshift in growth post pandemic, rises to 8% in 2021-24: RBI report

- With India's economic growth averaging over 8 per cent in 2021-24 as compared to 7 per cent during 2003-19, the Reserve Bank of India's state of the economy report said there is a shift in the trend growth rate post the pandemic, which is powered by domestic drivers.
- The report said that India's real GDP growth of 8.2 per cent in FY24, which is the highest rate since 2016-17, barring the post-COVID rebound in 2021-22, has 'stunned all projections'.
- It said that recent indicators suggest that private consumption is resuming its role as the main driver of demand and is getting broad-based to include rural consumers.

7. India ranks sixth globally in deeptech startup ecosystems: Nasscom

- India is home to over 3,600 startups in the deeptech space, and ranks sixth in the global deeptech ecosystem, according to a recent Nasscom-Zinnov study.
- Of the 3,600 deeptech's over 480 deeptech startups were established in CY23 alone, which is two times higher than 2022, the report titled 'India's deeptech dawn: forging ahead'.
- Notably, 74 per cent of the deeptech startups established in 2023 have concentrated on AI, a significant increase from 62 per cent in the period from 2014 to 2022, the report said. According to the CY23 report, Indian deeptech startups witnessed a dip of 77 per cent in funding compared to the last year and secured \$850 million in investments.

8. India ranks 63rd on Energy Transition Index, Sweden on top: WEF

- India has been ranked 63rd on a global Energy Transition Index released by the World Economic Forum. European nations dominated the top ranks with Sweden topping the index, followed by Denmark, Finland, Switzerland and France in the top five. China was ranked 20th.
- Globally, the report said the energy transition to a more equitable, secure and sustainable energy system is still progressing but has lost momentum in the face of increasing uncertainty worldwide. While 107 of the 120 countries benchmarked in report demonstrated progress on their energy transition journeys in the past decade, the overall pace of the transition has slowed.

9. Times Of India No. 1 news brand in country

- Times of India is the most trusted major news media brand in India, according to a 47-country survey conducted by Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RISJ), Oxford University. The survey, released as part of Digital News Report 2024, an annual publication by the institute, found TOI had a trust score of 71. TOI had also topped the survey in 2021 and 2022.

- The most trusted brand in the UK, BBC News, had a trust score of 62 and the most trusted paper in that country, Financial Times, scored 57. Similarly, in the US, local TV news had the highest trust score of 62 while New York Times (50), Wall Street Journal (49), CNN (48) and Washington Post (46) scored much lower.

10. 113 Countries Have Never Had Female Heads Of State Or Govt: UN Women Global Data

- **According to UN Women's Global Data on Women Political Leaders 2024, women are still largely excluded from positions of power and diplomacy.** The UN said, globally, women's underrepresentation in decision-making remains a stark reality. **A staggering 113 countries worldwide have never had a woman serve as head of state or government, and only 26 countries are led by women.**
- **Only 23 per cent of ministerial positions are held by women and in 141 countries women make up less than a third of cabinet ministers as of January 1, 2024.** Seven countries have no women represented in their cabinets at all.

11. Tata Group retains top spot as India's most valuable brand at \$28.6 billion

- **Tata Group has retained its position as India's most valuable brand with a value of \$28.6 billion, reflecting a 9 per cent increase from last year.** Following Tata, Infosys holds the second position, while HDFC Group has made a significant leap to third place, in Brand Value's 'India 100 2024 ranking.
- Brand Finance's report highlighted that Tata Group marks the first time an Indian brand is nearing the \$30 billion mark. Meanwhile, HDFC was propelled to the third position driven by its monumental merger with HDFC Ltd. This merger has bolstered HDFC Group's brand value, reflecting a strong presence in the financial sector.
- **Taj, valued at \$545 million, maintains its position as India's strongest brand with an impressive Brand Strength Index (BSI) score of 92.9 out of 100 and a prestigious AAA+ rating for brand strength.**

12. EIU Global Liveability Index 2024:

- **Vienna has been named the world's most liveable city for a third year running, according to the results of EIU's latest annual Global Liveability Index, launched.**
- The index ranks the liveability of 173 cities across five key categories, including stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education and infrastructure.
- Cities in the Middle East and North Africa present a mixed bag. Israel's conflict with Hamas has led to Tel Aviv being the biggest faller down the ranks, dropping by 20 places to the 112th place.
- The biggest increase in scores was registered by the cities in the UAE (Abu Dhabi, Dubai) and Saudi Arabia (Riyadh, Jeddah and Al Khobar).
- Despite improvements, the region is also home to the least liveable cities'Algiers (Algeria), Tripoli (Libya) and Damascus (Syria).

Important Days

1. Global Day of Parents | 1 June

- The **Global Day of Parents is observed on 1 June** every year. The United Nations General Assembly established this day in 2012 to express international awareness about the importance of parenthood and to promote the healthy development of children by their parents.

2. World Milk Day | 1 June

- **World Milk Day is celebrated every year on June 1.** This day is celebrated to bring the importance of milk as a global food to the forefront and to promote dairy farming and the dairy industry. World Milk Day, established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, has been observed across the world since its inception in 2001.

3. World Cyder Day | 3 June

- The **World Cider Day on June 3rd** is an international declaration of love for the popular cult drink. It symbolizes the beginning of the apple cider season all over the world. The Apple Cider Day aims to generate publicity for the wide variety and characteristics of apple cider, to whet people's appetite for apple cider, to provide information about apple cider.

4. World Clubfoot Day | 3 June

- Globally, **June 3 is observed as World Clubfoot Day**, believed to have been designated by the Ponseti International Association or the PIA, in commemoration of the birthday of Dr Ignacio Ponseti (1914-2009), the developer of the Ponseti Method for treating clubfoot.
- According to Ponseti International, clubfoot is the most common 'musculoskeletal birth deformity, affecting 2,00,000 newborn children each year, 80 per cent in the developing countries'.

5. World Bicycle Day | 3 June

- **World Bicycle Day was first marked on June 3, 2018**, following a resolution adopted by United Nations General Assembly on April 12, 2018. The **theme for 2024 is 'Promoting Health, Equity, and Sustainability through Cycling.'** The day aims to promote various benefits of cycling, including strengthening education, promoting tolerance, preventing diseases, encouraging exercise.

6. International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression | 4 June

- Every year, **International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed on June 4.** The purpose of the day is to acknowledge the pain suffered by children throughout the world who are the victims of physical, mental and emotional abuse.

7. World Environment Day | 5 June

- **Led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and held annually on 5 June since 1973, World Environment Day** is the largest global platform for environmental public outreach and is celebrated by millions of people across the world. In 2024, it is hosted by Saudi Arabia.
- The **2024 theme of the World Environment Day says, "Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience."** 2024 will mark the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification. The sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) will be held in Riyadh in December 2024. **Indian Railways theme World Environment Day: Our Land, Our Future**

8. International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing | 5 June

- To address the issue of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) declared **5 June as the International Day for the Fight Against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing**. The UN first declared it in 2018.
- The day is the opportunity to draw attention to the threats posed by IUU fishing activities to the sustainable use of fisheries resources as well as to ongoing efforts to fight these activities.

9. UN Russian Language Day | 6 June

- **UN Russian Language Day is observed on 6 June**, and was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2010. This day is dedicated to promoting the study and appreciation of Russian language. It coincides with the birthday of Aleksandr Pushkin, one of the most prominent Russian writers and creators.

There are six official languages of the UN. These are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. The days are as follows:

- Arabic Language Day (18 December)
- Chinese Language Day (20 April)
- English Language Day (23 April)
- French Language Day (20 March)
- Russian Language Day (6 June)
- Spanish Language Day (23 April)

10. World Food Safety Day | 7 June

- **World Food Safety Day on 7 June** aims to draw attention and inspire action to help prevent, detect and manage foodborne risks, contributing to food security, human health, economic prosperity, agriculture, market access, tourism and sustainable development.

- The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) jointly facilitate the observance of World Food Safety Day, in collaboration with Member States and other relevant organizations. **The theme of World Food Safety Day 2024 is 'Food Safety: Prepare for the Unexpected'.**
- World Food Safety Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2018. It was first celebrated on June 7, 2019. The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of food safety and to encourage actions that help prevent, detect, and manage foodborne risks.

11. World Oceans Day | 8 June

- The **United Nations marks World Oceans Day each year on 8 June** through a annual event coordinated by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (Office of Legal Affairs).
- The inclusive event provides an opportunity to celebrate the importance of the ocean and to better understand how to interact with it in a sustainable manner. **'Awaken New Depths' is the theme for World Oceans Day 2024.**

12. World Brain Tumour Day | 8 June

- Every year on **June 8, World Brain Tumour Day** is observed globally to enhance understanding and raise awareness about brain tumours. It serves as a critical reminder of the importance of awareness, early detection, and support for those affected by brain tumours. According to GLOBOCAN 2020 data, an estimated 2,51,329 deaths were due to brain central nervous system tumors.

13. World Accreditation Day | 9 June

- **World Accreditation Day is an initiative established by the International Accreditation Forum and the international Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation is celebrated each year on 9 June.** Quality Council of India celebrated the day across more than 20 cities in India in New Delhi with the theme 'Accreditation: Empowering Tomorrow and Shaping the Future'.
- The Quality Council of India, established in 1997 by the Government and the Indian industry, is the apex organization in India responsible for establishing and operating the third-party national accreditation system. It is tasked with improving quality across sectors and advising the government and other stakeholders on all matters concerning quality.

14. International Day of Play | 11 June

- The **first-ever International Day of Play, to be observed on 11 June 2024**, marks a significant milestone in efforts to preserve, promote, and prioritize playing so that all people, especially children, can reap the rewards and thrive to their full potential. This day will be celebrated as the right to play for all children aged under 18.

15. World Day Against Child Labour | 12 June

- This year's World Day will focus on celebrating the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (1999, No. 182). **World Day Against Child Labour day is annually observed on June 12, this year the theme is, 'Let's Act on Our Commitments: End Child Labour,'.**
- It also presents an opportunity to remind all stakeholders to improve their implementation of the two fundamental Conventions on child labour - Convention No. 182 and Convention No. 138 concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment or Work (1973).

16. International Albinism Awareness Day | 13 June

- On December 18, 2014, the United Nations' General Assembly adopted a resolution establishing **June 13th as International Albinism Awareness Day**. 2024 marks a decade since the launch of International Albinism Awareness Day! **To mark this occasion, this year's theme is '10 years of IAAD: A decade of collective progress'.**
- Albinism is a rare, non-contagious, genetically inherited difference present at birth. In almost all types of albinism, both parents must carry the gene for it to be passed on, even if they do not have albinism themselves. The condition is found in both sexes regardless of ethnicity and in all countries of the world.
- Albinism results in a lack of pigmentation (melanin) in the hair, skin and eyes, causing vulnerability to the sun and bright light. As a result, almost all people with albinism are visually impaired and are prone to developing skin cancer. There is no cure for the absence of melanin that is central to albinism.

17. World Blood Donor Day [WHO] | 14 June

- **World Blood Donor Day is celebrated each year throughout the world on 14 June** to raise awareness of the importance of blood donation and to recognize the contribution of voluntary unpaid blood donors in saving lives & improving health. The first World Blood Donor Day was observed in 2004 & designated as annual global event by the fifty-eighth World Health Assembly in 2005.
- The date of 14 June is the birthday of Karl Landsteiner, an Austrian biologist and physician, considered to be the 'founder' of modern blood transfusion. Landsteiner discovered the ABO blood groups in 1901, developed the modern system of classification of blood groups, and identified, in 1937, together with Alexander S. Wiener, the Rhesus factor, enabling to transfuse blood **The theme for 2024 is "20 years of celebrating giving: thank you blood donors!"**

18. INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILY REMITTANCES | 16 June

- The **International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) is celebrated on 16 June** each year.
- The IDFR recognizes the crucial contribution of over 200 million migrant workers who send money to over 800 million family members in low- and middle-income countries.

- Over the past 20 years, remittance flows have increased five-fold. Even during economic downturns, remittances continue to flow as they bind migrants to their families back home, helping them stay afloat. In 2023, remittances to low- and middle-income countries increased by almost 4 per cent to reach US\$ 669 billion.

19. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day | 15 June

- **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is held on June 15th** and is an annual international UN observance day on the same date each year. The day came about as a result of UN resolution 66/127.
- Elder abuse is global and comes in many forms including physical, emotional, sexual and financial abuse and also neglect. Elderly people are human and deserve the same dignity and respect as people of all other age groups.

20. Global Wind Day | 15 June

- **Global Wind Day is a worldwide event that occurs annually on 15 June.** It is a day for discovering wind energy, its power and the possibilities it holds to reshape our energy systems, decarbonise our economies and boost jobs and growth.

21. International Day of Family Remittances | 16 June

- **The International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) is a universally-recognized observance adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and celebrated every year on 16 June.** The Day recognizes the contribution of over 200 million migrants to improve the lives of their 800 million family members back home, and to create a future of hope for their children.
- The **theme of the 2023-2024 #FamilyRemittances campaign** is 'Digital remittances towards financial inclusion and cost reduction,' highlighting the positive effects of digitalization in reducing costs, improving access, and advancing financial inclusion.

22. World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought | 17 June

- In 1994, the General Assembly established the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management, and declared **17 June "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought"** by its resolution A/RES/49/115.
- This year, **the theme of the Desertification and Drought Day 'United for Land. Our Legacy. Our Future' spotlights the future of land stewardship**, our most precious resource to ensure the stability and prosperity of billions of people around the world.
- UNCCD's 197 parties (169 affected by desertification) work together to maintain and restore land and soil productivity, and to mitigate the effects of drought in drylands ' the arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, where some of the most vulnerable ecosystems and peoples can be found.

23. International Day for Countering Hate Speech | 18 June

- In July 2021, the UN General Assembly highlighted global concerns over 'the exponential spread and proliferation of hate speech' around the world and adopted a resolution on 'promoting inter-religious and intercultural dialogue and tolerance in countering hate speech'.
- The resolution proclaimed **18 June as the International Day for Countering Hate Speech**, building on the UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech launched on 18 June 2019. To observe the Day, the United Nations invites governments, international organizations, civil society groups, and individuals to hold events and initiatives promoting strategies to identify, address and counter hate speech. The resolution recognizes the need to counter discrimination, xenophobia and hate speech and calls on all relevant actors, including States, to increase their efforts to address this phenomenon, in line with international human rights law.

24. Sustainable Gastronomy Day | 18 June

- Gastronomy is a cultural expression of the world's natural and cultural diversity. On **June 18, world celebrate Sustainable Gastronomy Day** and acknowledge that everyone plays a role in making sustainable choices for healthy diets and a food-secure future. The UN General Assembly adopted on 21 Dec 2016 and designated 18 June as an international observance.
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the UN General Assembly work to facilitate the observance of Sustainable Gastronomy Day, in collaboration with Member States, UN organizations and other international and regional bodies, as well as civil society.

25. World Sickle Cell Awareness Day | 19 June

- **World Sickle Cell Day is observed on June 19** every year. It is an annual event which aims to raise awareness about sickle cell disease globally. The day also highlights the challenges that patients and their caregivers face. **The theme for World Sickle Cell Day 2024 is "Hope Through Progress: Advancing Sickle Cell Care Globally"**.
- Sickle cell anemia or sickle cell disease is a genetic disorder in which the red blood cells are shaped abnormally, resembling a sickle. These sickle-shaped cells become rigid and sticky, affecting blood flow in the body. This can cause pain and tissue damage in the body.

26. International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict | 19 June

- The **International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict. is commemorated every year on 19 June**, which marks the date of the adoption of the first Security Council resolution to recognize conflict-related sexual violence as a tactic of war and threat to international peace and security as related in the UN Security Council Resolution S/RES/1820 of 2008.

27. World Refugee Day | 20 June

- **World Refugee Day** is an international day designated by the United Nations to honour refugees around the globe. It falls each year on **June 20** and celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution. 2024 Theme: For a World Where Refugees Are Welcomed.
- World Refugee Day is an international day designated by the United Nations to honour refugees around the globe. It falls each year on June 20 and celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution. 2024 Theme: For a World Where Refugees Are Welcomed.

About the 1951 Refugee Convention: -

- The 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol help protect them. The 1951 Convention contains a number of rights and also highlights the obligations of refugees towards their host country.
- The rights contained in the 1951 Convention include:
 - The right not to be expelled, except under certain, strictly defined conditions;
 - The right not to be punished for illegal entry into the territory of a contracting State;
 - The right to work;
 - The right to housing;
 - The right to education;
 - The right to public relief and assistance;
 - The right to freedom of religion;
 - The right to access the courts;
 - The right to freedom of movement within the territory;
 - The right to be issued identity and travel documents.
- According to this principle, a refugee should not be returned to a country where he or she faces serious threats to his or her life or freedom. This protection may not be claimed by refugees who are reasonably regarded as a danger to the security of the country, or having been convicted of a particularly serious crime, are considered a danger to the community.

28. International Day of Yoga | 21 June

- This year marks the **10th International Day of Yoga with the theme 'Yoga for Self and Society.'** Yoga, a transformative practice, represents the harmony of mind and body, the balance between thought and action, and the unity of restraint and fulfillment. Recognizing its universal appeal, **on 11 December 2014, the United Nations proclaimed 21 June as the International Day of Yoga.**

- The draft resolution establishing the International Day of Yoga was proposed by India and endorsed by a record 175 member states. The proposal was first introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his address during the opening of the 69th session of the General Assembly.

29. International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice | 21 June

- A solstice ' derived from the Latin sol ("sun") and sistere ("to stand still"), because the seasonal movement of the Sun's daily path (as seen from Earth) appears to "stand still" at a northern or southern limit before reversing direction ' is an event that occurs when the Sun reaches its most northerly or southerly day-arc relative to the equator.
- **There are two solstices that occur annually: around June 21 (commonly known as "Summer Solstice" for being the first day of summer and the longest day of the year) and December 21 (commonly known as "Winter Solstice" for being the first day of winter and the shortest day of the year).**

30. World Music Day | 21 June

- **World Music Day or Fte de la Musique is celebrated every year on 21 June.** This special day was conceived in 1981 by Jack Lang, the French Minister of Culture, along with music composer Maurice Fleuret and radio producer and music journalist, with the aim of dedicating a day to music and its universal language.

31. International Day of Women in Diplomacy | 24 June

- At the UNGA's 76th Session, the General Assembly by consensus declared the **24th of June each year to be the International Day of Women in Diplomacy.** To a burst of applause, the General Assembly proclaimed 24 June of each year the International Day of Women in Diplomacy, adopting by consensus a resolution. **Theme: Women's Leadership in Multilateral Diplomacy**

32. Day of the Seafarer | 25 June

- The **Day of the Seafarer (25 June) was established in a resolution adopted by the 2010 Diplomatic Conference in Manila to adopt the revised STCW Convention.** Its stated purpose is to recognize the unique contribution made by seafarers from all over the world to international seaborne trade, the world economy and civil society as a whole. **The theme for 2024 is #SafetyTipsAtSea. Day of the Seafarer is recognized by the United Nations as an observance day.**

33. International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking | 26 June

- **The United Nations established the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 7 December 1987,** to raise awareness about the global fight against drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking. This day is popularly known as World Drug Day.

- It was established to commemorate the efforts made by individuals, communities, and organizations to rehabilitate those suffering from drug abuse and prevent the illicit trafficking of drugs. 2024 **Theme: "The evidence is clear: invest in prevention"**.

34. United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture | 26 June

- The UN General Assembly proclaimed **26 June the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture**, with a view to the total eradication of torture and the effective functioning of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
- The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment generally known as the Torture Agreement, entered into force on June 26, 1987. This was a step towards recognising that torture is universally banned. Ten years later, on June 26, 1997, the United Nations General Assembly formally designated the day as the International Day.

35. Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day | 27 June

- The United Nations has declared **June 27 as MSMEs Day** to appreciate and encourage the contribution of small and medium-sized businesses worldwide. **Theme for this year is 'leveraging the power and resilience of Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) to accelerate sustainable development and eradicate poverty in times of multiple crises.'**
- The first MSME Day was celebrated on June 27th, 2017. The MSME Ministry is organising the Udyami Bharat programme to discuss legal reforms required in the MSME Act to support MSMEs. India is home to approximately 63 million MSMEs, as reported by the MSME Ministry's FY23 annual report. This number is second only to China.
- Indian MSMEs contribute about 30 per cent to the GDP, over 40 per cent to exports, and have created 110 million jobs. According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, formal and informal MSMEs make up over 90 per cent of all companies worldwide, average of 70 per cent of total employment and 50 per cent of GDP.

36. National Insurance Awareness Day | 28 June

- **National Insurance Awareness Day, observed every year on June 28**, is an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of taking insurance. From early adulthood to retirement, the right insurance helps a person secure the future of himself and his family.

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38. World Asteroid Day | 30 June

- **World Asteroid Day, observed annually on June 30,** is a global event aimed at raising awareness about asteroids and the potential hazards they pose to our planet.
- This day serves as a reminder of the importance of scientific research and international collaboration in detecting and mitigating asteroid impacts.

39. International Day of Parliamentarism | 30 June

- **June 30, marks the annual celebration of the International Day of Parliamentarism,** commemorating the founding of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in 1889.
- This special day, established by a United Nations General Assembly Resolution in 2018, serves as an opportunity to reflect on the progress made by parliaments worldwide in achieving predetermined goals.

40. National Statistics Day | 29 June

- **National Statistics Day in India is celebrated annually on June 29th** to commemorate the birth anniversary of Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, the father of Modern Statistics in India.
- This year, in 2024, National Statistics Day will be observed on Saturday, June 29th, under the theme, 'Use of data for decision making.'

41. International Day of the Tropics | 29 JUNE

- **International Day of the Tropics is observed annually on June 29.** Its purpose is to acknowledge the extraordinary variety of the tropics while shedding more light on the distinctive challenges and opportunities that are faced by tropical areas.
- Its main goal is to raise awareness across all nations of the world, on the issues faced by tropical areas.
- On June 14, 2016, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution designating June 29 as International Day of the Tropics. The United Nations chose June 29 to honor the anniversary of the first 'State of the Tropics Report.' Myanmar's Nobel Laureate, Aung San Suu Kyi, launched the report in 2014.

Summit & Conferences

1. India to host IATA's annual global airlines summit after 42 years

- **India will host the world's most premier aviation event, the annual general meeting (AGM) of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), next year, after a gap of 42 years.**
- This will be the third time the IATA AGM ' considered one of the most significant events in the aviation industry's calendar 'has convened in Delhi, after 1958 and 1983.
- **IndiGo, India's largest airline by market share, will be the host airline of the AGM and the World Air Transport Summit, which will take place in Delhi between June 8 and 10, 2025.** The chiefs and various other top executives of almost all global airlines, aircraft manufacturers, and other aviation sector stakeholders gather once a year at the IATA's AGM to discuss.

2. MeitY in collaboration with UNESCO host National Workshop on Safe, Trusted, Ethical AI

- **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in collaboration with the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization South Asia Regional Office hosted a Workshop on Safe, Trusted and Ethical Artificial Intelligence in New Delhi.** The workshop aimed to establish a foundation for informed policy development that promotes equitable and sustainable AI.

3. India participates in the inaugural Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Clean Economy Investor Forum

- **Indian delegation, led by Secretary, Department of Commerce, Shri Sunil Barthwal participated in the inaugural Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity Clean Economy Investor Forum, which brought together the region's top investors, clean economy companies, and start-ups to mobilise investments into sustainable infrastructure, climate technology, and renewable energy.**
- During the two-day event, more than 300 participants from financial institutions, multilateral development banks, venture capital funds, project owners, entrepreneurs and government agencies from IPEF partners actively participated under the Sustainable Infrastructure and Climate Tech engagement tracks.
- In the Sustainable Infrastructure track, after the screening, four companies (ReNew Power, Avaada Energy Pvt. Ltd, Indusbridge Capital Advisors LLP. Founder, SEIP, and Powerica Limited) from India were shortlisted for pitching their concepts on energy transition, transport and logistics, and waste management/waste to energy to global investors.

4. Two-Day India-IORA Cruise Tourism Conference Concludes In New Delhi

- **The two day India-IORA Cruise Tourism Conference concluded in New Delhi.** Officials and experts from the Indian Ocean Rim Association, IORA Member States including

Bangladesh, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mozambique, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Seychelles and Tanzania participated in the Conference.

5. RBI Governor addresses second edition of Global Conference on Financial Resilience

- **RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das emphasized the transformative potential of advanced and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and big data analytics in financial institutions.** Speaking at the second edition of the global conference on financial resilience organized by the **College of Supervisors (CoS) of RBI in Mumbai.**

6. FM Nirmala Sitharaman To Chair 53rd GST Council Meeting In New Delhi

- **FM Nirmala Sitharaman has chaired the 53rd GST Council meeting in New Delhi on 21st June.** The GST Council is meeting for the first time after the formation of a new government. The last GST Council meeting was held on October 7th, last year. The GST Council had recommended amendments in the conditions of appointment of the President and Member of the proposed GST
- Appellate Tribunals regarding eligibility and age. The Council had also recommended a nil rate for the food preparation of millet flour in powder form.

Science & Technology

1. ISRO gives details on Indo-French TRISHNA mission

- **ISRO, on the occasion of World Environment Day, provided details about its collaborative endeavour with the French national space agency CNES for the upcoming Thermal Infrared Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural Resource Assessment (TRISHNA) mission.**
- TRISHNA is engineered to deliver high spatial and high temporal resolution monitoring of earth's surface temperature, emissivity, and biophysical and radiation variables for surface energy budgeting at regional to global scale. The scientific and societal benefits of TRISHNA are extensive.
- TRISHNA's primary objectives include detailed monitoring of the energy and water budgets of the continental biosphere for quantifying terrestrial water stress and water use and high-resolution observation of water quality and dynamics in coastal and inland waters. Additionally, the mission will support the detection of sub-surface fires and assessment of geothermal resource

2. IIT Madras, NASA study multidrug-resistant pathogens on ISS

- **The Indian Institute of Technology Madras and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory Researchers are studying multi-drug resistant pathogens on the International Space Station, which could have key applications for astronauts' health as well on earth.** It underscores the importance of international partnerships in advancing scientific knowledge and addressing challenges in space
- The researchers conducted a comprehensive study to understand the genomic, functional, and metabolic enhancements observed in multidrug-resistant pathogens with a particular focus on *Enterobacter bugandensis*, a prevalent nosocomial pathogen found on surfaces within the ISS.
- Astronauts operating in altered immune conditions with limited access to traditional medical facilities face unique health challenges during space missions. Understanding the microbial landscape aboard the ISS is paramount for assessing the impact of these microorganisms on astronaut well-being.

3. ISRO Shares Pics Of Sun's Dynamic Activities, Captured By Aditya-L1

- **Indian Space Research Organisation has released stunning images of the Sun captured by the Aditya L1 satellite during a major geomagnetic storm in May.** The two remote sensing payloads, namely the Solar UltraViolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT) and the Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC), along with other payloads, captured these images from the Lagrange point in space.
- ISRO said that during the May 8-15 week, the Active region AR13664 on the Sun - said to be one of the biggest sunspots in recorded history - during its passage erupted several X-class and M-class flares that were associated with Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) between May 8 and 9. This later produced a major geomagnetic storm on May 11.

- The images released by ISRO clearly show magnetically active regions with large solar flares on the Sun's surface. The solar emissions depict the relative brightness of sunspots, umbra, penumbra, and plages. ISRO states that these images will assist astrophysicist in studying solar flares, their energy distribution, sunspots, UV radiation across a wide wavelength ranges.

About Aditya-L1: -

- The Aditya-L1 spacecraft was launched by PSLV-C57 on September 2, 2023 from SDSC SHAR, into an elliptical parking orbit (EPO) of 235.6 km by 19502.7 km. Aditya-L1 was designed and realised at UR Rao Satellite Centre (URSC) with participation from various ISRO centres. The payloads onboard Aditya-L1 were developed by Indian scientific laboratories, IIA, IUCAA and ISRO.

4. Wipro launches Lab45 AI platform to boost efficiency across biz functions

- **Wipro announced the launch of its Lab45 artificial intelligence (AI) platform, which leverages generative AI (GenAI), machine learning (ML), and deep learning technologies to help companies increase efficiencies, transform business functions, and enable industry-specific solutions.** Lab45 is Wipro's innovation lab, and the Lab45 AI platform is available to all Wipro clients.
- With over 1,000 GenAI agents and more than 10 GenAI applications, the platform claims to offer no-code and low-code pre-built applications for HR, sales, marketing, and operations functions, while also allowing for the easy creation of industry-specific GenAI agents and applications.

5. Army Hospital (R&R) launches skin bank facility for treatment of severe burn injuries & other skin-related conditions

- **Army Hospital (Research & Referral), New Delhi, on June 18, 2024, announced the opening of a state-of-the-art skin bank facility, a first-of-its-kind to be established within the Armed Forces Medical Services.** This landmark initiative aims to revolutionise the treatment of severe burn injuries and other skin-related conditions among service members and their families.

6. Google launches Gemini app in India with support for 9 local languages

- **Google launched its Gemini app in India with support for nine Indian languages and English, giving users an artificial intelligence (AI) tool to answer queries by typing, talking, or uploading an image.** The app and Gemini Advanced, which gives users access to Google's most capable AI models, will help people access information and complete tasks in their preferred language.
- **The Gemini app will be available in Hindi, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu.**

7. Dr Jitendra Launches 'One Week One Theme' Campaign Showcasing Recent Success Stories

- **Dr. Jitendra Singh launched 'One Week One Theme' (OWOT) campaign showcasing recent success stories of India in different streams of science and technology.** 'One week One Theme' is the brainchild of Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh. 'OWOT' is built on the legacy and success of the 'One Week One Lab' (OWOL) initiative started last year. Dr. Jitendra Singh is the Honourable Minister of State for S & T and Earth Sciences.

8. In a first, China's Chang'e-6 brings samples from Moon's far side

- **China's Chang'e-6 lunar probe landed in the northern Chinese region of Inner Mongolia, making the country the first to bring back samples from the moon's far side.** The lunar soil collected earlier in the month by the probe after a successful landing on the moon's South Pole-Aitken Basin, an impact crater on the side of the Moon that always faces away from Earth.

9. BlinkX opens India's first Gen AI lab in the stock broking industry

- **BlinkX, the digital stockbroking arm of JM Financial, has set up BlinkX Gen AI Lab for operational efficiencies and enhancing customers' experiences.** The lab is claimed to be one of the first in the stockbroking industry. Its AI-driven Nudge Engine would send personalised nudges to customers based on their behaviour and channel preference.

10. MicrobioTx launches India's first Hyper-Personalised Probiotic on World Microbiome Day

- MicrobioTx, a Bengaluru-based gut health startup, introduced Personal Probiotics, India's first prebiotic and probiotic blend handcrafted based on individual gut profile, and GutChat, a free gut health-focused chatbot for gut health enthusiasts.
- Personal probiotics are hand-crafted based on the results of a unique, patent-protected and clinically proven gut microbiome test.
- It is estimated that 1 out of every four individuals in urban India suffers from gut-related issues. The key factors causing the conditions include inadequate fiber intake, irregular eating habits, low water intake, stress, and consumption of processed, fatty and oily food.

Defence

1. Japan-India maritime exercise commences at Yokosuka

- **Japan-India maritime exercise (Jimex 24) commenced at Yokosuka in Japan.** According to the Indian Navy, during the exercise, navies of both the countries will jointly hone their war fighting skills at sea and enhance their interoperability. Indian Navy's indigenous Stealth Frigate INS Shivalik is participating in the bilateral maritime exercise.
- While, Japan is being represented by the Guided Missile Destroyer JS Yugiri. Indian Navy said that JIMEX 24 provides an opportunity to learn from each other's best practices and facilitates operational interactions between India and Japan.

2. Army launches integrated generator monitoring, control system 'Vidyut Rakshak'

- **The Indian Army has launched 'Vidyut Rakshak', an integrated generator monitoring, protection, and control system developed by the Army Design Bureau.** This tech-based innovation, part of the Army's 'Year of Tech Absorption', utilizes Internet of Things (IoT) technology to monitor, predict faults, and automate manual operations of all existing generators, regardless of type.
- The system aims to save manpower and signifies the Army's commitment to leveraging technology for transformative change. Vidyut Rakshak was showcased during Aero India 2023 and has already been inducted into the Indian Army. Vidyut Rakshak has been developed by Major Rajprasad R S and was displayed recently during the 'Exercise Bharat Shakti' and was witnessed by PM.

Books & Authors

1. Maharashtra Governor releases book titled 'Gateways to the Sea: Historic Ports and Docks of Mumbai Region'

- **The Governor of Maharashtra Shri Ramesh Bais released a book titled 'Gateways to the Sea: Historic Ports and Docks of Mumbai Region' at Raj Bhavan Mumbai on June 22, 2024.** The book has been published by the Publications Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, GoI. It comprises of 18 articles by renowned authors, compiled by the Maritime Mumbai Museum Society (MMMS)
- The publication of this book is an important milestone in creating awareness about the ancient ports stated above and it also covers the development of modern ports and docks of Mumbai including Mazagon Dock, Mumbai Port, Bombay Dock, Sassoon Dock and Ferry Wharf also known as Bhaucha Dhakka.

KP CLASSES

Obituary

1. Eminent Wildlife Biologist AJT Johnsingh Passes Away In Bengaluru

- **One of the eminent wildlife field biologists and pioneers of wildlife conservation in the Country, A. J. T. Johnsingh passed away in Bengaluru on 7th** June after a brief illness. He was 78. His pioneering work in elephants in the early 1980s was instrumental for the Government of India to formulate Project Elephant.
- He also conducted an international conference bringing elephant experts across the world to Mudhumalai wildlife sanctuary. He was associated with the Bombay Natural History society, the Corbett foundation and the Nature Conservation Foundation, Mysuru. He was also a member of the National wild life Board and Tiger Conservation Authority.

2. Ramoji Rao, founder of Ramoji Film City and head of ETV Network, dies in Hyderabad

- **Ramoji Rao, head of the ETV Network and founder of Ramoji Film City, died while undergoing treatment in Hyderabad on June 8. He was 87.** Ramoji Rao headed the Eenadu group of companies, ETV Network, Margadarshi chit fund, and Ramoji Film City (RFC). He was born in November 1936 in Peddaparupudi village of Krishna district.
- In 2016, his remarkable achievements were further recognized with the Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian honour, for his multifaceted contributions to journalism, literature, and education.

3. Sarod maestro Rajeev Taranath passes away at 91

- **Sarod maestro of international repute Rajeev Taranath has passed away in Mysuru.** A disciple of Ali Akbar Khan, the reputed Sarod player Taranath had enthralled the audience across different continents. He has composed music for many internationally acclaimed Kannada films including Samskara, Kanchana Sita and Kadavu.
- He served as the head of the Indian music programme at the World Music department of the California Institute of the Arts. He is the recipient of Padma Shri award in 2019. He is also honoured with Central Sangeet Natak Academy award, the state Sangeet Vidwan award, Chowdiah award, Kannada Rajyotsava Award given by Karnataka state Government among others.

Person in news

1. Indian-American Astronaut Sunita Williams Becomes First Woman To Pilot New Spacecraft On Maiden Crewed Test Flight

- **Indian-Origin NASA astronaut Sunita Williams, along with Butch Wilmore, has become the first to fly to space aboard the Boeing Starliner's in the first-ever crewed mission.** The 59-year-old Williams created history by becoming the first woman to fly on the maiden mission of a new human-rated spacecraft.
- The crew was launched to fly aboard the United Launch Alliance's Atlas V rocket from the Space Launch Complex-41 at the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida. The Starliner mission aims to carry astronauts and cargo for future NASA missions to low Earth orbit, and beyond.

KP CLASSES

Insurance

1. Arka Fincap gets IRDAI's Corporate Agency License to offer Insurance Solutions

- **Arka Fincap Limited, an NBFC and subsidiary of Kirloskar Oil Engines Limited (KOEL), has been given a Certificate of Registration to function as a Corporate Agent (composite) by India's IRDAI.** This registration allows Arka to expand into insurance distribution, adding to its existing financial solutions portfolio to meet consumers diverse needs.

2. SBI General Insurance withdraws Arogya Plus policy with effect from Oct 5

- **Private general insurer, SBI General Insurance Company, on 6th June announced the withdrawal of its Arogya Plus policy with effect from October 5, 2024.** As per the regulatory requirement, insurance companies must give 90 days advance intimation to their customers before withdrawing a policy.
- Policyholders holding the Arogya Plus policy will be given an option to migrate to a comprehensive health insurance policy like Super Health Insurance or to any other individual health insurance product available with the general insurer, including the Standard Product.
- Arogya Plus provided coverage up to a specified sum insured at a flat premium. The flat premium was irrespective of the age of the insured and family combination. The policy was available on an individual basis, family non-floater, and family floater sum insured basis. The policy had no limits on room rent or age-related charges.
- **SBI General Insurance, established in 2009, currently has over 143 branches across India.** The company recorded nearly 16 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) growth in Gross Direct Premium Income (GDPI) to Rs 12,553.57 crore in FY24.
- The improvement in premium has also nudged an increase in the market share of the company to 4.33 per cent from 4.22 per cent in FY23.

3. Shriram Life declares Rs 201 cr bonus in FY'24, up by 35%

- **Shriram Life Insurance has declared a bonus of Rs 201 crore for the financial year ending March 31, 2024 following the robust growth in premium income.** The bonus payout would benefit 3.86 lakh policy holders of Shriram Life Insurance. **The company's Asset Under Management (AUM) stood at Rs 11,282 crore, up by 25 per cent from Rs 9,012 crore recorded last financial year.**

4. ICICI Prudential Life offers Lifetime 15% Discount for Women on iProtect Smart Term Plan

- **ICICI Prudential Life Insurance offered a 15% lifetime discount for women on all premiums for its best-selling term insurance product, iProtect Smart.** Furthermore, **salaried/working women will be eligible for an additional 15% off the first year's payment, allowing them to create financial stability for themselves and their loved ones.**

- **iProtect Smart, along with the critical disease benefit, covers 34 critical illnesses, including breast, ovarian, uterine, and cervical cancer.** This combination provides the benefits of both health and life insurance. The critical illness coverage sum is paid out upon diagnosis, providing the necessary financial resources for rapid medical treatment.

5. Universal Sampo settles '8 crore claims under Ayushman Bharat in 4 months

- **Universal Sampo General Insurance Company has provided cashless claims approval of '8.03 crore for over 8,170 hospital admissions under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana in the Union Territory Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu. The scheme has become operational since February 1 and the cashless approvals have been made over the past 142 days.**

KP CLASSES

India & World

1. Adani Ports signs 30-year concession pact to operate Tanzania Port Terminal

- **Marking its third foray into international ports, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) will operate and manage Container Terminal 2 at the Dar es Salaam Port, Tanzania, through its subsidiary Adani International Ports Holdings Pte Ltd. The concession agreement for 30 years has been signed with the Tanzania Ports Authority.**
- Through a joint venture formed with Abu Dhabi Ports Group and East Harbour Terminals Ltd last year, **India's largest port operator has also bought the Hong Kong-based SPV which employs the manpower and equipment at the terminal for \$39.5 million.**

2. ADB commits \$2.6 billion in sovereign lending to India

- **The Asian Development Bank (ADB) committed \$2.6 billion in sovereign lending to India in 2023 for projects that aim to strengthen urban development, support industrial corridor development, promote power sector reforms, build India's climate resilience, support horticulture, and enhance connectivity.**
- ADB also extended \$23.53 million in technical assistance and \$4.1 million in grants under the sovereign portfolio. In addition, ADB committed over \$1 billion for private sector projects during the year. Established in 1966, it is owned by 68 members'49 from the region.

3. Peru to adopt UPI technology, first South American country to do so

- **Peru will soon have a UPI-like instant payments system, as NPCI International Payments Limited, the international arm of the National Payments Corporation of India inked a pact with the central bank of the South American country to develop the technology.** The payments body entered into an agreement with the Bank of Namibia for developing an instant payment in African nation.
- **In January 2024, NPCI announced the launch of the UPI-PayNow linkage that enables Indians to receive remittances directly into their bank accounts from Singapore and vice-versa.**
- In February it announced partnership with e-commerce and proximity payments company Lyra, to enable UPI acceptance in France.
- The same month, UPI services were rolled out in Sri Lanka and Mauritius.

4. India reclaims fourth-biggest global equity market tag from Hong Kong

- **The domestic equity markets have once again overtaken Hong Kong to reclaim the fourth-largest global market tag.** Following the sharp rebound in the market from election result day lows, India's market capitalisation has soared 10 per cent to \$5.2 trillion, or Rs 435 trillion (BSE-listed companies). By comparison, Hong Kong's mcap is \$5.17 trillion.

5. WHO designates CCRAS-NIIMH, Hyderabad as collaborating centre for traditional medicine research

- **The World Health Organization (WHO) has designated the National Institute of Indian Medical Heritage (NIIMH), Hyderabad, a unit under the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Ministry of Ayush as a WHO Collaborating Centre (CC) for 'Fundamental and Literary Research in Traditional Medicine' (CC IND-177).**
- **Established in 1956**, NIIMH, Hyderabad, is a unique institution dedicated to documenting and showcasing medico-historical research in Ayurveda, Yoga Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, Homoeopathy, Biomedicine, and other related healthcare disciplines in India.

6. Paraguay joins International Solar Alliance as 100th full member

- **Paraguay has become the 100th country to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a full member.** Ambassador of Paraguay, H.E. Mr. Fleming Raul Duarte, handed over the Instrument of Ratification during a meeting with Shri Abhishek Singh, Joint Secretary (ED & MER) and Head of Depository, in New Delhi. 119 countries are now signatories to the ISA Framework Agreement.

About International Solar Alliance (ISA): -

- The ISA was launched on 30 November 2015 by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and President of France, H.E. Mr. Emmanuel Macron during COP21 in Paris. The ISA aims to accelerate the deployment of solar energy globally in support of Climate Action. Its headquarters is located at National Institute of Solar Energy, Gurugram. Dr. Ajay Mathur is the Director General of the ISA.

Environment

1. Two bird sanctuaries of Bihar added to Ramsar list

- **India has added 2 bird sanctuaries from Bihar, Nagi and Nakti, to the 'Ramsar Sites' list, taking the tally to 82. The newest 'Wetlands of International Importance', both man-made reservoirs situated in the Jhajha forest range of Jamui District in Bihar, were added to Ramsar Sites as part of World Environment Day'.** The two catchments feature dry deciduous forests.
- With the two sites, India now equals China in terms of Ramsar Sites. Both countries have 82 recognised waterlogged ecosystems in the country. **The UK with 175 has the highest number of such sites, followed by Mexico, 144.**

2. Northern Hemisphere Observes Summer Solstice with Longest Day of the Year

- **Every year, June 21 is marked as the day of the summer solstice in the northern hemisphere of the world.** The solstices, which mark the changing of seasons, occur twice a year and indicate the year's shortest and longest daylight hours, depending on the hemisphere in which one is located, during which the length of day and night differ significantly.
- This makes solstice days more noticeable to many observers in comparison to the subtle equality of day and night experienced during equinoxes. After an enduring arctic winter for half a year, the northern hemisphere witnesses the longest day and shortest night of the year, marking the summer solstice, whereas the southern hemisphere experiences summer in December.

3. Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra launches first advanced AI System for forest fire detection

- **The Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra has launched an advanced Artificial Intelligence (AI) system for early detection of forest fires.**
- This state-of-the-art system features a high-resolution camera, with a visual range of 15 kilometres. This means it can effectively cover more than 350 sq km of the tiger reserve.

Apps & Portals

1. Sebi launches saathi 2.0 personal finance app for investors

- **The Securities and Exchange Board of India has launched a mobile app 'Saathi 2.0' on personal finance for investors to simplify complex financial concepts.** It includes financial calculators and has modules that introduce and explain KYC procedures, mutual funds, exchange traded funds, buying and selling shares on stock exchanges and investor grievances redressal mechanism.

2. Tech giant Google announces second edition of Indian languages programme

- **Tech giant Google announced the second edition of its Indian languages programme with a focus on providing next-generation tools for newsrooms working with Indic languages. The ILP 2.0 will be delivered in nine languages including English, Hindi, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Bengali, Malayalam, Gujarati, and Marathi, and will have eight sessions featuring guest speakers, success stories, and product-focused training.**
- Google has partnered with Gurugram-based content distribution and digital services firm Mediology for the initiative. The Indian Languages Programme 1.0 sought to modernise the online presence of Indian language news publishers and enhance user experiences across web, app, and video formats.
- **Launched in 2023, the Indian Languages Programme supported local news publications in India.** Google provided technical support, access to training, and funding to improve digital operations and maximise the digital reach of regional publications.

Acquisitions & Mergers

1. Tata Motors Fin to merge with Tata Capital via NCLT scheme of arrangement

- **The boards of Tata Motors, Tata Capital, and Tata Motors Finance have approved a merger of Tata Motors Fin with Tata Capital through an NCLT, scheme of arrangement.** Tata Capital (TCL) will issue its equity shares to the shareholders of Tata Motors Finance (TMFL), resulting in the automobile company effectively holding a 4.7 per cent stake in the merged entity.
- Tata Motors will hold the stake indirectly through its 100 per cent subsidiary TMF Holdings Limited, an RBI (Reserve Bank of India) registered non-banking finance company-core investment company (NBFC-CIC). The merger is subject to approval from the market and banking regulator, and also the National Company Law Tribunal.

2. RBI nods Zurich Insurance's Acquisition of 70% Stake in Kotak General Insurance

- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved Zurich Insurance Company's acquisition of a 70% stake in Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company for Rs. 5,560 crore.** This approval marks a crucial step in the transaction process. Kotak Mahindra Bank confirmed the RBI's nod in an exchange filing on June 5, stating that all required approvals have been obtained.
- In November 2023, Zurich Insurance Company announced its intention to acquire a 51% stake in Kotak Mahindra General through share purchase and capital infusion. The subsequent plan involves Zurich acquiring an additional 19% stake over the next three years, culminating in the Rs. 5,560 crore investment.

3. Cognizant Technology to acquire Belcan for \$1.3 bn in cash and stock

- **Nasdaq-listed Cognizant Technology Solutions has signed a definitive agreement to acquire global engineering company Belcan for about \$1.3 billion (Rs 10,853.7 crore) in cash and stock.** The transaction is expected to close in the September quarter. India is the largest base for Cognizant, with about 250,000 of its total 344,400 employees located here.
- The total consideration includes \$1.19 billion (Rs 9,935.31 crore) in cash and 1.47 million Cognizant shares, valued at \$97 million (Rs 809.53 crore) based on the information technology services provider's closing share price on June 7, 2024. The cash portion will be funded through a mix of available cash and debt.
- Founded in 1958, Belcan is a portfolio company of AE Industrial Partners and a leading global supplier of engineering research and development (ER&D) services. It provides services for the commercial aerospace, defence, space, marine, and industrial sectors, primarily in North America and the UK.

4. CCI approves acquisition of Global Infrastructure Management, LLC by BlackRock Funding, Inc.

- **The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition of Global Infrastructure Management, LLC by BlackRock Funding, Inc. The proposed combination relates to the acquisition of 100% of the limited liability company interests in Global Infrastructure Management, LLC (GIM) by BlackRock Funding, Inc (BFI).**
- BFI is a newly formed wholly owned subsidiary of BlackRock Inc.(BlackRock), with no independent activities. **BlackRock is a U.S. publicly traded company** active in the provision of global investment management, risk management and advisory services to institutional and retail clients around the world. BlackRock manages assets on behalf of institutional and individual investors
- **GIM is a global independent infrastructure fund manager, headquartered in New York City, United States. GIM and its affiliates manage certain investment funds operating under the trading name Global Infrastructure Partners (the "GIP Funds").**

5. CCI approves acquisition of certain equity stake of TVS Certified Private Limited by Mitsubishi Corporation

- **The CCI has approved the acquisition of certain equity stake of TVS Certified Private Limited and TVS Vehicle Mobility Solution Private Limited by Mitsubishi Corporation.** The Proposed Combination relates to Mitsubishi Corporation (Acquirer) acquiring an equity stake in TVS Certified Private Limited (Target 1) and TVS Vehicle Mobility Solution Private Limited (Target 2).
- The Acquirer is a global integrated business enterprise that develops and operates businesses with offices and subsidiaries in 90 countries and regions and around 1,700 group companies around the world and operate across industries including natural gas, industrial materials, petroleum & chemicals, mineral resources and industrial infrastructure.

6. Bank of India takes 6% stake in CCIL IFSC

- **The State Bank of India has acquired a 6.125 per cent share in the recently created CCIL IFSC, which is listed in the GIFT SEZ, demonstrating its commitment to the growth of the IFSC.** CCIL IFSC, promoted by Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL), is the proposed entity to create and run a real-time foreign currency settlement system at GIFT City.

7. Zurich Insurance completes majority stake buy in Kotak General Insurance

- **Zurich Insurance Company Limited (Zurich) has announced the successful completion of majority stake acquisition in Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited (Kotak General) from Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMB) following the receipt of all necessary regulatory approvals.**
- Zurich has acquired a 70 percent stake in Kotak General for a total consideration of Rs. 5,560 crores, through a combination of fresh growth capital and share purchase. The transaction

marks the largest foreign investment in India's general insurance market and is the first by a foreign insurer since the foreign direct investment limit was raised from 49% to 74% in 2021.

KP CLASSES

PSUs

1. Central Electronics Ltd granted 'Mini RATNA' (Category-1) status

- **Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh announced the grant of "Mini RATNA" status (Category-1) for Central Electronics Limited (CEL)** at its Golden Jubilee celebration at the Ghaziabad campus. CEL is pioneer in the country in the field of Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) and it has developed the technology with its own R&D efforts.

Criteria for grant of Miniratna status to CPSEs:

- Miniratna Category-I status: - The CPSEs which have made profit in the last three years continuously, pre-tax profit is Rs.30 crores or more in at least one of the three years and have a positive net worth are eligible to be considered for grant of Miniratna- I status.
- The CPSEs which have made profit for the last three years continuously and have a positive net worth are eligible to be considered for grant of Miniratna-II status. Central Electronics Limited is a Govt. of India Enterprise under the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science & Technology. It was established in 1974.

2. Mazagaon Dock Shipbuilders get Navratna status as 18th PSU

- **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders has been granted "Navratna" status by the Department of Public Enterprises. It is now the 18th PSU in the country to receive this status.** A Navratna company can undertake investments worth up to Rs. 1,000 crore, without needing approval from the central government.
- It is also allowed to form Joint Ventures, and alliances and establish subsidiaries abroad. Some notable Navratnas are Engineers India, CONCOR, Bharat Electronics, Hindustan Aeronautics, RCF, NALCO, NMDC, RVNL, IRCON and IREDA. In order to become a Navratna company, the PSU should first be a Miniratna company.
- It must also report a net profit of Rs. 5,000 crore for three years in a row and must maintain an average annual turnover of over Rs. 25,000 crore for three years, or have an average annual net worth of over Rs. 15,000 crore for three years. Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited is one of the leading shipbuilding yard in India. Its headquarters is located in Mumbai.

States/UTs

Andhra Pradesh

1. TDP Chief Chandrababu Naidu Takes Oath As Andhra Pradesh CM

- **Telugu Desam Party supremo Chandrababu Naidu has become the 24th Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.** Naidu has set a record for becoming the Chief Minister of the state for the maximum number of times. The Jana Sena Party (JSP) Chief Pawan Kalyan, and 24 other MLAs from the TDP, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and the JSP also took oath as Cabinet ministers of Andhra Pradesh.

Haryana

1. Haryana Police Secures First Position In Blocking Mobile Numbers Involved In Cyber Crime

- **Haryana Police has secured the first position in the country in blocking mobile numbers involved in cyber crime.** According to the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal, a total of 5 lakh 46 thousand mobile numbers involved in cyber crime were blocked across the country from 1st January to 31st April this year, out of which 1 lakh 11 thousand 349 mobile numbers were blocked.

Madhya Pradesh

1. Madhya Pradesh Govt Approves The Establishment Of One Prime Minister College Of Excellence In All Districts Of State

- **In Madhya Pradesh, the Prime Minister College of Excellence will be inaugurated ceremonially in all 55 districts of the state on July 1.** In a meeting with senior officials on the activities of the Higher Education Department, Chief Minister Dr Mohan Yadav said that a drone policy will also be made in the state.
- Under the National Education Policy, the Madhya Pradesh government has approved the establishment of one Prime Minister College of Excellence in all the districts of the state. Additional posts have been approved in the selected colleges to establish the Prime Minister College of Excellence in 55 districts of the state.

Tamil Nadu

1. World Bank Partners with Chennai for Zero Waste Goal

- **The World Bank will lend support to the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) to achieve sustainable waste management in the city.** The World Bank held discussions on solid waste management with officials of the State government and the GCC to stop waste dumping in

Kodungaiyur by 2026-2027. In a bid to achieve sustainable waste management, the GCC intends to take initiatives. Which will include, minimize waste by landfill and incineration.

Telangana

1. Telangana State Cabinet Approves Proposal To Waive Crop Loans For Each Farmer In The State By Aug 15

- **The Telangana state cabinet has approved a proposal to waive up to two lakh rupees worth of crop loans for each farmer in the state by August 15.** Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, said that crop loans taken between December 12th, 2018 and December 9th, 2023, will be eligible to avail of the waiver, a period that was not covered by the previous government's loan waiver.

Jammu and Kashmir

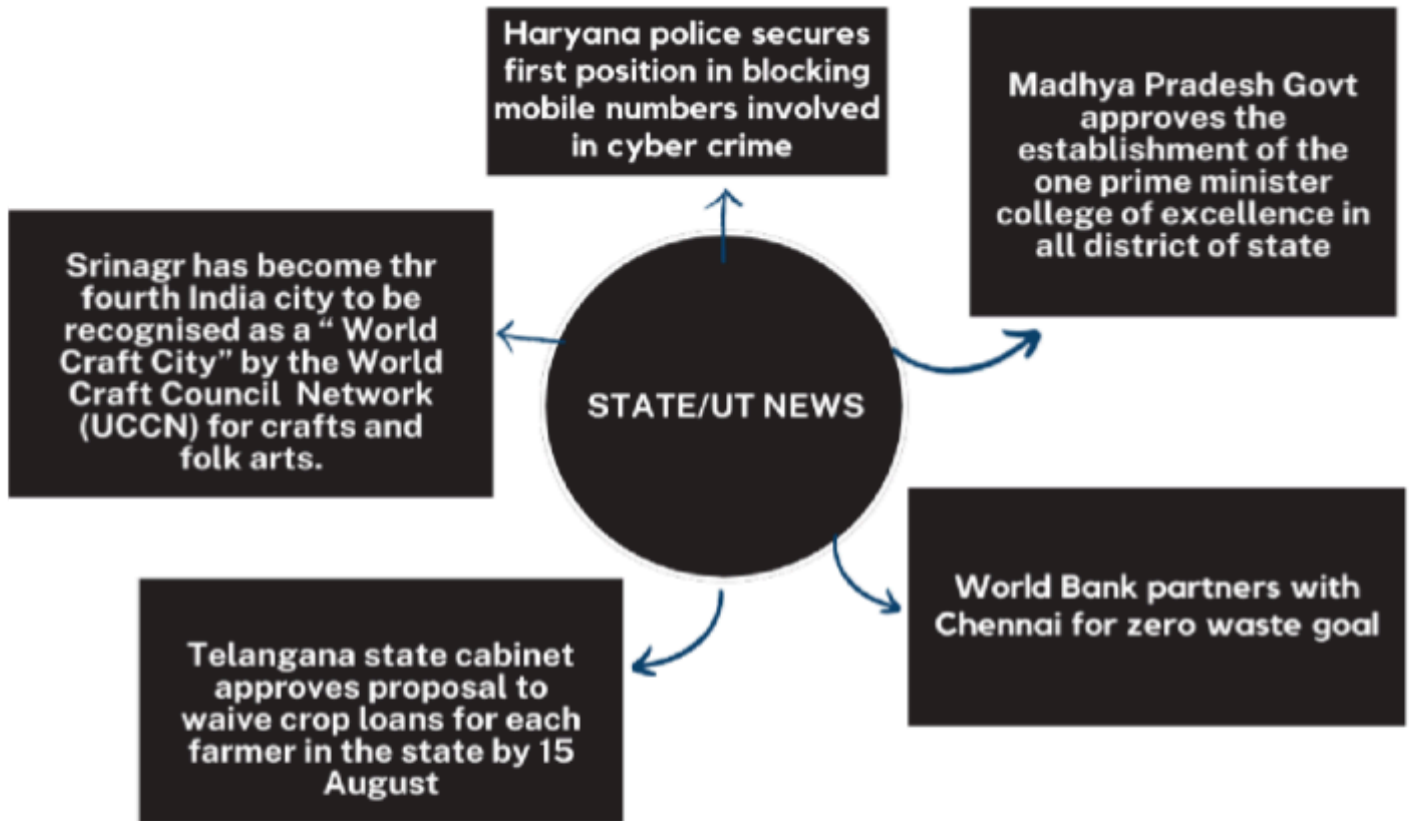
1. Srinagar gets tag of 'World Craft City', fourth from country

- **Srinagar has become the fourth Indian city to be recognised as a 'World Craft City' by the World Craft Council (WCC), three years after it was designated as part of the UNESCO Creative City Network (UCCN) for crafts and folk arts.** Jaipur, Malappuram and Mysore are the other Indian cities that have previously been recognised as World Craft Cities.
- As of now, at least 10 different forms of craftsmanship survive in Srinagar and its suburbs, including papier-mch, walnut wood carving, carpets, Sozni embroidery and Pashmina and Kani shawls.

Ladakh

1. Ladakh achieves Full Functional Literacy

- **Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Dr. B.D. Mishra, declared the union territory to have achieved Full Functional Literacy under the ULLAS ' Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram (NILP), following the achievement of a literacy rate exceeding 97%,**
- The ULLAS scheme is a step towards improving the education system of Ladakh. Under this , the basic skills of all people are strengthened.



KP CLASSES

QUICK LEARNERS

BANKING

| | |
|--|--------|
| Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) | 4.50% |
| Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) | 18.00% |

| POLICY/EXCHANGE RATE & RESERVE RATIO | PERCENTAGE |
|---|-------------------|
| Repo Rate | 6.50% |
| Reverse Repo Rate | 3.35% |
| Marginal Standing Facility Rate (MSF) | 6.75% |
| Bank Rate | 6.75% |

APPOINTMENTS

| APPOINTMENT | POST |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Sandeep Batra | Chairman of the Board of Directors of ICICI Prudential. |
| Claudia Sheinbaum | President of Mexico |
| Abhay Hota | Independent Director of Cashfree Payments |
| Satish Nair | President and Chief Executive Officer of Asirwad Micro Finance |
| Sameer Bansal | Director and Chief Executive Officer of PNB MetLife India Insurance Co. Ltd. |
| Shri Kamal Kishore Soan | Director General, ESIC |
| Raj Priy Singh | Director in Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Rural Development |
| Narendra Modi | Prime Minister of India |
| Prem Singh Tamang | Chief Minister of Sikkim |
| Upendra Dwivedi | Chief of the Army Staff |
| Mohan Charan Majhi | Chief minister of Odisha |
| Pema Khandu | CM of Arunachal Pradesh |
| Ajit Doval | National Security advisor |
| Dr Kapil Dua | President of the Asian Association of Hair Restoration Surgeons |
| Ajith Kumar KK | Director of Dhanlaxmi Bank |
| Neeraj Arora | Resigned from the board of One97 Communication |
| Nachiket Pantvaidya | General Manager of Sony Pictures India |
| Ajith Kumar KK | MD and CEO of the Dhanlaxmi Bank |
| Girija Subramanian | CMD of New India Assurance |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Anuj Tyagi | MD and CEO of HDFC ERGO General Insurance |
| Paul Thomas | Chairperson of Sa-Dhan |
| Prabdev Singh | Resigned from the post of CEO of JPMorgan Chase Bank |
| Arun Kumar Singh | Additional Director on the Board of Bandhan Bank |

KP CLASSES

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Om Birla | Speaker of 18 th Lok Sabha |
| Mark Rutte | Secretary General of NATO |

IMPORTANT DAYS

| DATE | DAY | THEME |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 1st June | Global Day of Parents | |
| 1st June | World Milk Day | |
| 3rd June | World Cyber Day | |
| 3rd June | World Clubfoot Day | |
| 3rd June | World Bicycle Day | Promoting Health, Equity, and Sustainability through Cycling |
| 4th June | International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression | |
| 5th June | World Environment Day | Land Restoration, Desertification and Drought Resilience |
| 5th June | International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported Fishing | |
| 6th June | UN Russian Language Day | |
| 7th June | World Food Safety Day | Food Safety: Prepare for the Unexpected |
| 8th June | World Oceans Day | Awaken New Depths |
| 8th June | World Brain Tumour Day | |
| 9th June | World Accreditation Day | Accreditation: Empowering Tomorrow and Shaping the Future |
| 11th June | International Day of Play | |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 12th June | World Day Against Child Labour | Let's Act on Our Commitments: End Child Labour |
| 13th June | International Albinism Awareness Day | 10 years of IAAD: A decade of Collective progress |
| 14th June | World Blood Donor Day | 20 years of celebrating giving: thank you blood donors |

KP CLASSES

| | | |
|------------------|--|--|
| 15th June | World Elder Abuse Awareness Day | |
| 15th June | Global Wind Day | |
| 16th June | International Day of Family Remittances | |
| 17th June | World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought | United for Land. Our Legacy. Our Future |
| 18th June | International Day for Countering Hate Speech | |
| 18th June | Sustainable Gastronomy Day | |
| 19th June | World Sickle Cell Awareness Day | Hope Through Progress: Advancing Sickle Cell Care Globally |
| 19th June | International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict | |
| 20th June | World Refugee Day | For a World Where Refugee Are Welcomed |
| 21st June | International Day of Yoga | Yoga for Self and Society |
| 21st June | International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice | |
| 21st June | World Music Day | |
| 24th June | International Day of Women in Diplomacy | Women's Leadership in Multilateral Diplomacy |
| 25th June | Day of the Seafarer | #SafetyTipsAtSea |
| 26th June | International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking | The evidence is clear: invest in prevention |
| 26th June | United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture | |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 27th June | Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Day | Leveragin the power and resilience of Micro-Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) to accelerate sustainable development and eradicate poverty in times of multiple crises |
| 29th June | International Day of the Tropics | |
| 30th June | International Asteroid Day | |

KP CLASSES

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 30th June | International Day of Parliamentarism | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|

SPORTS

| NAME OF THE SPORTS PERSON | RELATED FIELD |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Amit Pangal | Boxing |
| Ankesh Choudhary | Athletics |
| Somnath Chouhan | Athletics |
| DP Manu | Javelin throw |
| Nithya Ramraj | Athletics |
| Vismaya V K | Athletics |
| Tanvi Sharma | Badminton |
| Dinesh Karthik | Cricket |
| Kedar Jadhav | Cricket |
| Sarabjot Singh | Shooting |
| Aman Sehrawat | Wrestling |
| Iga Swiatek | Tennis |
| Magnus Carlsen | Chess |
| Ju Wenjun | Chess |
| Carlos Alcaraz | Tennis |
| Alexander Zverev | Tennis |
| Sumit Nagal | Tennis |
| Divya Deshmukh | Chess |
| Beloslava Krasteva | Chess |
| Shruti Vora | Equestrian |
| Tatiana Antonenco | Equestrian |
| Gudakesh Motie | Cricket |
| Chamari Athapaththu | Cricket |
| Neeraj Chopra | Javelin throw |
| Arjun Erigaisi | Chess |
| GM Volodar Murzin | Chess |
| Jyoti Surekha Vennam | Archery |
| Parneet Kaur | Archery |
| Aditi Swami | Archery |

SCHEMES

| NAME OF THE SCHEME | THEME |
|--|--|
| Viability Gap Funding | Implementation of the National Offshore Wind Energy Policy notified in 2015 with an aim to exploit the vast offshore wind energy potential that exists within the exclusive economic zone of India. |
| Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) | Government to provide assistance to construct 3 crore rural and urban houses under PMAY, Govt of India is implementing Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana since 2015-16 to provide assistance to the eligible rural and urban households for construction of houses with basic amenities. |
| GREAT (Grant for Research and ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACROSS Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles) Scheme | Under GREAT, Ministry of Textiles (MoT) shall provide grant-in-aid of normally upto INR 50 Lakhs for a period of 18 months. The Empowered Programme Committee has approved 7 startup proposals under the GREAT scheme. |
| PM-Kisan | PM-KISAN Nidhi is a central government scheme launched in December 2018 to support the income of farmers by providing an annual financial assistance of Rs 6,000. Prime Minister Narendra Modi signed the release of the 17th instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN Nidhi) scheme. The move will benefit more than 93 million farmers by disbursing more than Rs 20,000 crore. |
| National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (N.F.I.E.S) | Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of Ministry of Home Affairs for Central Sector Scheme 'National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES) with a total financial outlay of Rs. 2254.43 crore during the period from 2024-25 to 2028-29. |
| Inter Transmission System (ISTS) Scheme | The Government of India has approved new Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) schemes to evacuate 9 GW of RE power from Rajasthan and Karnataka. |
| National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) | To implement the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) with a target to achieve production capacity of 5 million tonnes per annum of Green Hydrogen in the country by the year 2030. |

OBITUARY

| OBITUARY | RELATED FIELD |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| A.J.T Johnsingh | Wildlife Biologist |
| Ramoji Rao | Entertainment (film) |
| Rajeev Taranath | Musician (Sarod maestro) |

DEFENCE

| DEFENCE EXERCISE NAME | COUNTRIES INVOLVED |
|---|------------------------|
| Japan-India maritime exercise (Jimex 24) | Indian Navy-Japan Navy |
| Vidyut Rakshak | Indian Army |

INDIA AND WORLD

| COUNTRIES INVOLVED | FIELD OF CO-OPERATION |
|---|--|
| Adani Ports and Tanzania Port Authority | Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) will operate and manage Container Terminal 2 at the Dar es Salaam Port, Tanzania, through its subsidiary Adani International Ports Holdings Pte Ltd. The concession agreement for 30 years has been signed with the Tanzania Ports Authority. |
| India and Asian Development Bank | The Asian Development Bank (ADB) committed \$2.6 billion in sovereign lending to India in 2023 for projects that aim to strengthen urban development, support industrial corridor development, promote power sector reforms, build India's climate resilience, support horticulture, and enhance connectivity. |
| India-Peru | Peru will have a UPI-like instant payments system, as NPCI International Payments Limited, the international arm of the National Payments Corporation of India inked a pact with the central bank of the South American country to develop the technology. |
| National Institute of Indian Medical Heritage (NIIMH), Hyderabad-WHO | The World Health Organization (WHO) has designated the National Institute of Indian Medical Heritage (NIIMH), Hyderabad, a unit under the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Ministry of Ayush as a WHO Collaborating Centre (CC) for 'Fundamental and Literary Research in Traditional Medicine' (CC IND-177). |

ACQUISITION AND MERGERS

| ENTITY | ACQUIRED BY/MERGED WITH |
|---|-------------------------|
| Tata Motors Fin | Tata Capital |
| Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company | Zurich Insurance |
| Belcan | Cognizant Technology |
| Global Infrastructure Management | BlackRock Funding Inc. |
| TVS Certified Private Limited and TVS Vehicle Mobility Solution Private Limited | Mitsubishi Corporation |
| CCIL IFSC | State Bank of India |

AWARDS

| AWARDEE | AWARDS NAME | RELATED FIELD |
|--|--|---|
| National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences | Nelson Mandela Award | Health Promotion |
| Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) | Champion Award | Mobile Enabled Disaster Resilience through Cell Broadcast emergency Alerting |
| Vellayan Subbiah | EY World Entrepreneur of the Year 2024 | Banking and Finance |
| Security and Exchange Board of India | Best Conduct of Business Regulator Award | Banking and Finance |
| Shri Subbiah Nallamuthu | V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award | Wildlife filmmaking |
| Reserve Bank of India | Risk Manager of the year award 2024 | Banking and finance |
| Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank | National Award for APY Implementation | Implementation of Atal Pension Yojana (APY) |
| Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) Limited | Sustainable Governance Champion Award | Sustainability governance and for efforts in integrating sustainability into its core operations. |

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCE

| SUMMIT/ CONFERENCE NAME | THEME | LOCATION |
|--|-------|-----------|
| Annual General Meeting (AGM) of IATA | | New Delhi |
| Workshop on Safe, Trusted and Ethical Artificial Intelligence | | New Delhi |
| Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) | | Singapore |
| India-IORA Cruise Tourism Conference | | New Delhi |
| Global Conference on Financial Resilience | | Mumbai |
| 53rd GST Council Meeting | | New Delhi |

RANKS AND REPORTS

| NAME OF THE REPORT/INDEX | RELEASED BY | RANKING OF INDIA/STATE/COMPANY ETC | COUNTRY WHICH TOPPED THE LIST |
|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| QS World University Ranking 2025 | Quacquareli Symonds (QS) | IIT Bombay (118 th) | Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) |
| Global Gender Gap Index | World Economic Forum | 129 th | Iceland |
| Kantar BrandZ Most Valuable Global Brands Report | | Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) (46 th) | |
| Container Port Performance Index (CPPI) 2023 | World Bank & S&P Global Market | Visakhapatnam Port (18 th) | Yangshan Port (China) |
| Nasscom-Zinnov Study | | 6 th | |
| Energy Transition Index | World Economic Forum | 63 rd | Sweden |
| UN Women's Global Data on Women Political Leaders 2024 | United Nation | | |

IMPORTANT STATIC & CURRENT INFO

INDIAN STATES, CAPITALS, CHIEF MINISTERS & GOVERNORS

| STATE | CAPITAL | CHIEF MINISTER | GOVERNOR |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--|
| Andhra Pradesh | Amaravati | Nara Chandrababu Naidu | Justice (Retd.) S. Abdul Nazeer |
| Arunachal Pradesh | Itanagar | Pema Khandu | Lt. General Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik |
| Assam | Dispur | Himanta Biswa Sarma | Gulab Chand Kataria |
| Bihar | Patna | Nitish Kumar | Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar |
| Chhattisgarh | Raipur | Vishnu Deo Sai | Biswa Bhusan Harichandan |
| Goa | Panaji | Pramod Sawant | P.S. Sreedharan Pillai |
| Gujarat | Gandhi Nagar | Bhupendra Patel | Acharya Dev Vrat |
| Haryana | Chandigarh | Nayab Singh Saini | Bandaru Dattatraya |
| Himachal Pradesh | Shimla | Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu | Shiv Pratap Shukla |
| Jharkhand | Ranchi | Champai Soren | CP Radhakrishnan |
| Karnataka | Bengaluru | Siddaramaiah | Thaawarchand Gehlot |
| Kerala | Thiruvananthapuram | Pinarayi Vijayan | Arif Mohammed Khan |
| Madhya Pradesh | Bhopal | Mohan Yadav | Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel |
| Maharashtra | Mumbai | Eknath Shinde | Ramesh Bais |
| Manipur | Imphal | N Biren Singh | Sushri Anusuiya Uikye |
| Meghalaya | Shillong | Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Phagu Chauhan |
| Mizoram | Aizawl | PU Lalduhoma | Dr Kambhampati Haribabu |
| Nagaland | Kohima | Neiphiu Rio | La. Ganesan |
| Odisha | Bhubaneshwar | Mohan Charan Majhi | Raghubar Das |
| Punjab | Chandigarh | Bhagwant Singh Mann | Banwarilal Purohit |
| Rajasthan | Jaipur | Bhajan Lal Sharma | Kalraj Mishra |
| Sikkim | Gangtok | PS Golay | Lakshman Prasad Acharya |
| Tamil Nadu | Chennai | M. K. Stalin | R. N. Ravi |
| Telangana | Hyderabad | A Revanth Reddy | CP Radhakrishnan |
| Tripura | Agartala | Dr. Manik Saha | Indra Sena Reddy Nallu |
| Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow | Yogi Aditya Nath | Anandiben Patel |
| Uttarakhand | Dehradun | Pushkar Singh Dhami | Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh |

| | | | |
|-------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|
| West Bengal | Kolkata | Mamata Banerjee | C V Ananda Bose |
|-------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|

KP CLASSES

UNION TERRITORIES, LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS & ADMINISTRATORS

| UNION TERRITORY | LT. GOVERNOR & ADMINISTRATOR |
|---|---|
| Andaman and Nicobar Island (UT) | Admiral D K Joshi (Lieutenant Governor) |
| Chandigarh (UT) | Banwarilal Purohit (Administrator) |
| Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (UT) | Praful Patel (Administrator) |
| Delhi (NCT) | Vinai Kumar Saxena (Lieutenant Governor) |
| Jammu and Kashmir (UT) | Manoj Sinha (Lieutenant Governor) |
| Lakshadweep (UT) | Praful Patel (Administrator) |
| Puducherry (UT) | CP Radhakrishnan (Addl. Charge) (Lieutenant Governor) |
| Ladakh (UT) | Brig. (Dr.) BD Mishra (Retd.) (Lieutenant Governor) |

UNION MINISTERS & PORTFOLIO

| UNION MINISTER | PORTFOLIO |
|------------------------------|---|
| Narendra Modi | Ministry of personnel, public grievances and pensions Department of Atomic Energy Department of Space |
| Rajnath Singh | Ministry of Defence |
| Amit Shah | Ministry of Home Affairs Ministry of Cooperation |
| Nitin Jairam Gadkari | Ministry of Road Transport and Highways |
| Jagat Prakash Nadda | Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers |
| Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare Ministry of Rural Development |
| Nirmala Sithraman | Ministry of Finance Ministry of Power |
| Manohar Lal | Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry of Power |
| H. D. Kumaraswamy | Ministry of Heavy Industries and Steel |
| Piyus Goyal | Ministry of Commerce and Industry |
| Dharmendra Pradhan | Ministry of Education |
| Jitan Ram Manjhi | Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises |

| | |
|---|--|
| Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh | Ministry of Panchayati Raj Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying |
| Sarbananda Sonowal | Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways |
| Virendra Kumar | Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment |
| Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu | Ministry of Civil Aviation |

KP CLASSES

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Pralhad Joshi | Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Ministry of New and Renewable Energy |
| Jual Oram | Ministry of Tribal Affairs |
| Giriraj Singh | Ministry of Textiles |
| Ashwini Vaishnaw | Ministry of Railways Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology |
| Jyotiraditya M. Scindia | Ministry of Communications Ministry of Development of Northern Eastern Region |
| Bhupender Yadav | Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change |
| Gajendra Singh Shekhawat | Ministry of Culture Ministry of Tourism |
| Annupurna Devi | Ministry of Women and Child Development |
| Kiren Rijju | Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs Ministry of Minority Affairs |
| Hardeep Singh Puri | Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas |
| Mansukh Mandaviya | Ministry of Labour and Employment Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports |
| G. Kishan Reddy | Ministry of Coal and Mines |
| Chirag Paswan | Ministry of Food Processing Industries |
| C R Patil | Ministry of Jal Shakti |

Practise Questions

Banking & Finance

- In June 2024, The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of Rs 88.70 lakh on which bank for non-compliance with certain regulatory norms including non-compliance with licensing conditions imposed by the RBI, and specific directions to stop undertaking Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) transaction?
a. SBM Bank b. YES Bank c. ICICI Bank
d. South Indian Bank e. DBS Bank
- In May 2024, Adani One, the digital platform of the Adani Group, and which bank has announced the launch of two variants of co-branded credit cards in collaboration with card network Visa which marks the Adani Groups foray into the retail financial sector?
a. Axis Bank b. ICICI Bank c. YES Bank d. HSBC Bank e. HSBC Bank
- In June 2024, Which bank and Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, a private general insurer, have entered a strategic bancassurance partnership to boost insurance penetration and financial inclusion in the country?
a. ICICI Bank b. Axis Bank c. YES Bank d. HSBC Bank e. HSBC Bank
- Punjab National Bank's board has approved the initiation of the process for divesting _____ shareholding in its associate company Canara HSBC Life Insurance through an initial public offering (IPO) route.
a. 5 % b. 10 % c. 15 % d. 20 % e. 40 %
- A basic service demat account, or BSDA, is a more basic version of a regular demat account for BSDA. In June 2024, Capital markets regulator Sebi proposed to enhance the threshold for the basic service demat account (BSDA) to _____ from the current Rs 2 lakh in a bid to boost the participation of retail investors in the securities market.
a. Rs 10 lakh b. Rs 20 lakh c. Rs 30 lakh d. Rs 40 lakh e. Rs 50 lakh
- In June 2024, Muthoot Microfin announced a strategic co-lending partnership with the _____ to extend its financial services to women in the economically weaker segment in rural and semi-urban regions across India.
a. State Bank of India
b. Bank of India
c. Axis Bank
d. Canara Bank
e. Punjab National Bank
- Muthoot Microfin on 6th June announced a strategic co-lending partnership with the State Bank of India to extend its financial services to women in the economically weaker segment in rural and semi-urban regions across India. As per the Muthoot Microfin, the loan amounts will range from _____ to _____.
a. Rs 1,000; Rs 2 lakh
b. Rs 5,000; Rs 1 lakh
c. Rs 10,000 ; Rs 3 lakh
d. Rs 1, 00,000; Rs 5 lakh
e. Rs 1,00,000; Rs 10 lakh
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to keep the policy rate unchanged for the eighth time in a row, saying it will maintain a tight vigil on inflation. The rate increase cycle was paused in April last year after six consecutive rate hikes, aggregating to 250 basis points since May 2022. The RBI raised the growth projection to _____ from an earlier estimate 7 per cent for the current fiscal year.
a. 7.1 per cent b. 7.2 per cent c. 7.5 per cent d. 7.9 per cent e. 8.1 per cent
- In June 2024, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) issued a warning to which among the following banks for flouting norms during its outreach programme to the shareholders of broking firm Securities to vote in favour of the delisting?
a. Axis Bank
b. State Bank of India
c. Central Bank of India d.
ICICI Bank e. HDFC Bank
- In June 2024, The Reserve Bank has constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of former MD and CEO of National Payments Corporation of India, _____ to examine various aspects of setting up a digital public infrastructure for Digital Payments Intelligence Platform.
a. Dilip Asbe b. A P Hota
c. Bishwamohan Mahapatra d. Praveena Rai e. K. Viswanath

11. In June 2024, South Korea's financial services major Mirae Asset Capital Markets plans to infuse over _____ into retail broking arm Sharekhan for expansion into wealth and portfolio management business.

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- a. \$50 million b. \$100 million c. \$150 million d. \$200 million e. \$250 million
12. In June 2024, Moody's Ratings (Moody's) affirmed the Baa3 ratings to which among the following Indian public sector bank(s)? I. Bank of Baroda (BOB) II. Canara Bank III. State Bank of India (SBI) IV. Punjab National Bank (PNB)
a. I, III and IV Only b. I and III Only
c. I, II and IV Only d. II and IV Only
e. I, II, III and IV
13. The Reserve Bank of India on 8th June proposed a facility to allow customers to automatically replenish their UPI Lite wallets to promote small-value digital payments. Currently, the UPI Lite has a daily limit of _____, while the upper limit for a single payment is 500.
a. Rs. 1000 b. Rs. 2000 c. Rs. 3000 d. Rs. 5000 e. Rs. 10,000
14. RBI is proposing to revise the definition of bulk deposits as single Rupee term deposit of 3 crore and above for scheduled commercial banks/SCBs (excluding regional rural banks/RRBs) and Small Finance Banks. Currently, single Rupee term deposit of _____ and above are classified as bulk deposits by these banks.
a. 1 crore b. 2 crore c. 3 crore d. 4 crore e. 5 crore
15. In May 2024 which among the following bank hiked retail fixed deposit rates up to 20 bps across various buckets with effect from June 10 after RBI decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged in the June review of monetary policy?
a. Axis Bank b. HDFC Bank c. ICICI Bank d. Canara Bank
e. State Bank of India
16. In June 2024 which among the following bank has floated SME Digital Business Loans with the aim of sanctioning loans in 45 minutes?
a. Bank of India
b. State Bank of India c. Canara Bank
d. Punjab National Bank e. Axis Bank
17. In June 2024, which among the following small finance bank has decided to discontinue the services of business correspondent Swasraya Multi State Agro co-operative Society Limited to reduce concentration risks and absorb its 5,000 plus employees on the rolls of the lender?
a. Ujjivan Financial Services Pvt Ltd
b. Equitas Holdings Pvt Ltd
c. AU Financiers India Ltd
d. EASF Microfinance
e. Utkarsh Microfinance Pvt Ltd
18. In June 2024, State bank of India approved to raise up to _____ by issuing long-term bonds in the Financial Year 2025 for funding infrastructure projects and affordable housing units.
a. 10 thousand crore rupees
b. 20 thousand crore rupees
c. 30 thousand crore rupees
d. 40 thousand crore rupees
e. 50 thousand crore rupees
19. The Reserve Bank on 19th June cancelled the licence of The City Co-operative Bank for lacking adequate capital and earning prospects. The bank is based in which state of India?
a. Tamil Nadu b. Kerala c. Maharashtra
d. Gujarat e. Madhya Pradesh
20. In June 2024, which of the following payments solutions provider has announced that it has received final approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to function as a Payment Aggregator (PA) under the Payments and Settlement Systems Act, 2007?
a. Karbon b. Instamojo c. SabPaisa
d. Cashfree e. Ipopay
21. In June 2024, The Reserve Bank of India has revised its incentive framework to push banks to increase the flow of priority sector credit to districts with lower credit flow in order to address the regional disparities at the district level. Accordingly, the central bank has assigned a higher weight of _____ to the incremental priority sector credit in the districts with per capita priority sector credit less than _____, with effect from FY25.
a. 105 %, Rs 6000/- b. 115 %, Rs 6000/- c. 125 %, Rs 9000/-
d. 100%, Rs 9000 e. 115 %, Rs 10,000
22. Which among the following bank has launched a new digital investment platform to take wealth services to every Indian and make investments simple and transparent.
a. HDFC Bank b. ICICI Bank
c. State Bank of India d. Canara Bank
e. Panjab National Bank

23. In June 2024, which among the following bank has announced SmartLock, a novel safety feature that lets users lock and unlock several banking

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services at once without contacting customer support via phone or email?

- a. SBI Bank b. ICICI Bank c. Bank of Baroda d. Canara Bank e. Bank of India

24. In June 2024, State Bank of India has raised _____ at a coupon rate of 7.36 per cent through its fifth infrastructure bond issuance.
a. 1,000 crore b. 5,000 crore c. 10,000 crore d. 15,000 crore e. 20,000 crore

25. The Reserve Bank of India started a pilot for the e-rupee, devised as a digital alternative to physical cash, in December 2022, and successfully reached a target of _____ retail transactions per day by December 2023.
a. 1 million b. 2 million c. 3 million d. 4 million e. 5 million

26. Consider the following statements with respect to Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) and choose the correct option. I. The pilot project on CBDC-Retail was started on 1 December 2022. II. Wholesale CBDC in circulation is only Rs. 0.08 crore III. Globally, among 106 central banks surveyed by the Bank of International Settlements, a third are running a pilot CBDC.
a. Only II b. I and II c. II and III d. I and III e. All of the above

Economy

1. According to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation data released in June 2024, India's real GDP is estimated to grow by _____ in the Financial Year 2023-24.
a. 7% b. 7.2% c. 7.6% d. 8.2% e. 8%

2. The combined Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) increased by 6.2 per cent (provisional) in April, 2024 as compared to the Index in April, 2023. The Eight Core Industries comprise _____ of the weight of items included in IIP.
a. 39.27% b. 40.27% c. 45.27% d. 49.27% e. 50.27%

3. In a first, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday cancelled the auction of 10-year green bonds as traders refused to pay greenium. Diverging from the pattern of issuing green bonds in the latter half, the government plans to issue green bonds worth _____ in the first half of the current financial year.

a. Rs 12,000 crore b. Rs 14,000 crore c. Rs 16,000 crore d. Rs 18,000 crore e. Rs 20,000 crore

4. Aided by higher than expected tax receipts, According to government data released in June 2024, the Union government contained the fiscal deficit at _____ of the gross domestic product in 2023-24.
a. 5.2% b. 5.4% c. 5.6% d. 5.8% e. 6%

5. In June 2024, Ministry of Finance said the gross Goods and Services Tax revenue for month of May this year stood at 1.73 lakh crore rupees. The gross GST collections in the financial year 2024-25 stood at _____.
a. 3.83 lakh crore rupees
b. 4.83 lakh crore rupees
c. 5.83 lakh crore rupees
d. 6.83 lakh crore rupees
e. 7.83 lakh crore rupees

6. The State Bank of India (SBI) became the first public sector bank and the seventh Indian company to cross the Rs 8 trillion market capitalisation (m-cap) in June 2024. Which of the following banks are the only other lenders with m-cap of over Rs 8 trillion as of June 2024? I. Axis Bank II. ICICI Bank III. HDFC Bank IV. HSBC Bank
a. II and IV only b. I and III only c. II and III only d. I and IV only e. III and IV only

7. According to the commerce ministry data, which among the following countries has emerged as the India's third largest export destination after the US and UAE during 2023-24, even as the country's merchandise shipments dipped by over 3 per cent?
a. Switzerland b. Germany c. Netherlands d. Iran e. Saudi Arabia

8. In June 2024, SBI Mutual Fund (SBI MF) made history by becoming the first fund house in the country to achieve the _____ milestone in assets under management (AUM).
a. Rs 1 trillion b. Rs 5 trillion c. Rs 10 trillion d. Rs 15 trillion e. Rs 20 trillion

9. The Survey on Household Consumption Expenditure by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has found that Rural India's average monthly capital expenditure stood 71 percent lower than Urban India in the period from August 2022 to July 2023. The National

Sample Survey Office has been regularly conducting household consumption expenditure surveys since its establishment in which year?

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a. 1950 b. 1960 c. 1970 d. 1980 e. 1990

35.25%

10. The Reserve Bank of India has upped real GDP growth projection for 2024-25 to 7.2 per cent from 7.0 per cent projected earlier. CPI inflation projection for 2024-25 has been retained at _____.

a. 4.5% b. 4.8% c. 5% d. 5.2% e. 5.5%

11. The World Bank on 11th June retained its growth forecast for India at 6.6 per cent for FY25. For FY26 and FY27, the World Bank projected Indias economy to grow at _____ and _____, respectively.

a. 6.6 per cent; 6.9 per cent
b. 6.5 per cent; 6.7 per cent
c. 6.7 per cent; 6.8 per cent
d. 6.8 per cent; 6.9 per cent
e. 6.0 per cent; 7.1 per cent

12. According to data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in June 2024, Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based headline retail inflation eased to a 12-month low of _____ in May on the back of a softening core and fuel inflation, even though food inflation remained elevated.

a. 4.75% b. 4.25% c. 4.50% d. 5% e. 5.24%

13. According to data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Indias Index of Industrial Production recorded a growth of _____ for April 2024 over the corresponding period of the previous year.

a. 3 per cent b. 4 per cent c. 5 percent d. 8 per cent e. 10 per cent

14. Fitch Ratings quarterly Global Economic Outlook report published on 18th June depicted raised the world growth forecast for 2024 to 2.6 per cent from 2.4 per cent. Fitch Ratings increased Indias growth forecast for the current fiscal year to _____, up from 7 per cent projected in March.

a. 7.2 per cent b. 7.4 per cent c. 7.5 per cent d. 7.9 per cent e. 8.2 per cent

15. Gross and net direct tax collection witnessed robust growth in the current financial year in comparison to corresponding period of previous financial year 2023-24. Gross Direct Tax collections till 17th of June in this financial year, registered a growth of _____.

a. 22.19% b. 25.52% c. 29.36% d. 32.14% e.

16. In June 2024, Fitch Ratings raised its growth estimates for India by 20 basis points to 7.2 per cent same as that of the Reserve Bank of India citing positive economic outlook. The Indian economy grew at an impressive rate of _____ in FY24
a. 7.5% b. 7.2% c. 8% d. 8.2% e. 8.5%
17. According to the latest analysis from Fitch Ratings released in June 2024, Fitch projects a _____ increase in India's petroleum product demand for the fiscal year ending in March 2025
a. 1-2% b. 3-4% c. 5-6% d. 7-8% e. 9-10%
18. On 24th June 2024, the S&P Global Ratings has retained its growth forecast for India at _____ for 2025, citing high interest rates and lower fiscal boost tempering demand in the non-agricultural sectors.
a. 6.8 per cent b. 6.9 per cent c. 7 per cent d. 7.1 per cent e. 7.4 per cent
19. In June 2024, ICICI Banks market capitalisation crossed the \$100-billion mark for the first time, becoming only the sixth company to do so. Which of the following is/are the other domestically listed companies with a market value of more than \$100 billion? I. Reliance Industries II. Tata Consultancy Services III. HDFC Bank IV. Bharti Airtel
a. I, II and III b. II and IV only
c. I, II, III and IV d. I and III only
e. I, III and IV only
20. In June 2024, According to data released by RBI, Reflecting the country's robust external sector profile, the share of short-term debt with an original maturity of up to one year in total external debt declined to _____ at end-March 2024.
a. 17.5 per cent b. 18.5 per cent c. 19.5 per cent
d. 20.5 per cent e. 21.5 per cent
21. The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) forecasts India's FY25 GDP growth at about _____, driven by strong economic activity.
a. 7% b. 7.2% c. 7.5% d. 7.9% e. 8.2%
22. According to the Reserve Bank of India data released in June 2024, The country's current account balance showed a surplus of _____ of GDP in Q4 FY24.

23. In June 2024, K Raheja-backed Mindspace Business Parks REIT announced that it has raised funds by issuing Sustainability-linked bonds worth Rs 650 crore from the International Finance Corporation (IFC). The bonds have been issued for the tenure of how many years?
a. 4 b. 5 c. 6 d. 7 e. 8

24. The United Nations has declared _____ as MSMEs Day to appreciate and encourage the contribution of small and medium-sized businesses worldwide.
a. June 24 b. June 25 c. June 26 d. June 27 e. June 28

25. The Reserve Bank of India started a pilot for the e-rupee, devised as a digital alternative to physical cash, in December 2022, and successfully reached a target of _____ retail transactions per day by December 2023.
a. 1 million b. 2 million c. 3 million d. 4 million e. 5 million

26. Consider the following statements with respect to Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) and choose the correct option. I. The pilot project on CBDC- Retail was started on 1 December 2022. II. Wholesale CBDC in circulation is only Rs. 0.08 crore III. Globally, among 106 central banks surveyed by the Bank of International Settlements, a third are running a pilot CBDC.
a. Only II b. I and II c. II and III d. I and III e. All of the above

National

1. In May 2024, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has issued a directive mandating all Food Business Operators (FBOs) to remove any claim of 100 percent fruit juices from the labels and advertisements of reconstituted fruit juices with an immediate effect. It has also instructed all FBOs to exhaust all existing pre-printed packaging materials before _____.
a. 1st September 2024 b. 1st October 2024
c. 1st November 2024
d. 1st December 2024 e. 1st January 2025

2. In June 2024, which among the following has launched an initiative to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises along with Startups in Industry 4.0 transformation?
a. Department of Information Technology
b. Department of Telecommunications
c. Department of Commerce
d. Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals

e. None of the Above

3. Department of Telecommunications(DoT has launched an initiative to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises along with Startups in Industry 4.0 transformation. It has called for proposals for Industry 4.0 Baseline Survey among MSMEs that aligns with the broader vision of fostering digital transformation and preparing industries for the advent of 5G and 6G technologies. The survey will seek to cover _____ sectors each in North and Southern parts of India.
a. 3 b. 4 c. 5 d. 6 e. 8

4. In June 2024, Instant mixes, including idli, dosa and khaman flour, cannot be classified as chhatua or sattu and 18 per cent GST should be levied on them, the Gujarat Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling has ruled. Therefore, Sattu and should attract GST of _____.
a. 0% b. 5% c. 12% d. 28% e. 30%

5. The Ministry and which of the following are launching the National Health Claim Exchange (NHCX), a digital platform which will bring together insurance companies, healthcare sector service providers and government insurance scheme administrators?
a. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
b. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
c. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
d. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
e. Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)

6. In June 2024, GAIL, the country's top gas supplier, has announced that it intends to set up India's largest 1500 KTA ethane cracker project in which state of India?
a. Bihar b. Gujarat c. Madhya Pradesh
d. Chhattisgarh e. Rajasthan

7. In June 2024 University Grants Commission has allowed Indian University to offer admissions twice a year on line of foreign universities. The two admission cycles will be July-August and _____ from the 2024-25 academic session.

a. November-December b. December-January
c. January-February d. March-April e. February - March

8. In June 2024, the Financial Intelligence

Unit has fined Axis Bank over Rs 1.66 crore for failure to

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detect and report suspicious transactions involving a fraudulent account created in the name of the NSG counter-terrorist force. The federal agency has issued an order under which section of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) that empowers its Director to impose a monetary penalty on a reporting entity if the agency finds that its designated director on the board or any of its employees failed to comply with the obligations mandated under the said law?

- a. Section 8 b. Section 10 c. Section 11 d. Section 13 e. Section 17

9. In June 2024, Union Cabinet has taken a landmark decision by approving India's first offshore wind energy project. The Union Cabinet approved 1 GW offshore wind energy projects in _____ and _____.

- a. Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh
b. Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra
c. Kerala and West Bengal
d. Tamil Nadu and Gujarat
e. Gujarat and Rajasthan

10. In June 2024, The Union Cabinet met for the first time in the third tenure of the Narendra Modi government and approved the construction of an all-weather greenfield deep draft port at Vadhavan near Dahanu, nearly 110 km from Mumbai. Vadhavan port is declared the _____ major port as part of the Indian government's Sagarmala initiative.

- a. 11th b. 12th c. 13th d. 14th e. 15th

11. In June 2024, The Union Cabinet announced minimum support price (MSP) for 14 Kharif season crops which will have a financial implication of Rs two lakh crore for the government and entail gain of Rs 35,000 crore to farmers over the previous year. Which of the following is NOT a Kharif Crop? I. Cotton II. Rice III. Paddy IV. Ragi V. Maize

- a. I only b. II only c. III only d. IV only e. V only

12. In June 2024, The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved a comprehensive development plan for Lal Bahadur Shastri international airport in which city?

- a. Varanasi b. Agra c. Noida d. Thane e. Nashik

13. In June 2024, the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) organised the "National Workshop on SANKALP: Hub for Empowerment of Women - Launch of the 100-Days Special Awareness Campaign" at Vigyan Bhavan, New

Delhi. As of June 2024 SANKALP HEWs are operational in how many districts of India?

- a. 567 districts b. 693 districts c. 761 districts d. 810 districts e. 1000 districts

14. In June 2024, the Government of India has approved new Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) schemes to evacuate 9 GW of RE power from Rajasthan and Karnataka. These schemes will be implemented through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) mode. Identify correct statement(s) regarding the same. I. The power evacuation scheme of Rajasthan Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) will evacuate 4.5 GW of RE power from Rajasthan. II. It comprises 1 GW from Fatehgarh complex, 2.5 GW from Barmer Complex and 1 GW from Nagaur (Merta) Complex. III. The scheme will be completed by June 2047

- a. I Only b. I and II Only c. I and III Only d. III Only e. I, II and III

15. Which section of the Telecommunication Act 2023 will allow central government to take control of any telecommunications services or networks in times of emergency after the implementation of this act, which will be effective on June 26, 2024?

- a. Section 9 b. Section 11 c. Section 18 d. Section 20 e. Section 31

16. In June 2024, Universal Sampo General Insurance Company has provided cashless claims approval of 8.03 crore for over 8,170 hospital admissions under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana in which union territory?

- a. Lakshadweep. b. Delhi. c. Chandigarh. d. Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu. e. Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

17. In June 2024, The One Week One Theme (OWOT) campaign which was launched is aimed at showcasing recent success stories of India _____.

- a. Sports b. Climate Change c. Health d. Science and Technology e. Finance

18. Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU), India's foremost National Security and Police University, celebrated Olympic Day with the successful inauguration of the Bharat Centre of Olympic Research and Education (BCORE). Olympic day is observed every year on _____.

- a. June 23 b. June 24 c. June 25 d. June 26 e. June 27

19. The Union Health Minister JP Nadda has launched the National STOP Diarrhea Campaign

2024. The campaign's slogan is "Diarrhoea ki roktham, Safai aur ORS se rakhen apna dhyan."
What will be the duration of this campaign?
a. 5 months b. 3 months c. 2 months d. 4 months e. 6 months

20. Which of the following has become the 100th country to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a full member in June 2024?
a. Spain b. Norway c. Ecuador d. Paraguay e. Netherlands

International

1. In June 2024, UNDP and Global Environment Facility launched a new _____ Blue and Green Islands Integrated Programme during the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing State, to emphasize the crucial role of nature and expand nature-based solutions to combat environmental degradation in three key sectors: urban development, food production, and tourism.
a. \$100 million b. \$300 million c. \$258 million d. \$135 million e. \$435 million

2. Which among the following automobile company is launching the world's first EV battery passport recording the origins of raw materials, components, recycled content and carbon footprint for its flagship EX09 SUV, which is about to start production?
a. TVA Motor Company Limited b. Toyota c. Bajaj Auto Limited d. Volvo Cars e. Mahindra and Mahindra Limited

3. In June 2024, South Korea has officially launched its space agency, the Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA), to lead policy and industrial development in its aerospace sector. South Korea plans to make a Mars landing by _____ and spend 100 trillion won (\$72.6 billion) until then on space exploration.
a. 2027 b. 2030 c. 2035 d. 2045 e. 2047

4. In June 2024, Nokia CEO Pekka Lundmark made a phone call using a new technology called "immersive audio and video" that improves the quality of a call with three-dimensional sound, making interactions more lifelike. Nokia is a company based in which country?
a. Finland b. Sweden c. Scotland d. Norway e. Netherlands

5. The United Nations proclaimed 2025 as the International Year of

- a. Electric Vehicles
- b. Quantum Science and Technology
- c. Poverty Reduction
- d. Artificial Intelligence
- e. Technological Expansion

6. In June 2024, Under the strategic direction of the Ministry of Coal, Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) has embarked on an innovative pilot project for Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) at the Kasta coal block in Jamtara District, Jharkhand. In which year the Ministry of Coal approved a comprehensive policy framework for UCG in coal and lignite-bearing areas?
a. 2012 b. 2015 c. 2017 d. 2018 e. 2021

7. Why was Turkey originally downgraded to the FATF's "grey list" in 2021?
a. Lack of economic reforms
b. Concerns about money laundering and terrorist financing
c. Political instability
d. Poor trade relations
e. High inflation rates

8. What is the name of the international crime watchdog that removed Turkey from its "grey list"?
a. World Bank
b. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
c. Financial Action Task Force (FATF) d. Interpol
e. United Nations (UN)

State/Uts

1. According to the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal, which state police has secured the first position in the country in blocking mobile numbers involved in cyber crime?
a. Jharkhand b. Himachal Pradesh c. Uttar Pradesh d. Bihar e. Haryana

2. In June 2024, which among the following state has announced to inaugurated Prime Minister College of Excellence in all the districts of the state on July 1?
a. Uttar Pradesh b. Andhra Pradesh c. Uttarakhand d. Madhya Pradesh e. Bihar

3. In June 2024 which state government has approved a proposal to waive up to two lakh rupees worth of crop loans for each farmer in the state by August 15?
a. Telangana b. Tamil Nadu c. Karnataka d. Uttar Pradesh
e. Jammu and Kashmir

4. In June 2024, Srinagar has become the fourth Indian city to be recognised as a World Craft City by the World Craft Council (WCC), three years after it was designated as part of the UNESCO Creative City Network (UCCN) for crafts and folk arts. Which of the following is/are NOT among the other cities in India recognised as a World Craft City by the World Craft Council (WCC)? I. Jaipur II. Madurai III. Cochin IV. Mysore
a. I and II only b. II and III only c. I and IV only d. II and IV only e. I and III only

5. In June 2024, Which state/UTs has recently achieved Full Functional Literacy under the ULLAS Nav Bharat Saksharta Karyakram (NILP), following the achievement of a literacy rate exceeding 97%?
a. Jammu and Kashmir b. Ladakh c. Punjab d. Himachal Pradesh e. Rajasthan

Sports

1. In June 2024, the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) has agreed to become a member of World Boxing, the International Federation established to ensure boxing remains at the heart of the Olympic Movement. World Boxing was launched in which year to ensure that boxing remains at the heart of the Olympic movement?
a. 2015 b. 2017 c. 2018 d. 2021 e. 2023

2. Amit Pangal, who has secured the prestigious Paris Olympic quota in June 2024 is associated with which sport?
a. Badminton b. Boxing c. Wrestling d. Sailing e. Shooting

3. In the Taiwan Athletics Open 2024, the Indian contingent concluded the campaign with a remarkable medal haul, bagging a total of how many medals?
a. 7 b. 10 c. 15 d. 25 e. 30

4. Who among the following Indian bagged the womens singles title of the Bonn International Badminton Tournament, in Germany?
a. Sainunmawia Sailo b. Karan Sharma
c. Ahwani Kumar Singh d. Tanvi Sharma e. Unnati Hooda

5. Just a week after his retirement from the Indian Premier League (IPL), Indian cricketer Dinesh Karthik in June 2024, has called time on his career entirely. Dinesh Karthik last played for which of the following IPL team?
a. Chennai Super Kings
b. Kolkata Knight Riders

c. Sunrisers Hyderabad
d. Royal Challengers Bengaluru e. Delhi Capitals

6. In June 2024, Kedar Jadhav has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket at the age of 39. Jadhav played _____ ODIs and _____ T20Is for India after making his international debut in 2014.
a. 48; 3 b. 51; 8 c. 69; 11 d. 73; 9 e. 63; 8

7. In June 2024, which among the following has won the gold medal in the men's 10m air pistol event at the ISSF World Cup 2024 in Munich, Germany?
a. Saurabh Chaudhary b. Manu Bhaker
c. Abhishek Verma d. Sarabjot Singh e. Miraj Ahmad Khan

8. In wrestling, who among the following has clinched the silver medal at the Budapest Ranking Series 2024 in Hungary?
a. Ravi Kumar Dahiya b. Deepka Punia c. Aman Sehrawat
d. KD Jadhav e. Sushil Kumar

9. In June 2024, who among the following has won a bronze medal on the concluding day of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Rifle/Pistol in Munich?
a. Apurvi Chandela b. Heena Sidhu c. Sift Kaur Samra
d. Shreyasi Singh e. Gayathri Nithyanadam

10. In the French Open Tennis Womens singles final, World No. 1 Iga Swiatek of Poland overcame an early wobble to beat Jasmine Paolini 6-2, 6-1 at Roland Garris. Jasmine Paolini belongs to which country?
a. USA b. Germany c. Italy d. Portugal
e. Spain

11. World number-one Magnus Carlsen has won his sixth Norway Chess title after beating GM Fabiano Caruana in June 2024. The Womens Norway Chess title was won by who among the following?
a. Tingjie Lei
b. Aleksandra Goryachkina
c. Ju Wenjun d. Koneru Humpy
e. Zhongyi Tan

12. In Tennis, Spains Carlos Alcaraz Garfia grabbed his first-ever French Open Mens singles title at the Roland Garros in Paris. Carlos Alcaraz

Garfia
defeated who among the following to win the
French Open Mens singles title in June 2024?
a. Alexander Zverev b. Carlos Alcaraz c.
Daniil Medvedev d. Casper Ruud e.
Andrey Rublev

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13. Who among the following Indian tennis players clinched the Heilbronn Neckarcup Challenger in

Germany after defeating Alexander Ritschard of Switzerland, 6-1, 6-7, 6-3 in the mens singles title clash?

- a. Ramkumar Ramanathan
b. Mukund Sasi Kumar c. Sumit Nagal
d. Siddharth Vishwakarma e. Karan Singh

14. In June 2024, Indias Divya Deshmukh won the World Junior Girls Chess Championship after beating Beloslava Krasteva in the final round at the Gift City Club in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Beloslava Krasteva belongs to?

- a. Bulgaria b. Thailand c. Germany d. USA e. Russia

15. In Equestrian, who among the following scripts history as she becomes the first Indian rider to win a three-star Grand Prix event?

- a. Divyakriti Singh Rathore b. Shruti Vora c. Sudipti Hajela d. Hridya Chheda
e. None of the above

16. Who among the following has recently been named as ICC Player of the month for May 2024 ?

- a. Gudakesh Motie b. Shubman Gill c. Rohit Sharma d. Virat Kohli e. Yashasvi Jaiswal

17. In June 2024, Olympic and World Champion Neeraj Chopra has won the Gold medal in the mens javelin throw competition at the World Athletics Continental Gold Tour. The World Athletics Continental Gold Tour took place in which country?

- a. Sweden b. Norway c. Finland d. Netherlands e. Spain

18. In June 2024, who among the following Indian Chess player has won the Stepan Avagyan Memorial 2024 crown in Jermuk, Armenia?

- a. Gukesh D b. Praggnanandhaa R c. Vidit Gujrathi d. Arjun Erigaisi
e. Pentala Harikrishna

19. In June 2024, in archery, who among the following have clinched gold in the compound team event at the Antalya Archery World Cup 2024 in Turkiye? I. Jyoti Surekha Vennam II. Parneet Kaur III. Aditi Swami

- a. I Only b. I and II Only c. I and III Only d. III Only
e. I, II and III

Agreements & MoUs

1. In June 2024, The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay has entered a strategic partnership with

which of the following companies to develop Indias first Quantum Diamond Microchip Imager, which is an advanced sensing tool that will hold the potential to unlock new levels of precision in the examination of semiconductor chips, reduce chip failures and improve the energy efficiency of electronic services?

- a. Infosys b. TCS c. Wipro d. Cap Gemini
e. Accenture

2. In June 2024, the Department of School Education signed an MoU with the _____ in New Delhi to create an institutional framework for the Digital Library Platform, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya.

- a. J K N Education Trust
b. Shahbauddin Education Trust
c. K.C Mahindra Education Trust
d. Reliance Foundation
e. National Book Trust

3. In June 2024, Defence Accounts Department (DAD), Ministry of Defence has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with which among the following banks in New Delhi to onboard them as SPARSH [System for Pension Administration (Raksha)] Service Centres across 1,128 branches of the four banks across the country. I. Bank of India

- II. Canara Bank III. Central Bank of India IV. State Bank of India V. Utkarsh Small Finance Bank
a. II, III and V Only
b. I, II and IV Only c. III and IV Only
d. I, II, III and V Only
e. I, II, III, IV and V

4. In June 2024, Defence Accounts Department, Ministry of Defence has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with which of the following banks to onboard them as System for Pension Administration Raksha (SPARSH) Service Centres to provide last-mile connectivity to pensioners, especially in remote areas? I. Bank of India II. Canara Bank III. Central Bank of India IV. Utkarsh Small Finance Bank

- a. I and III only
b. I, II and III only
c. I, II, III and IV d. II and IV only
e. II, III and IV only

5. In June 2024, which of the following signed an MoU with Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, to pursue research and development opportunities in the areas of transportation and logistics in India to do research opportunities in 5G/6G communications

targeting air, land and sea transportation use cases, standards development, smart factory/automation, and AI/GenAI labs?

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a. Sony b. Vivo c. Nokia d. Apple e. Xiaomi

6. An MoU between CSC SPV and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare was signed on 7 June to convert FPOs registered under Formation & Promotion of 10,000 FPOs scheme into CSCs and help them to deliver citizen-centric services. In which year the Government of India launched the Central Sector Scheme for "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisation?"
a. 2014 b. 2015 c. 2020 d. 2022 e. 2023

7. In June 2024 World Athletics announced a five- year global broadcasting deal with _____, making the Indian telecom major a key partner for marquee events starting with the Tokyo World Championships.
a. Star India
b. Zee Entertainment
c. Sony Pictures Networks India d. Jio Cinema
e. Tata Communications

8. In June 2024, which company has announced that it will support the training of two lakh students in India in cloud computing data science, artificial intelligence (AI) and other emerging technologies?
a. IBM b. Alibaba c. Infosys d. Oracle
e. Google Cloud Platform

9. In June 2024, Adani Enterprises' defence arm Adani Defence & Aerospace has entered into an agreement with EDGE Group to cater to the military requirements of both global and local customers. EDGE Group is an _____ based company.
a. Russia b. UAE c. USA d. Germany e. UK

10. The World Bank will lend support to the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) to achieve sustainable waste management in the city. The World Bank held discussions on solid waste management with officials of the State government and the GCC to stop waste dumping in Kodungaiyur by _____.
a. 2025-2026 b. 2026-2027 c. 2028-2029 d. 2033-2034
e. 2046-2027

11. In June 2024 Namdev Finvest has entered into a strategic alliance with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, a leading insurance platform, to offer comprehensive financial solutions, including insurance and NBFC services, to its customers. Namdev Finvest is a _____ based NBFC.
a. Kolkata b. Jaipur c. Mumbai d. Delhi e. Dehradun

12. In June 2024, The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), in collaboration with which Government, hosted a comprehensive and productive roundtable to discuss the learnings from the Australia-India Critical Agriculture Skills Pilot Project?
a. New Zealand b. Malaysia c. Brazil
d. Australia e. USA

13. In June 2024, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) and which of the following payment card services corporation have signed a MoU for collaboration in cyber security to enhance Indias cyber-resilience in the financial sector to strengthen the financial sectors cybersecurity incident response?
a. Mastercard b. Visa c. American Express
d. Capital One e. Maestro

14. In June 2024, which of the following payments bank has partnered with Ria Money Transfer, a global leader in cross-border money transfers to provide convenient and affordable doorstep financial services to customers in remote areas across the country?
a. Airtel Payment Bank
b. India Post Payment Bank
c. Fino Payment Bank
d. Paytm Payment Bank
e. NSDL Payment Bank

15. In order to enhance road safety, which of the following has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (Delhi), a Technical University established by Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) to leverage Artificial Intelligence (AI) based solutions for improvement in the availability of road signs on National Highways?
a. Indian Roads Congress
b. CSIR-Central Road Research Institute
c. Automotive Research Association of India
d. National Highways Authority of India
e. Indian Academy of Highway Engineers

16. In June 2024, Action Construction Equipment Ltd,, a prominent player in Indias construction equipment manufacturing sector, has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which bank to facilitate financing solutions for construction equipment businesses?
a. State Bank of India b. ICICI Bank c. Bank

of Baroda
Bank

d. HDFC Bank e. Axis

17. Innovation for Defence Excellence ,the
flagship initiative of the MoD, signed the landmark
350th

KD CLASSES

contract with which among the following countries in New Delhi, for the design and development of a Miniaturised satellite capable of carrying Electro-Optical, Infrared, Synthetic Aperture Radar, and Hyperspectral payloads up to 150 kgs?

- a. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- b. Bharat Dynamic Limited
- c. Vem Technologies
- d. Aequs Aerospace
- e. SpacePixxel Technologies Pvt Ltd

Schemes

1. Govt of India is implementing Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana since 2015-16 to provide assistance to the eligible rural and urban households for construction of houses with basic amenities. In June 2024, Government to provide assistance to construct _____ rural and urban houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)

- a. 1 crore
- b. 2 crore
- c. 3 crore
- d. 4 crore
- e. 5 crore

2. In June 2024, The Ministry of Textiles has approved the startups in Technical Textiles to boost innovation and sustainability and to foster transformative developments that will shape the industry's future. Identify the INCORRECT statement(s) in context of same. I. The Empowered Programme Committee has approved 10 startup proposals under the GREAT scheme. II. The Government is providing a maximum fund support of Rs 50 lakhs per startup. III. As of June, 8 startup proposals have been approved under NTTM.

- a. I Only
- b. I and III Only
- c. II Only
- d. III Only
- e. I, II and III

3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi signed the release of the 17th instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN Nidhi) scheme. The move will benefit more than 93 million farmers by disbursing more than Rs 20,000 crore. 16th Installment of PM KISAN scheme was released in _____.

- a. October 2023
- b. December 2023
- c. January 2024
- d. February 2024
- e. March 2024

4. In June 2024, the Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of Ministry of Home Affairs for Central Sector Scheme National Forensic Infrastructure Enhancement Scheme (NFIES) with a total financial outlay of Rs. 2254.43 crore during the period from 2024-25 to 2028-29. Which of the following is/are NOT a component under the scheme? I.

Establishment of Campuses of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) in the country. II. Establishment of Central Forensic Science

Laboratories in the country. III. Enhancement of existing infrastructure of the Delhi Campus of the NFSU. IV. Bringing the National Forensic Sciences laboratories in India under Ministry of Health and Family Affairs

- a. I and II only
- b. IV only
- c. III only
- d. III and IV only
- e. I and III only

5. In June 2024, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) has announced to implement the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) with a target to achieve production capacity of 5 million

tonnes per annum of Green Hydrogen in the country by the year _____.

- a. 2027
- b. 2030
- c. 2041
- d. 2047
- e. 2050

6. Managed by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, the NPS is designed on a defined contribution basis. The National Pension

System (NPS) was launched in which year with the objective of providing retirement income to all the citizens?

- a. 2004
- b. 2009
- c. 2013
- d. 2017
- e. 2012

7. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Pension Scheme and choose the

correct option. I. The NPS scheme was launched in 2004. II. Any citizen between 18 and 40 years of age is eligible. III. Hindu Undivided families are eligible for subscribing under the scheme but not Persons of Indian Origin.

- a. Only I
- b. Only III
- c. I and II
- d. II and III
- e. I and III

Appointments & Resignations

1. In June 2024, The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India has approved the appointment of who among the following as

Chairman of the Board of Directors of ICICI Prudential.

- a. Sandeep Batra
- b. Solmaz Altin
- c. Dilip Karnik
- d. R. K. Nair
- e. Dileep Choksi

2. In June 2024, who among the following has become the first female president of Mexico?

- a. Claudia Sheinbaum
- b. Martha Delgado Peralta
- c. Yasmn Esquivel Mossa
- d. Blanca Magrassi Scagno
- e. Mara Eugenia Casar

3. In June 2024, who among the following has been appointed as the Independent Director of the Payments and API banking company, Cashfree Payments?

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a. 28 b. 29 c. 30 d. 31 e. 32

a. Amit Rastogi b. Abhay Hooda
c. Raghuram Devarakonda d. V Ravichandran e.
Arun Alagappan

4. Asirvad Micro Finance Limited, has appointed Satish Nair as President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in June 2024. Asirvad Micro Finance Limited is the subsidiary of

a. Bajaj Finserv Ltd
b. Manappuram Finance Ltd
c. Muthoot Finance Ltd
d. Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd.
e. IIFL Finance Ltd

5. In June 2024, PNB MetLife India Insurance Co. Ltd., a prominent life insurer, announced the appointment of who among the following as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer,

a. Dinkar Gupta
b. Sadanand Vasant Date c.
Sameer Bansal d. MS Kumar e.
Rajesh Malhotra

6. In June 2024, who among the following took over the additional charge of Director General of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Under Ministry of Labour & Employment?

a. Ajay Kmar Sood b. Suman Bery
c. Kamal Kishor Soan d. Suresh N. Patel e.
Somant Goel

7. According to an order issued from the department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) who among the following has been appointed as the Director in the Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Rural Development?

a. Deepak Kumar Sharma b. Rushabh Gandhi c.
Jetha Ahir d. Raj Priy Singh e. Jaya Tripathi

8. In June 2024, Prime Minister-designate Narendra Modi took oath for a third straight term as the head of a coalition government after two full tenures in which the BJP enjoyed a majority on its own. With this, 73-year-old PM Modi has now equaled which of the former PM's record, who also served three consecutive terms?

a. Indira Gandhi b. Jawaharlal Nehru c. Morarji
Desai d. Rajiv Gandhi
e. Atal Bihari Vajpayee

9. In June 2024, Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM) convener Prem Singh Tamang was sworn in as the chief minister of the Himalayan state for the second consecutive term. The ruling SKM secured how many seats out of 32 the assembly elections conducted in 2024?

10. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was sworn in as prime minister for the third consecutive term along with his 71 ministers, allocated portfolios to the newly elected ministers in his cabinet on June

Ajith Kumar
A.S Rajeev

d. M.V. Rao

e.

10. Which of the following ministries and minister is correctly matched? I. HD Kumaraswamy: Minister of Heavy Industries II. Piyush Goyal: Minister of

Education III. Dharmendra Pradhan: Minister of Commerce and Industry IV. Jitan Ram Manjhi: Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

a. I and III only

b. II, III and IV only c. I and IV only

d. I, II, III and IV only e. II and III only

11. In May 2024 who among the following has been appointed as the next Chief of Army Staff?

a. Om Parkash Malhotra b. Bikram Singh

c. Vijay Kumar Singh d. Upendra Dwivedi

e. Deepak Kapoor

12. BJP leader Mohan Charan Majhi took oath as the Chief Minister of Odisha, in Bhubaneswar in June

2024. Outgoing CM and Biju Janata Dal (BJD)

leader Naveen Patnaik, served as Chief Minister of Odisha for how many years?

a. 24 b. 20 c. 15 d. 10 e. 12

13. In June 2024, who among the following took oath as chief minister of Arunachal Pradesh for the third consecutive term at a ceremony held in the state capital Itanagar?

a. Neiphui Rio b. PS Golay c. Manik Saha

d. Pema Khandu e. Pramod

Sawant

14. In June 2024, who among the following has been appointed as the National Security Advisor (NSA)?

a. PK Mishra b. Ajit Doval c. Vikram Misri

d. Pankaj Kumar

e. Nehchal Sandhu

15. Who has been recently become President of the Asian Association of Hair

Restoration

Surgeons?

a. Dr Kapil Dua b. Dr Parul Sharma c.

Dr Nancy d. Dr Usha Kiran

e. Dr. Pradeep Kumar

16. In June 2024 who among the following has been appointed as the Managing Director of

Dhanlaxmi Bank?

a. Amitabh Chaudhary b. A.S Rajeev c.

17. In June 2024 who among the following has been appointed as the non-executive independent director of the Paytm?

- a. C.S Setty
- b. Ashwini Kumar Tewari
- c. Alok Kumar Choudhary
- d. Neeraj Arora
- e. Prakash Chandra

18. In June 2024, Sony Pictures Entertainment said it has appointed who among the following as General Manager of Sony Pictures International Productions (SPIP), India?

- a. Lalit Narain Chatnani
- b. Ravi Ahuja
- c. Nachiket Pantvaitya
- d. Sunil Nayyar
- e. Nitin Nadkarni

19. In June 2024, Which of the following private sector bank has said it has appointed Ajith Kumar KK as Managing Director (MD) of the bank.

- a. IDBI Bank
- b. Dhanlaxmi Bank
- c. IDFC FIRST Bank
- d. RBL Bank
- e. CSB Bank

20. In June 2024, The government has appointed who among the following as chairman and

managing director (CMD) of the largest general insurer, New India Assurance, effective from June 19, 2024, until she attains the age of superannuation or until further orders?

- a. Girija Subramanian
- b. Lavanya Mundayur
- c. Chandra Iyer
- d. K. Anitha Devi
- e. Balla Swamy

21. In June 2024, who among the following has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive HDFC ERGO General Insurance succeeding Ritesh Kumar?

- a. Anuj Tyagi
- b. Keki M. Mistry
- c. Renu S. Karnad
- d. Arvind Mahajan
- e. Vinay Sanghi

22. In June 2024, Paul Thomas has been elected as Chairperson of the board of Sa-Dhan, which is an association of microfinance and impact finance institutions. Paul Thomas is currently the MD & CEO of which of the following small finance banks?

- a. Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited.
- b. Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited.
- c. ESAF Small Finance Bank Limited.
- d. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.
- e. Au Small Finance Bank Limited.

23. In June 2024, Prabdev Singh, CEO of JPMorgan Chase Bank in India, has stepped down prematurely from his three-year term. JPMorgan has operated in India since _____.

- a. 1913
- b. 1922
- c. 1934
- d. 1947
- e. 1989

24. In June 2024, the Reserve Bank of India has inducted who among the following as the additional director on the board of Bandhan Bank?

- a. Sanjay Agarwal
- b. C.S Ghosh
- c. N. Kamakodi
- d. Arun Kumar Singh
- e. Sandeep Bakhshi

25. In June 2024, Senior BJP MP Om Birla was today re-elected as the Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha. According to the Indian Constitution,

_____ provides for the election of both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker.

- a. Article 83
- b. Article 93
- c. Article 73
- d. Article 103
- e. Article 303

26. Sweden has become the latest member of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Who has been selected as the new Secretary General of NATO by

its members?

- a. Mark Rutte
- b. Jens Stoltenberg
- c. Tamas Sulyok
- d. Bajram Begaj
- e. Katerina Sakellariopoulou

27. Which organization is responsible for disbursing the USD 30 million to Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL)?

- a. World Bank
- b. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- c. Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- d. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- e. European Investment Bank (EIB)

28. Who recently took over as president of the Professional Golf Tour of India?

- a. Sunil Gavaskar
- b. Sachin Tendulkar
- c. Kapil Dev
- d. Anil Kumble
- e. Virat Kohli

Awards

1. In June 2024, The National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) was

awarded the Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion for 2024 by the World Health Organization (WHO). The National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) is located in which city?

- a. Chennai
- b. Mumbai
- c. Bengaluru
- d. Delhi
- e. Lucknow

2. In June 2024, which of the following organization has been awarded UNs WSIS 2024 Champion Award for the project Mobile-Enabled Disaster Resilience through Cell Broadcast

emergency Alerting,
recognised under AI, C-7, E-environemnt, in the

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category of 'Benefits in all aspects of life - E-environment?

- Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring Cell
- Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
- National Telecommunications Institute for Policy Research Innovation Training
- Centre for Development of Telematics
- National Institute of Communication Finance

3. In June 2024, Who among the following was named the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year 2024 at an award ceremony held in Monacos Salle des Etoiles?

- Vellayan Subbiah
- Narayana Murthy
- Uday Kotak
- Azim Premji
- Kiran Mazumdar Shaw

4. In June 2024, Which of the following financial regulator has been given 'Best Conduct of Business Regulator' award in Asia Pacific by The Asian Banker for its role in enhancing the regulatory framework for securities markets in India.

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
- Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)

5. The 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) is honoring the illustrious wildlife filmmaker Shri Subbiah Nallamuthu by conferring upon him the much coveted V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award. The prestigious Dr. V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award carries a cash award of _____ rupees, trophy and a citation.

- 2 Lakh
- 5 Lakh
- 10 Lakh
- 12 Lakh
- 15 Lakh

6. In June 2024, the executive board of Sahitya Akademi approved the selection 24 writers for the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puskar 2024. The Award in the form of a casket containing an engraved copper-plaque and a cheque of _____.

- Rs. 30,000/-
- Rs. 50,000/-
- Rs. 1,00,000/-
- Rs. 1, 50,000/-
- Rs. 5,00,000/-

7. On June 18th which among the following has been awarded with the Risk Manager of the Year Award 2024 by the Central Banking, a renowned publication headquartered in London?

- SEBI
- RBI
- NABARD
- IRDAI
- None of the Above

8. Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), a regional rural bank sponsored by _____, has been honoured with a national award by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for significant enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY).

- Axis Bank
- State Bank of India
- Bank of Baroda
- Canara Bank
- Punjab National Bank

9. In June 2024, which of the following company has been honoured with the "Sustainable Governance Champion Award" at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024?

- Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited
- Cochin Shipyard
- Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders
- Bharat Dynamics
- Mishra Dhatu Nigam

10. In June 2024, Who has recently been awarded the 12th Vishwa Hindi Samman?

- Dr. Usha Thakur
- Dr. Arvind Gupta
- Dr. Ramesh Singh
- Dr. Sushma Sharma
- Dr. Sangeeta

11. Who among the following has recently won the Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2024?

- Sanjana Thakur
- Aishwarya Rai
- Granta
- Mumbai Thakur
- London Rai

12. Who has been awarded the PEN Pinter Prize 2024 in memory of Nobel laureate playwright Harold Pinter?

- Jhumpa Lahiri
- Arundhati Roy
- Salman Rushdie
- Vikram Seth
- Kiran Desa

Ranks & Reports

1. IIT Bombay has secured the top spot in India in the latest QS World University Rankings 2025

released in June 2024, Globally, which of the following has maintained its position as the best institute in world for the 13th consecutive year?

- Stanford University
- Harvard University
- University of Oxford
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- University of Cambridge

2. India has slipped two places on the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap index 2024 to

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129th place. Which among the following country was not ranked among the top 5 in the index? I. Iceland II. Finland III. Norway IV. Australia V. Sweden
a. I only b. II only c. III only d. IV only e. V only

3. According to Kantar BrandZ Most Valuable Global Brands report released in June 2024, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) is the most valuable Indian brand, ranked _____ globally.
a. 21st b. 35th c. 46th d. 51st e. 25th

4. According to findings of a survey released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Around 46% of rural & 53% of urban individuals in India availed of Ayush for the prevention or treatment of ailments in the past year. Ayush refers to which among the following Indian systems of medicines? I. Siddha II. Sowa Rigpa III. Ayurveda IV. Unani
a. I and III Only
b. II, III and IV Only
c. I, II and III Only
d. I, III and IV Only
e. I, II, III and IV

5. State-owned Visakhapatnam Port has broken into the top 20 rankings in the Container Port Performance Index 2023 (CPPI 2023), developed by the World Bank and S&P Global Market Intelligence. Identify correct statement(s) in context of the same. I. Visakhapatnam Port was ranked 15 in the Container Port Performance Index 2023 (CPPI 2023). II. The CPPI ranked 405 global container ports by efficiency, focusing on the duration of port stay for container vessels. III. Chinas Yangshan Port clinched the top spot for the second consecutive year.
a. I Only b. I and III Only c. II and III Only d. III Only e. I, II and III

6. In a significant boost to the Indias port development programme in June 2024, as many as 9 ports of India made it to the Global Top 100 in the latest edition of Container Port Performance Index (CPPI), 2023 - a report prepared by _____ and S&P Global Marketing Intelligence.
a. International Monetary Fund
b. World Trade Organization c. World Bank
d. World Maritime Organization
e. International Labour Organization

7. According to Reserve Bank of Indias state of the economy report released in June 2024, The report

said that Indias real GDP growth of _____ in FY24, which is the highest rate since 2016-17.
a. 7.5% b. 7.8% c. 8% d. 8.2% e. 8.5%

8. India is home to over 3,600 startups in the deeptech space, and ranks _____ in the global deeptech ecosystem, according to a recent Nasscom-Zinnov study.
a. Fourth b. Fifth c. Sixth d. Seventh e. Eighth

9. India has been ranked 63rd on a global Energy Transition Index released by the World Economic Forum. Which of the following countries was NOT ranked among the top 5 according to the index? I. Sweden II. New Zealand III. Denmark IV. Germany
a. I, III and IV only b. II and IV only
c. I, II, III and IV only d. I and III only
e. II, III and IV only

10. According to a 47-country survey conducted by Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RISJ), Oxford University and released in June 2024, According to the report, which of the following is the most trusted major news media brand in India?
a. All India Radio b. BBC News c. The Hindu
d. Times of India e. NDTV

11. According to UN Women's Global Data on Women Political Leaders 2024, released on 25th June 2024, how many countries worldwide have never had a women server as head of state or government?
a. 101 Countries b. 113 Countries c. 141 Countries
d. 153 Countries e. 171 Countries

12. National Insurance Awareness Day, observed every year on _____.
a. 28 June b. 20 May c. 21 July d. 10 August
e. 30 March

13. Which company retained its position as Indias most valuable brand in 2024?
a. Infosys b. HDFC Group c. Tata Group
d. Taj e. None of the above

14. Which city has been named the world's most liveable city for a third year running according to EIU's latest Global Liveability Index?
a. Tokyo b. Melbourne c. Vienna d. Zurich e. Copenhagen

15. On which date is World Asteroid Day

observed annually?

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a. June 21 b. June 25 c. June 30 d. July 1 e. July 4

16. In what year was the International Day of Parliamentarism established by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution?
a. 2015 b. 2016 c. 2017 d. 2018 e. 2019

17. National Statistics Day in India commemorates the birth anniversary of which renowned statistician?
a. C. R. Rao b. R. A. Fisher
c. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis d. Karl Pearson e. Ronald Fisher

18. Who passed the resolution designating June 29 as International Day of the Tropics?
a. UNESCO
b. World Health Organization
c. United Nations General Assembly
d. International Tropical Organization e. World Bank

Important Days

1. The Global Day of Parents is observed on _____ every year to express international awareness about the importance of parenthood and to promote the healthy development of children by their parents.
a. May 30 b. May 31 c. June 1 d. June 2 e. June 3

2. World Milk Day is celebrated every year on June 1. This day is celebrated to bring the importance of milk as a global food to the forefront and to promote dairy farming and the dairy industry. World Milk Day, established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in which year?
a. 2000 b. 2001 c. 2002 d. 2003 e. 2004

3. World Cider day is observed every year on _____ and aims to generate publicity for the wide variety and characteristics of apple cider, to whet peoples appetite for apple cider, to provide information about apple cider.
a. June 1 b. May 3 c. June 3 d. July 3 e. February 3

4. World Bicycle Day was first marked on June 3, 2018 with an aim to promote various benefits of cycling, including strengthening education, promoting tolerance, preventing diseases, encouraging exercise. The theme for 2024 is _____.

a. THE e-Bike Revolution
b. Riding Together for a Sustainable Future
c. Promoting Health, Equity, and Sustainability through Cycling
d. Uniqueness, versatility, and longevity of the bicycle
e. Road for Cyclist and Safety for Cyclist

5. Every year, International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed on _____.

a. June 2 b. June 3 c. June 4 d. June 5 e. June 6

6. Led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and held annually on 5 June since 1973, World Environment Day is the largest global platform for environmental public outreach and is celebrated by millions of people across the world. In 2024, it is hosted by which among the following countries?
a. UAE b. Saudi Arabia c. United States
d. Maldives
e. China

7. To address the issue of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) declared 5 June as the International Day for the Fight Against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing. In which year the United Nations had declared June 5 as the International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing?
a. 2001 b. 2009 c. 2015 d. 2018 e. 2021

8. UN Russian Language Day is observed on _____, and was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2010. This day is dedicated to promoting the study and appreciation of Russian language.
a. June 5 b. June 6 c. June 7 d. June 8 e. June 9

9. World Food Safety Day on 7 June aims to draw attention and inspire action to help prevent, detect and manage foodborne risks, contributing to food security, human health, economic prosperity, agriculture, market access, tourism and sustainable development. World Food Safety Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in December _____.
a. 2016 b. 2018 c. 2019 d. 2021 e. 2022

10. The United Nations marks World Oceans

Day each year on _____ through a
annual

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event coordinated by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (Office of Legal Affairs).

- a. 5th June b. 7th June c. 8th June d. 11th June e. 15th June

11. Every year on which among the following dates World Brain Tumour Day is observed globally to enhance understanding and raise awareness about brain tumours?

- a. 3rd June b. 6th June c. 8th June d. 9th June e. 13th June

12. Quality Council of India celebrated the World Accreditation Day across more than 20 cities in India in New Delhi with the theme Accreditation: Empowering Tomorrow and Shaping the Future. The World Accreditation Day is observed every year on _____.

- a. June 8 b. June 9 c. June 10 d. June 11 e. June 12

13. The International Day of Play, to be observed on 11 June, marking a significant milestone in efforts to preserve, promote, and prioritize playing so that all people, especially children, can reap the rewards and thrive to their full potential. The day was first observed in which year?

- a. 2019 b. 2020 c. 2021 d. 2024 e. 2023

14. World Day Against Child Labour is annually observed on _____, this year the theme is, " Let's Act on Our Commitments: End Child Labour".

- a. 10 June b. 11 June c. 12 June d. 13 June e. 16 June

15. On December 18, 2014, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution establishing _____ as International Albinism Awareness Day.

- a. June 12 b. June 13 c. June 14 d. June 15 e. June 16

16. World Blood Donor Day is celebrated each year throughout the world on 14 June to raise awareness of the importance of blood donation and to recognize the contribution of voluntary unpaid blood donors in saving lives & improving health. The first World Blood Donor Day was observed in _____ & designated as annual global event by the fifty-eighth World Health Assembly in 2005.

- a. 1995 b. 1997 c. 2001 d. 2003 e. 2004

17. Global Wind Day is a worldwide event that occurs annually on _____.

- a. 21 May b. 15 June c. 4 April d. 12 July e. 5 August

18. The International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) is celebrated on:

- a. 21 June b. 18 June c. 16 June d. 12 June e. 30 June

19. Every year, world Elder Abuse Awareness Day is held on:

- a. 13 August b. 11 July c. 15 June d. 12 September e. 20 January

20. The International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) is a universally-recognized observance adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and celebrated every year on _____.

- a. 14 June b. 15 June c. 16 June d. 17 June e. 18 June

21. In 1994, the General Assembly established the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and declared 17 June "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought" by its resolution A/RES/49/115. The theme of the Desertification and Drought Day 2024 is _____.

- a. United for Land. Our Legacy. Our Future
b. Think for the Future. Save for the Future
c. Her Land. Her Rights
d. Rising up from drought together
e. Restoration Land, Recovery

22. In July 2021, the UN General Assembly highlighted global concerns over the exponential spread and proliferation of hate speech around the world and adopted a resolution on promoting inter- religious and intercultural dialogue and tolerance in countering hate speech. In which year the UN Strategy and Plan for Action on Hate Speech was launched?

- a. 2011 b. 2015 c. 2017 d. 2019 e. 2021

23. World celebrate Sustainable Gastronomy Day and acknowledge that everyone plays a role in

making sustainable choices for healthy diets and a food-secure future. The UN General Assembly adopted on 21 Dec 2016 and designated _____ as an

- international observance.
a. 14 June b. 15 June c. 16 June d. 17 June e. 18 June

24. World Sickle Cell Day is observed on June 19 every year. It is an annual event which aims to raise

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awareness about sickle cell disease globally. The theme for 2024 is

- a. Hope Through Progress: Advancing Sickle Cell Care Globally
- b. Celebrating Progress
- c. Building and strengthening global sickle cell communities
- d. Shine the Light on Sickle Cell
- e. Shine the Light on SCD

25. The International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict. is commemorated every year on _____, which marks the date of the adoption of the first Security Council resolution to recognize conflict-related sexual violence as a tactic of war and threat to international peace and security as related in the UN Security Council Resolution

- a. June 18
- b. June 19
- c. June 20
- d. June 21
- e. June 22

26. World Refugee Day is an international day observed each year on June 20 and celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution. The theme for 2024 is

- a. For a World Where Refugees Are Welcomed
- b. Hope away from home
- c. The right to seek safety
- d. Together we heal, learn and shine
- e. Every Action Counts

27. On 11 December 2014, the United Nations proclaimed 21 June as the International Day of Yoga, the theme for 2024 is

- a. Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam
- b. Yoga for Self and Society
- c. Yoga for humanity
- d. Yoga for Wellness
- e. Yoga at Home and Yoga with the Family

28. International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice is observed every year on

- a. June 19
- b. June 20
- c. June 21
- d. June 22
- e. June 23

29. World Music Day is observed every year on _____ after being conceived in 1981 by Jack Lang, the French Minister of Culture, along with music composer Maurice Fleuret and radio producer and music journalist, with the aim of dedicating a day to music and its universal language.

- a. June 21
- b. June 22
- c. June 23
- d. June 24
- e. June 25

30. World Music Day is celebrated on June 21 every year. The first World Music Day took place in Paris in which year?

- a. 1975
- b. 1982
- c. 1989
- d. 1991
- e. 1999

31. International Day of Women in Diplomacy is observed every year on

- a. June 21
- b. June 22
- c. June 23
- d. June 24
- e. June 25

32. The Day of the Seafarer is observed every year on 25th June, which was established in a resolution adopted by the 2010 Diplomatic Conference in Manila to adopt the revised STCW Convention. The theme of the Day of the Seafarer 2024 is

- a. #Your voyage - then and now, share your journey
- b. #A Fair Future for Seafarers
- c. #SafetyTipsAtSea
- d. #Seafarers are key workers
- e. #Gender equality

33. The United Nations established the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 7 December 1987, to raise awareness about the global fight against drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking. The theme for 2024 is

- a. The evidence is clear: invest in prevention
- b. People first: stop stigma and discrimination, strengthen prevention
- c. Addressing drug challenges in health and humanitarian crises
- d. Share Facts On Drugs, Save Lives
- e. Better Knowledge for Better Care

34. The UN General Assembly proclaimed _____ the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, with a view to the total eradication of torture and the effective functioning of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

- a. June 25
- b. June 26
- c. June 27
- d. June 28
- e. June 29

35. MSME day is celebrated every year on 27 July all across the world. The theme for this year is 'leveraging the power and resilience of Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) to

accelerate sustainable development and eradicate

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poverty in times of multiple crises.' MSME day was observed for the first time in which year?

- a. 2017 b. 2018 c. 2019 d. 2020 e. 2021

36. The United Nations has declared _____ as MSMEs Day to appreciate and encourage the contribution of small and medium-sized businesses worldwide.

- a. June 24 b. June 25 c. June 26 d. June 27 e. June 28

Summit & Conferences

1. In a landmark achievement in the global health security agenda, the World Health Assembly agreed to the package of amendments to the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005) based on 300

proposals made by member countries after the Covid-19 pandemic. In May 2023, which edition of World Health Assembly was conducted in Geneva, Switzerland.

- a. 74th b. 75th c. 76th d. 77th e. 78th

2. India will host the world's most premier aviation event, the annual general meeting (AGM) of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), next year, after a gap of 42 years. Which will be the host airline of the AGM and the World Air Transport Summit, which will take place in Delhi between June 8 and 10, 2025?

- a. Emirates b. Vistara c. Air India d. IndiGo e. SpiceJet

3. In June 2024, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in collaboration with which of the following UN organization hosted a Workshop on Safe, Trusted and Ethical Artificial Intelligence in New Delhi?

- a. Food and Agriculture Organization
b. United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization
c. International Labour Organization
d. United Nations Development Programme
e. United Nations Environment Programme

4. In June 2024, Indian delegation, led by Secretary, Department of Commerce, Shri Sunil Barthwal participated in the inaugural Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity Clean Economy Investor Forum, which brought together the regions top investors, clean economy companies, and start-ups to mobilise investments into sustainable infrastructure, climate technology, and renewable energy. Which among the following companies from India were shortlisted for pitching their concepts on

different sustainable goals? I. ReNew Power II. Avaada Energy Pvt. Ltd III. Powerica Limited
a. II Only b. I and III Only c. I and II Only d. III Only e. I, II and III

5. The two day India-IORA Cruise Tourism Conference has recently concluded in _____.

- a. Lucknow b. Jaipur c. New Delhi
d. Chennai e. Kolkata

6. In June 2024, the second edition of the global conference on financial resilience organized by the College of Supervisors (CoS) of RBI in which city?

- a. Mumbai b. Kolkata c. Lucknow
d. Chennai e. Delhi

7. In June 2024, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired which GST Council meeting in New Delhi, which has recommended amendments in the conditions of appointment of the President and Member of the proposed GST Appellate Tribunals regarding eligibility and age?

- a. 49th b. 51st c. 52nd d. 53rd e. 58th

Science & Technology

1. In June 2024, ISRO, on the occasion of World Environment Day, provided details about its collaborative endeavour with the national space agency of which country for the upcoming Thermal Infrared Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural Resource Assessment (TRISHNA) mission?
a. Germany b. UK c. France d. Canada
e. Russia

2. In June 2024, Which of the following IIT's and NASAs Jet Propulsion Laboratory Researchers are studying multi-drug resistant pathogens on the International Space Station, which could have key applications for astronauts' health as well on earth?

- a. IIT Madras b. IIT Bombay c. IIT Delhi d. IIT Hyderabad e. IIT Roorkee

3. Indian Space Research Organisation has released stunning images of the Sun captured by the Aditya L1 satellite during a major geomagnetic storm in May. The two remote sensing payloads, namely the Solar UltraViolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT) and the Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC), along with other payloads, captured these images from

the Lagrange point in space. The Aditya-L1 spacecraft was launched by PSLV-C57 in which month of 2023?

- a. August
- b. September
- c. October
- d. November
- e. December

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Obituary

4. In June 2024 which among the following company has announced the launch of its Lab45 artificial intelligence (AI) platform which leverages generative AI (GenAI), machine learning (ML), and deep learning technologies to help companies increase efficiencies, transform business functions, and enable industry-specific solutions?

- a. Wipro b. Tata Consultancy c. Deloitte d. Infosys e. Tech Mahindra

5. In June 2024, Google launched its Gemini app in India with support for how many Indian languages and English, giving users an artificial intelligence (AI) tool to answer queries by typing, talking, or uploading an image?

- a. 8 b. 9 c. 10 d. 11 e. 12

6. In June 2024, Chang'e-6 lunar probe became the first mission to bring back samples from the moon's far side. Chang'e-6 was launched by which country?

- a. Japan b. South Korea c. Russia d. China e. UAE

7. Which of the following companies has launched a Gen AI Lab for operational efficiencies and enhancing customers experiences and is claimed to be one of the first in the stockbroking industry?

- a. BlinkX b. OpenAI c. BharOS d. DeepL e. Frame AI

8. What is the name of the free gut health-focused chatbot launched by MicrobioTx?

- a. GutTalk b. GutChat c. ProbiChat d. HealthBot e. BioTalk

Defence

1. In June 2024, the Indian Army has launched an integrated generator monitoring, protection, and control system developed by the Army Design Bureau aimed to save manpower and signifies the Army's commitment to leveraging technology for transformative change. The name of the system is _____.

- a. Sarath b. Zorawar LT c. Ajeya d. Vidyut Rakshak e. Bhisman Vidyut

2. Maritime Exercise, Jimex 24 is a bilateral naval exercise in which navies of both the countries will jointly hone their war fighting skills at sea and enhance their interoperability. Jimex 24 is conducted between India and which country?

- a. Indonesia b. Singapore c. Japan d. Sri Lanka e. Bangladesh

1. Ramoji Rao, head of the ETV Network and founder of Ramoji Film City, died while undergoing treatment in Hyderabad on June 8. In which year he was awarded with the Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian honour, for his multifaceted contribution to journalism, literature, and education?

- a. 2011 b. 2016 c. 2019 d. 2018 e. 2021

2. Recently, Sarod maestro of international repute Rajeev Taranath has passed away in Mysuru. He is the recipient of Padma Shri award in which year?

- a. 2017 b. 2018 c. 2019 d. 2020 e. 2021

Person in news

1. In June 2024, who among the following has become the first women astronaut to fly to space aboard the Boeing starliner's in the first ever crewed mission?

- a. Sunita Williams b. Sirisha Bandla c. Usha Guduri d. Yogita Shah e. None of the Above

Insurance

1. In June 2024, which among the following NBFC has received a Certificate of Registration to function as a Corporate Agent (composite) by India's IRDAI?

- a. Capital First Limited
b. HDB Financial Services Limited
c. Power Finance Corporation Limited
d. Muthoot Finance Ltd
e. Arka Fincap Limited

2. In June 2024, Private general insurer, SBI General Insurance Company, on 6th June announced the withdrawal of its Arogya Plus policy with effect from October 5, 2024. As per the regulatory requirement, insurance companies must give _____ advance intimation to their customers before withdrawing a policy.

- a. 30 days b. 45 days c. 60 days d. 90 days e. 100 days

3. In June 2024 which insurance company has declared a bonus of Rs 201 crore for the financial year ending March 31, 2024 following the robust growth in premium income?

- a. SBI Life Insurance Company
b. HDFC Life Insurance Company Ltd
c. ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
d. Life Insurance Corporation

e. Shriram Life Insurance

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years

4. In June 2024 ICICI Prudential Life Insurance offered a _____ lifetime discount for women on all premiums for its best-selling term insurance product, iProtect Smart.
a. 5 % b. 10 % c. 15 % d. 18 % e. 20 %

India & World

1. In June 2024, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) will operate and manage Container Terminal 2 at the Dar es Salaam Port of which country through its subsidiary Adani International Ports Holdings Pte Ltd with a concession agreement for 30 years?
a. Kenya b. Uganda c. Somalia d. Tanzania e. Mozambique

2. According to official announcement from ADB, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) committed _____ in sovereign lending to India in 2023 for projects that aim to strengthen urban development, support industrial corridor development, promote power sector reforms, build India's climate resilience, support horticulture, and enhance connectivity.
a. \$2.6 billion b. \$2.9 billion c. \$3.2 billion d. \$3.8 billion e. \$4.1 billion

3. In June 2024, NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) has announced a partnership with Reserve Bank of which country to enable UPI-like real-time payments system in the Latin American country?
a. Barbados b. Bolivia c. Peru d. Brazil e. Argentina

4. In June 2024, NPCI International Payments Limited, the international arm of the National Payments Corporation of India inked a pact with the central bank of which of the following South American country to develop UPI-like instant payments system, becoming the first South American country to do so?
a. Peru b. Venezuela c. Bolivia d. Chile e. Brazil

5. In June 2024, the World Health Organization (WHO) has designated the National Institute of Indian Medical Heritage (NIIMH), Hyderabad, a unit under the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Ministry of Ayush as a WHO Collaborating Centre (CC) for 'Fundamental and Literary Research in Traditional Medicine' (CC IND-177). This recognition is granted for how many years?
a. 3 years b. 2 years c. 4 years d. 5 years e. 6

6. In June 2024, which country has reclaimed fourth-biggest global equity market tag from Hong Kong?

- a. Japan b. India c. Nepal d. Russia
e. Germany

7. The two day India-IORA Cruise Tourism Conference has recently concluded in _____.

- a. Lucknow b. Jaipur c. New Delhi
d. Chennai e. Kolkata

8. In May 2024, Spain has become the 99th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) following Panama. Consider the following points with respect to International Solar Alliance and choose the correct option. I. The ISA was launched in 2016 during COP19. II. The ISA was launched by India and France. III. Uruguay has joined the International Solar Alliance as the 100th member.

- a. Only I b. Only II c. Only III d. I and II e. II and III

Environment

1. India has added 2 bird sanctuaries from Bihar, Nagi and Nakti, to the Ramsar Sites list, taking the tally to 82. The newest Wetlands of International

Importance, both man-made reservoirs situated in the Jhajha forest range of Jamui District in Bihar, were added to Ramsar Sites as part of World

Environment Day. Which country has the highest number of such sites followed by Mexico, 144?

- a. Switzerland b. UK c. USA d. Brazil e. South Africa

2. Every year, June 21 is marked as the day of the summer solstice in the northern hemisphere of the world. The solstices, which mark the changing of seasons, occur _____ a year and indicate the years shortest and longest daylight hours.

- a. Once b. Twice c. Thrice d. Four Times e. Five Times

3. In June 2024, the Pench Tiger Reserve has launched an advanced Artificial Intelligence (AI) system for early detection of forest fires.

Which state is the Pench Tiger Reserve located in?

- a. Madhya Pradesh b. Maharashtra
c. Rajasthan d. Karnataka e. Assam

1. In June 2024, which of the following financial regulator in India has launched a mobile app 'Saathi

Apps & Portals

2.0' on personal finance for investors to simplify complex financial concepts?

- a. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- b. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- c. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
- d. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- e. Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)

2. Tech giant Google on Thursday announced the second edition of its Indian languages programme with a focus on providing next-generation tools for newsrooms working with Indic languages. The ILP

- 2.0 will be delivered in nine languages including: I. Hindi II. Kannada III. Marathi IV. Punjabi
- a. II and IV Only
 - b. I, III and IV Only
 - c. II and III Only
 - d. I and III Only
 - e. I, II and III Only

Acquisitions & Mergers

1. In June 2024, The boards of Tata Motors, Tata Capital, and Tata Motors Finance have approved a merger of Tata Motors Fin with Tata Capital through an NCLT, scheme of arrangement. Tata Capital (TCL) will issue its equity shares to the shareholders of Tata Motors Finance (TMFL), resulting in the automobile company effectively holding a _____ stake in the merged entity.

- a. 3.6 %
- b. 4.7 %
- c. 5.1 %
- d. 6.9 %
- e. 7 %

2. In June 2024, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved Zurich Insurance Company's acquisition of a _____ stake in Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company for 5,560 crore.

- a. 30 %
- b. 50 %
- c. 60 %
- d. 70 %
- e. 80 %

3. In June 2024, which of the following IT major has signed a definitive agreement to acquire global engineering company Belcan for about \$1.3 billion (Rs 10,853.7 crore) in cash and stock?

- a. TCS
- b. Cognizant
- c. Cap Gemini
- d. Wipro
- e. Infosys

4. In June 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition of Global Infrastructure Management, LLC by BlackRock Funding, Inc. GIM is a global independent infrastructure fund manager, headquartered in _____.

- a. New York
- b. London
- c. Bangkok
- d. Hong Kong
- e. Paris

5. In June 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved acquisition of Global Infrastructure Management, LLC by BlackRock Funding, Inc. The proposed combination relates to the acquisition of _____

of the limited liability company interests in Global Infrastructure Management, LLC (GIM) by BlackRock Funding, Inc (BFI).

- a. 50 %
- b. 60 %
- c. 70 %
- d. 80 %
- e. 100 %

6. In June 2024, the CCI has approved the acquisition of certain equity stake of TVS Certified Private Limited and TVS Vehicle Mobility Solution Private Limited by Mitsubishi Corporation. Mitsubishi Corporation is a global integrated business

enterprise that develops and operates business with offices and subsidiaries in _____ countries and regions.

- a. 45
- b. 60
- c. 73
- d. 90
- e. 110

7. In June 2024 which among the following bank has acquired a 6.125 per cent share in the recently created CCIL IFSC, which is listed in the GIFT SEZ, demonstrating its commitment to the growth of the IFSC?

- a. Axis Bank
- b. HDFC Bank
- c. Canara Bank
- d. State Bank of India
- e. Bank of India

8. In June 2024, Zurich Insurance Company Limited (Zurich) has announced the successful completion

of majority stake acquisition in Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited (Kotak General) from Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMB) following the receipt of all necessary regulatory approvals. The transaction marks the largest foreign investment in India's general insurance market and is the first by a foreign insurer since the foreign direct investment limit was raised from 49% to 74% in which year?

- a. 2021
- b. 2020
- c. 2022
- d. 2023
- e. 2019

PSUs

1. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh announced the grant of "Mini RATNA" status (Category-1) for Central Electronics Limited (CEL). It was established in which year?

- a. 1964
- b. 1974
- c. 1984
- d. 1994
- e. 2004

2. Consider the following statements with respect to the eligibility criteria of a Miniratna category 1 status. I. The CPSE has made a profit in the last five years continuously II. The CPSE has a pre-tax

profit of atleast 30 crores in atleast one of the three years. III. The CPSE should have a positive net- worth.

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-
- a. Only I b. I and III c. II and III d. II and III
e. None of the above

3. A Navratna company can undertake investments worth up to Rs. 1,000 crore, without needing approval from the central government. In June 2024, Which of the following has been granted "Navratna" status by the Department of Public Enterprises. It is now the 18th PSU in the country to receive this status.

- a. Cochin Shipyard Limited
b. The Dredging Corporation of India
c. Shipping Corporation of India

- d. Mazagaon Dock Shipbuilders
e. Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers

4. Consider the following statements with respect to eligibility criteria of a "Navratna" status and choose the correct option. I. Net profit of Rs 6000 crore for three years continuously. II. An average annual turnover of over 25,000 crore for three years or an average annual net worth of over 15,000 crore for three years. III. PSU should be a Miniratna company

- a. Only II b. I and II c. II and III d. I and III
e. All of the above

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Answer Keys for Practise Questions

Banking & Finance Answer Keys

1. a 2. b 3. b 4. b 5. a 6. a 7. c 8. b
9. d 10. b 11. c 12. c 13. b 14. b
15. b 16. b 17. d 18. b 19. c 20. c
21. c 22. a 23. b 24. c 25. a 26. b

Economy Answer Keys

1. d 2. b 3. a 4. c 5. a 6. c 7. c 8. c
9. a 10. a 11. c 12. a 13. c 14. a
15. a 16. d 17. b 18. a 19. c 20. b
21. c 22. c 23. d 24. d 25. a 26. b

National Answer Keys

1. a 2. b 3. c 4. b 5. d 6. c 7. c 8. d
9. d 10. c 11. b 12. a 13. b 14. b
15. d 16. d 17. d 18. a 19. c 20. d

International Answer Keys

1. d 2. d 3. d 4. a 5. b 6. b 7. b 8. C

States/UTs Answer Keys

1. e 2. d 3. a 4. b 5. b

Sports Answer Keys

1. e 2. b 3. a 4. d 5. d 6. d 7. d 8. c
9. c 10. c 11. c 12. a 13. c 14. a
15. b 16. a 17. c 18. d 19. e

Agreements & MoUs Answer Keys

1. b 2. e 3. d 4. c 5. c 6. c 7. e 8. d
9. b 10. b 11. b 12. d 13. a 14. b
15. d 16. c 17. e

Schemes Answer Keys

1. c 2. e 3. d 4. b 5. b 6. a 7. a

Appointments & Resignation Answer Keys

1. a 2. a 3. b 4. b 5. c 6. c 7. d 8. b
9. d 10. c 11. d 12. a 13. d 14. b
15. a 16. c 17. d 18. c 19. b 20. a
21. a 22. c 23. b 24. d 25. b 26. a
27. c 28. c

Awards Answer Keys

1. c 2. d 3. a 4. b 5. c 6. b 7. b 8. d
9. a 10. a 11. a 12. b

Ranks & Reports Answer Keys

1. d 2. d 3. c 4. e 5. c 6. c 7. d 8. c
9. b 10. d 11. b 12. a 13. c 14. c
15. c 16. d 17. c 18. c

Important Days Answer Keys

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. c 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b
9. b 10. c 11. c 12. b 13. d 14. c
15. b 16. e 17. b 18. c 19. c 20. c
21. a 22. d 23. e 24. a 25. b 26. a
27. b 28. c 29. a 30. b 31. d 32. c
33. a 34. b 35. a 36. d

Summit & Conferences Answer Keys

1. d 2. d 3. b 4. e 5. c 6. a 7. D

Science & Technology Answer Keys

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. a 5. b 6. d 7. a 8. B

Defence Answer Keys

1. d 2. c

Obituary Answer Keys

1. b 2. c

Person in news Answer Keys

1. a

Insurance Answer Keys

1. e 2. d 3. e 4. c

India & World Answer Keys

1. d 2. a 3. c 4. a 5. c 6. b 7. c 8. B

Environment Answer Keys

1. b 2. b 3. b

Apps & Portals Answer Keys

1. b 2. e

Acquisitions & Mergers Answer Keys

1. b 2. d 3. b 4. a 5. e 6. d 7. d 8. A

PSUs Answer Keys

1. b 2. c 3. d 4.

