

PLUTUS ACADEMY



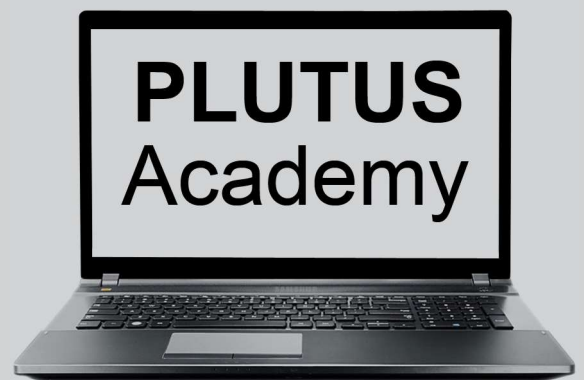
MONTHLY

CURRENT AFFAIRS

JUNE 2022



2022



Basement C59 Noida, opposite to
Priyagold Buildinggate, Sector 2, Pocket 1,
Noida, CONTACT NO- 91-8123002808

www.plutusacademy.com



CURRENT AFFAIRS

JUNE 2022

National News

1. EMINENT PLAYBACK SINGER KK PASSES AWAY



- Entire nation along with Bollywood is in utter shock and disbelief over the sudden and untimely demise of singer Krishnakumar Kunnath popularly known as KK.
- Condolence messages of celebrities from all walks of life expressing their grief and shock over the untimely demise of the popular singer are pouring in.
- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, I&B Minister Anurag Thakur expressed grief over the death of noted singer.
- In a tweet, the Vice President said he is anguished by the sudden demise of renowned singer, Shri Krishnakumar Kunnath.
- He said the singer is known for his soulful voice and melodious singing. Mr Naidu said Shri KK's demise is a huge loss to the world of music.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was one of the very first people to offer condolences on KK's death on social media.

2. TWO-DAY NATIONAL EDUCATION MINISTERS' CONFERENCE BEGINS IN GANDHINAGAR, GUJARAT



- The two-day National Education Ministers' Conference begins in Gandhinagar Gujarat today.
- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has inaugurated this conference which is being participated by other Union Ministers and Education Ministers of States and Union Territories.
- Speaking on this occasion, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said that the deliberations during this two-day conference will help in implementing and enhancing the vision of the National Education Policy 2020.
- He said that the deliberations will also help in strengthening the education ecosystem in the country.
- Mr. Pradhan said that National Education Policy 2020 is focusing on skilling in schools and digital initiatives like National Digital Education Architecture and National Educational Technology Forum.

3. INDIA AND PAKISTAN HOLD ROUTINE TALKS ON PERMANENT INDUS COMMISSION



- The 118th meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) comprising of Indus Commissioners of India and Pakistan was held in New Delhi.

- Ministry of External Affairs said, the meeting was held in a cordial manner.
- The Commission appreciated the commitment of the two sides to interact frequently and resolve issues through bilateral discussions under the Indus Water Treaty.
- It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the PIC in Pakistan on mutually convenient dates.
- During the two-day meeting, the Indian delegation was led by the Indian Commissioner for Indus Waters AK Pal and the visiting Pakistan delegation was led by the Pakistan Commissioner for Indus Waters Syed Muhammad Mehar
- Ali Shah.

4. TODAY IS WORLD MILK DAY



- Today is World Milk Day. The Day is marked to celebrate the contributions of the milk and dairy sector to the human population around the globe.
- World Milk Day was established by the Food and
- Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations in 2001, to recognize the importance of milk as a global food, and to celebrate the dairy sector.
- The theme for this year is “Dairy Net Zero”.

5. TATA MOTORS INKS PACT FOR POTENTIAL ACQUISITION OF FORD INDIA'S PLANT IN GUJARAT'S SANAND



- Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Limited (TPEML), a subsidiary of Tata Motors Ltd, and Ford India Private Limited (FIPL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Government of Gujarat (GoG) for the potential acquisition of FIPL's Sanand vehicle manufacturing facility.
- The MoU includes the potential acquisition of the facility's land & buildings, vehicle manufacturing plant, machinery and equipment and transfer of all eligible employees of
- FIPL Sanand's vehicle manufacturing operations, subject to the signing of definitive agreements and receipt of relevant approvals.
- The Ford India vehicle manufacturing site at Sanand is a state-of-the-art site.
- TPEML would invest into new machinery and equipment which is necessary to commission and make the unit ready to produce its vehicles.
- With the proposed investments, it would establish an installed capacity of 300,000 units per annum, which would be scalable to more than 400,000 units.

6. PARAM ANANTA SUPERCOMPUTER COMMISSIONED AT IIT, GANDHINAGAR



- Param Ananta, is a state of the art supercomputer at IIT Gandhinagar dedicated to the nation under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).
- It is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST), which was commissioned.
- This indigenous software stack is developed by C-DAC and is a Make in India initiative.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between IIT Gandhinagar and the Centre for Development in Advanced Computing (C-DAC) on October 12, 2020, to establish this 838 TeraFlops Supercomputing Facility under NSM.
- The system is equipped with a mix of CPU nodes, GPU nodes, high memory nodes, high throughput storage, and high-performance Infiniband interconnect to cater to the computing needs of various scientific and engineering applications.

7. CANADIAN PM TRUDEAU ANNOUNCES NEW LAW TO FREEZE SALES ON HANDGUN



- Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has unveiled new legislation that would implement “some of the harshest gun control measures” in decades, including a “freeze”

on the country's handgun purchases and sales.

- Trudeau cited a succession of mass shootings in Canada over the years, as well as recent assaults in the United States, as part of his government's motivation to propose Bill C-21 during a press conference in Ottawa.
- Canada has stronger gun ownership laws than the United States, gun control supporters have campaigned for tougher regulations in recent years in the wake of a number of mass shootings, including a 2017 attack on a Quebec mosque that killed six worshipers and a fatal shooting in Toronto in 2018.
- The AR-15 weapon, which was used by a shooter to murder 26 adults and children in the Sandy Hook tragedy in the United States in 2012, and the Ruger Mini-14 rifle, which was used by a gunman to murder 14 women at a Montreal engineering school in 1989, were among those banned.
- Long-gun magazines will also be permanently changed so that they can never store more than five rounds, and the sale and transfer of large-capacity magazines would be prohibited.

PLUTUS
Academy

National News

By Sameer Singhal

1. PM MODI EXPRESSES ANGUISH ON PASSING AWAY OF INA VETERAN from Malaysia Anjalai Ponnusamy



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed anguish on the passing away of the distinguished INA Veteran from Malaysia Ms Anjalai Ponnusamy.

- In an old INA Veteran.

2. U.S. LIFTS CUBA FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED UNDER TRUMP



- In the United States, President Joe Biden administration has revoked a series of restrictions on flights to Cuba imposed by his predecessor Donald Trump.
- The revocations include ending a prohibition on US airline flights to Cuban airports other than Havana.
- The flight restrictions have been lifted with immediate effect.
- The US Transportation Department issued the order at the request of Secretary of State Antony Blinken.
- He said the action was in support of the Cuban people, and in the foreign policy interests of the United States.
- The White House last month had signaled the planned move as part of a broader revision of policy toward Cuba.
- The Trump administration had issued a series of aviation restrictions in 2019 and 2020 in a bid to increase US economic pressure on the Cuban government.

3. INDIA DEFEAT JAPAN 1-0 TO WIN BRONZE AT ASIA CUP MEN'S HOCKEY



- In Asia Cup men's hockey 2022 at Jakarta, team India produced a gritty performance to beat Japan 1-0 and claimed the bronze medal today.
- An early goal from Rajkumar Pal and some fine defending works was enough for this young Indian side to overcome Japan in an engrossing game.
- India captain Birendra Lakra wins the player of the match award for his sturdy defensive work.

4. INDIAN WOMEN'S SHOOTING TEAM BAGS GOLD MEDAL IN 10M AIR RIFLE EVENT AT ISSF WORLD CUP 2022 IN BAKU



- Indian women's shooting team of Elavenil Valarivan, Shreya Agarwal and Ramita bagged a gold medal for India in the 10m air rifle women's team event at the ISSF World Cup 2022 in Baku today.
- This was India's first medal at the ongoing ISSF World Cup in Baku. The trio from India defeated Denmark 17-5 in the gold medal match.
- Tokyo Olympian Elavenil Valarivan shot above 10 in all the 11 series' in the final.
- Meanwhile, the men's 10m air rifle team, featuring Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil, Paarth

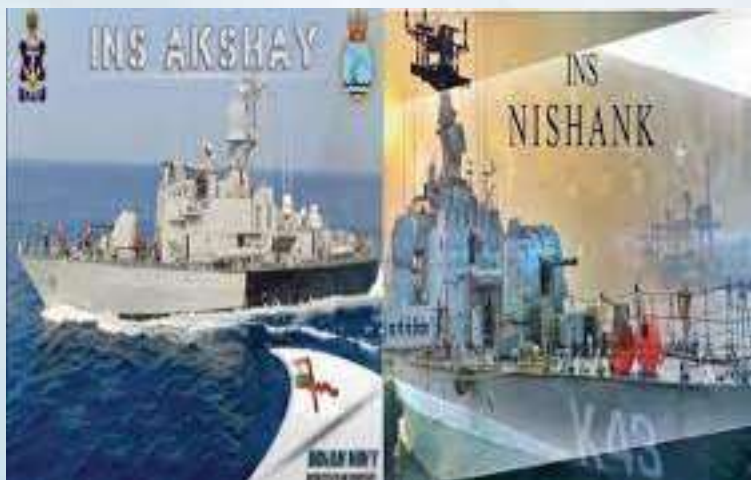
Makhija and Deaflympics champion Dhanush Srikanth, narrowly missed the podium after going down 16-10 to Croatia in the bronze medal match.

5. UTTARAKHAND'S VALLEY OF FLOWERS OPENS FOR TOURISTS



- Flower lovers will now be able to see flowers in the world-famous UNESCO heritage site, Valley of Flowers of Uttarakhand as it has been opened for tourists.
- All preparations have been completed by Nanda Devi National Park. The entry check post at Ghangaria has also been activated.
- The Valley of Flowers is spread about 87 square kilometre at an altitude of 3,962, above sea level.
- On 6 November 1982, the Valley of Flowers was declared a national park, while in 2005 UNESCO declared it a World Heritage Site. More than 500 species of colorful flowers bloom here in the season.

6. INDIAN NAVY TO BID FAREWELL TO TWO SHIPS INS NISHANK, INS AKSHAY IN MUMBAI TOMORROW



- The Indian Navy will bid farewell to its two ships INS Nishank and INS Akshay, at Naval

Dockyard in Mumbai tomorrow.

- Both the ships will be decommissioned at Naval Dockyard after 32 years of being at the forefront of safeguarding the maritime interests of the nation.
- Commissioned in the freezing temperature of Poti Shipyard of erstwhile Soviet Union which is presently in Georgia, the ships will be decommissioned in the tropical temperature of Mumbai wherein the atmosphere will be laden with emotions and nostalgia of all the ex-crew of both the ships.
- All the seafarers bear the names of their ships as their own identity. Home to many a sea warriors, these ships will always remain source of honour and pride.

7. RPF RESCUES 150 GIRLS,WOMEN DURING PAN INDIA DRIVE OPERATION MAHILA SURAKSHA



- Railway Protection Force (RPF) has rescued 150 women including many girls from becoming the victims of human trafficking during pan India drive Operation Mahila Suraksha.
- It has also arrested over 7000 men for traveling in coaches reserved for women.
- The force also organised 5742 awareness campaigns to educate rail users regarding their safety and Dos and Don'ts as safety and security of women have always been paramount to the Indian Railways.
- Meri Saheli, a pan India initiative with an objective of providing enhanced safety and security to lady passengers for their entire journey is also operational.
- RPF teams covering 223 stations across the Indian railways interacted with more than 2 Lakh 25 thousand ladies and provided them end to end security

8. SAMMY RECEIVED THE 'SITARA-E-PAKISTAN' AWARD



- Former West Indies captain, Daren Sammy has been conferred with the Sitara-i-Pakistan Award for Services to Pakistan during a ceremony.
- The 38-year-old all-rounder was being recognized for his role in helping bring international cricket back to Pakistan.
- It is the third-highest civil award conferred by Pakistan.
- He represented West Indies in 38 Tests, 126 ODIs, and 68 T20Is, has been one of the best captains that the world has seen in the T20 format and he captained a lot of franchises around the world.
- Sammy, who led the West Indies to two T20 World titles (2012 and 2016), was receiving his second civil honour from Pakistan in as many years.
- In March 2020, he received the highest civilian medal of Pakistan, Nishan-e-Pakistan, for his part in helping bring international cricket back to Pakistan.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. RENOWNED SANTOOR MAESTRO PANDIT BHAJAN SOPORI PASSES AWAY



- Renowned Santoor maestro Pandit Bhajan Sopori passed away today in Gurugram. He was 74.
- He was suffering from colon cancer. He was former Director of Music at All India Radio and looked after Hindustani Classical Music.
- Along with Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma, he is credited to have brought santoor, a lesser known Kashmiri instrument, into the global limelight.

2. WORLD BICYCLE DAY: 3RD JUNE



- World Bicycle Day is observed on 3rd of June every year. The day is marked to spread awareness about the benefits of using a bicycle. As per the United Nations, the day highlights the uniqueness, longevity and versatility of the bicycle.
- The day is observed since 2018 after a resolution was passed by the United Nations, during its 72nd Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

- World Bicycle Day talks about the benefits of using the bicycle, a simple, affordable, clean and environmentally fit sustainable means of transportation.
- Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur launched the nationwide Fit India Freedom Rider Cycle Rally at Major Dhyani Chand Stadium in New Delhi on World Bicycle Day this morning.
- Referring to the concept of Lifestyle for Environment (LIFE), Prime Minister Narendra Modi has shared a picture of Mahatma Gandhi riding a bicycle. He said, it is World Bicycle Day today and who better than Mahatma Gandhi to take inspiration from to lead a sustainable and healthy lifestyle.

3. KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES-2021 TO BEGIN IN HARYANA FROM TOMORROW



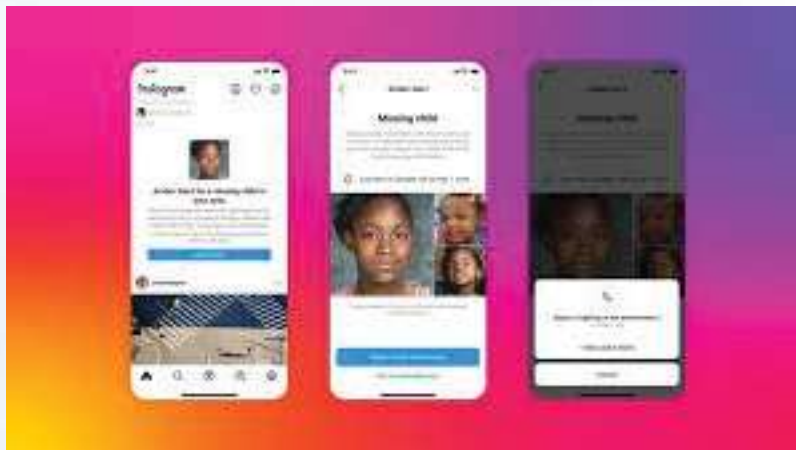
- Haryana is all set to host players from across the country for the Khelo India Youth Games in Panchkula. About 4,700 athletes, including 2,262 girls, will participate in the Khelo India Youth Games which begin tomorrow.
- It will also be the hub of action, with several of the 25 disciplines being held at the newly constructed multipurpose halls.
- Among the popular games being held here are athletics, football, badminton, table tennis, kabaddi, handball, wrestling, volleyball, boxing and the five indigenous sports.
- In the preparations for Khelo India Youth Games, Tau Devi Lal Stadium in Panchkula has been modernised.
- A world-class sports infrastructure has been constructed there.
- Four other venues - Ambala (gymnastics, swimming), Shahabad (hockey), Chandigarh (archery and football) and New Delhi (cycling and shooting) - will also play hosts to some disciplines.

4. INDIAN WOMEN'S SHOOTING TEAM BAGS GOLD MEDAL IN 10M AIR RIFLE EVENT AT ISSF WORLD CUP 2022 IN BAKU



- Media_SAI Indian women's shooting team of Elavenil Valarivan, Shreya Agarwal and Ramita bagged a gold medal for India in the 10m air rifle women's team event at the ISSF World Cup 2022 in Baku today.
- This was India's first medal at the ongoing ISSF World Cup in Baku. The trio from India defeated Denmark 17-5 in the gold medal match.
- Tokyo Olympian Elavenil Valarivan shot above 10 in all the 11 series' in the final.
- Meanwhile, the men's 10m air rifle team, featuring Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil, Paarth Makhija and Deaflympics champion Dhanush Srikanth, narrowly missed the podium after going down 16-10 to Croatia in the bronze medal match.

5. INSTAGRAM TO HELP FIND MISSING CHILDREN WITH AMBER ALERTS



- Meta announced earlier this week that AMBER alerts will soon be rolled out to Instagram in 25 countries.
- With AMBER alerts users in these regions will soon get notifications of missing children in the area.

- The feature was already present on Facebook, and Meta said that it has helped find hundreds of children since it was introduced in 2015.
- AMBER alerts for Instagram was developed in partnership with various organisations like the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) in the United States and the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children.
- AMBER alerts will also be specific to the search area, which means if a user receives one, it suggests that a search for a missing child is in progress in their vicinity.

6. SACHIN TENDULKAR TO CONTINUE AS UNICEF'S GOODWILL AMBASSADOR FOR 20TH YEAR



- Sachin Tendulkar will continue as UNICEF's 'Goodwill Ambassador' for a record 20th year, working for the welfare of underprivileged children.
- "It's been great working with UNICEF all these years. Wonderful memories of the impactful work the team has executed.
- The efforts towards giving wings to children's dreams are very satisfying. Looking forward to our next phase of partnership," Tendulkar tweeted.
- The iconic cricketer has been associated with UNICEF for long for various causes.
- In 2003, he was chosen to take lead in the initiative to create awareness and promote polio prevention in India.
- Later in 2008, he was roped in to create and promote hygiene and sanitation among communities and has been continuing to do so over the years.
- In 2013, he was appointed UNICEF Ambassador for South Asia to advocate good hygiene and sanitation across the region.
- In 2019, he went on a three-day trip to Nepal to raise awareness for UNICEF Nepal's 'Bat for Brain Development' campaign.

7. SENIOR IPS ZULFIQUAR HASAN BECOMES THE NEW DG OF BCAS



- Senior IPS officer, Zulfiqar Hasan has been appointed as the new Director-General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).
- The official order stated that Zulfiqar Hasan has been appointed “for a tenure up to his superannuation on 31.10.2024”.
- West Bengal-cadre 1988-batch IPS officer, Zulfiqar Hasan has been serving as the Special Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Delhi.
- The post of the Director-General, BCAS has been vacant since January 4 after incumbent Nasir Kamal opted for voluntary retirement.

8. FRONTIER DETHRONES FUGAKU AS THE WORLD’S FASTEST SUPERCOMPUTER



- According to the 59th edition of the Top500 list of the world’s most powerful supercomputers unveiled by Germany, ORNL’s Supercomputer Frontier from the US, a supercomputer built using Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) architecture and equipped

with Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) processors, outperformed Japan's Supercomputer Fugaku to become the world's fastest supercomputer.

- Frontier's nearest competitor, Fugaku, has a performance score of 442 petaflops on the Linpack benchmark, a standard for officially ranking global, publicly disclosed supercomputers.
- While Fugaku was based on Arm's core designs, US's Frontier is powered by AMD.
- The supercomputer – Frontier, which was built for the US Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), has broken the exascale speed barrier with a Linmark benchmark score of 1.1 exaflops, making it the world's first supercomputer to do so. Whereas, 1 exaflop is equivalent to 1,000 petaflops.
- Frontier features a total of 8,730,112 cores and is designed on the newest HPE Cray EX235a architecture with AMD EPYC 64C 2GHz processors.
- Frontier is also ranked number one as the world's most energy-efficient supercomputer, on the Green500 list.

PLUTUS
Academy

National News

By Sameer Singhal

1. SAKSHI MALIK, DIVYA KAKRAN, MANSI AHLAWAT WIN GOLD MEDALS AT BOLAT TRUKHANOV CUP



- Rio Olympics bronze medallist Sakshi Malik won her first international gold medal in almost five years at the Bolat Turlykhanov Cup wrestling tournament- a UWW Ranking Series event - at Almaty in Kazakhstan on Friday.

- India's Mansi Ahlawat and Divya Kakran also finished at the top of the podium in their respective weight categories.
- Sakshi Malik began with a win by technical superiority against Kazakhstan's Irina Kuznetsova and followed that up with a 9-3 win over Uzbekistan's Rushana Abdirasulova.
- As Mongolia's Tserenchimed Sukhee forfeited her semifinal, Sakshi entered the final, where she pinned Irina Kuznetsova while leading 7-4, beating the home wrestler for a second time in the day.
- The last time Sakshi Malik won a gold was at the 2017 Commonwealth Championship even as she won two bronze medals at the Asian Championships in 2020 and 2022.

2. GUJARAT VILLAGERS TURN FARM INTO ARTIFICIAL WETLAND TO SAVE SARAS CRANE EGGS



- A Saras crane couple in the family way has found surprise custodians in the people of Ganasar village, eight kilometers away from Motown Sanand.
- In their zeal to protect two eggs laid in a farm, villagers have turned the one-acre agricultural plot into a makeshift 'artificial wetland' - filling it with water brought in pots and with a makeshift canal - and are keeping an almost 24x7 vigil to ensure the two eggs are not attacked by wild animals or dogs.
- The farm owned by one Bachubhai Thakore is now the most frequented spot by villagers, who are brimming with excitement over the likely hatching of the eggs anytime next week. Saras cranes are a critically endangered species. In the last census by the State Forest Department in 2010, there were 1,900 of them in Gujarat.
- The number is feared to have declined to around 600 though a formal count has not taken place in the past decade.

3. TELEMEDICINE SERVICE 'eSANJEEVANI' INTEGRATED WITH AYUSHMAN BHARAT DIGITAL MISSION



- The National Health Authority (NHA) has announced the successful integration of National Telemedicine Service eSanjeevani with its flagship scheme- Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM).
- The integration allows the existing users of e-Sanjeevani to easily create their Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) and use it to link and manage their existing health records like prescriptions and lab reports, etc.
- The users would also be able to share their health records with doctors on eSanjeevani which will help in better clinical decision making and ensuring the continuum of care.
- Speaking about the significance of this integration, Dr. R. S. Sharma, CEO of the National Health Authority said that Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission aims at building digital highways to bridge the gaps in existing digital health solutions and stakeholders in India.

4. MEGHALAYA MAKES INDIA PROUD, SAYS CM SANGMA AS STATE WINS BEST PROJECT AWARD AT UN WORLD SUMMIT



- At the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2022, an initiative by the Meghalaya government Tuesday received the best project award in the category of “the role of governments in the promotion of ICTs for development”.
- The initiative was named Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture.
- Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), presented the winner award to state Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma during the award ceremony held in Geneva.
- A total of 360 projects nominated from different countries passed the test of the UN jury. The voting was held to select the best 90 projects which were invited to Geneva for the final award.
- Meghalaya contested with Australia, China, Argentina, and Tanzania. Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture (MeghEA) is the only project from India to win the winner award this year.

5. UN AGREES TO CHANGE TURKEY’S OFFICIAL NAME TO ‘TÜRKIYE’



- The United Nations has changed the Republic of Turkey’s country name at the organisation from “Turkey” to “Türkiye”, following a request from Ankara for the change.
- UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric had been received from the Turkish foreign minister Mevlut Cavusoglu addressed to Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, requesting the use of “Türkiye” instead of “Turkey” for all affairs.
- Turkey began the move to change its internationally recognised official name in English to Türkiye in December after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan released a memorandum and asked the public to use Türkiye to describe the country in every language.
- Türkiye is the best representation and expression of the Turkish people’s culture, civilization and values.

6. SHRESHTA TO COVER EDUCATION EXPENSES OF SC STUDENTS



- Union Minister of social Justice and empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar has launched the Scheme “SHRESHTA” -Scheme for residential education for students in High school in Targeted Areas.
- The Scheme for Residential Education for Students in Targeted Areas (SHRESHTA) has been formulated with the objective to provide quality education and opportunities for even the poorest.
- Scheduled Caste students, as per the Constitutional mandate.
- The students from the Scheduled Caste communities, for long been subjects to inequality, were kept out of quality education and a situation that perpetuates the disadvantages carried forward for generations of lack of adequate education.
- The Governmental efforts to spread educational facilities without discrimination have worked well in achieving near universal access.
- However, the objective of providing access to quality education that provides a level playing field is still far from reality.
- Accordingly, the Department as a new initiative has introduced the scheme for providing quality education in top class private Residential Schools to the meritorious SC students who cannot afford the fee of such schoolstop class private Residential Schools to the meritorious SC students who cannot afford the fee of such schools.

7. ISRO CHAIRMAN INAUGURATES NEW SPACECRAFT MANUFACTURING FACILITY



- Dr S Somanath, the chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), inaugurated ANANTH Technologies' spacecraft manufacturing unit at Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) Aerospace Park.
- The new state-of-the-art spacecraft manufacturing facility can conduct assembly integration and testing of four large spacecraft simultaneously.
- This is a first of its kind facility in India, adding that since its establishment in 1992, Ananth Technologies has contributed to the manufacturing of 89 satellites and 69 launch vehicles built/launched by ISRO.
- The 15,000 sqm facility is capable of conducting the assembly, integration and testing of four large spacecraft at the same time, with four separate units present within the facility.
- Over the years, ANANTH Technologies has successfully contributed to major launches of ISRO. Our technology acumen is such that none of the sub-systems supplied by ANANTH Technologies has ever failed in orbit

By Sameer Singhal



CURRENT AFFAIRS

JUNE 2022

National News

1. CHINA SENDS THIRD MANNED MISSION TO BUILD ITS TIANGONG SPACE STATION



- China launched its third manned mission to its under-construction space station on Sunday, sending another three astronauts to continue the final stages of the construction work at the Tiangong Space Station's Tianhe core module for six months before returning to Earth in December.
- China plans to have Tiangong Space Station fully crewed and operational by December 2022.
- The astronauts lifted off on the Shenzhou-14 spacecraft at 10:44 a.m. local time, launched by a Long March 2F rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in the Gobi Desert, Inner Mongolia.
- The crew includes Chen Dong, Liu Yang and Cai Xuzhe, according to Chinese state media. China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) announced about 20 minutes after take-off that the launch of Shenzhou 14 was successful.
- The first crewed mission, a three-month stay by three other astronauts, was completed in September 2021.

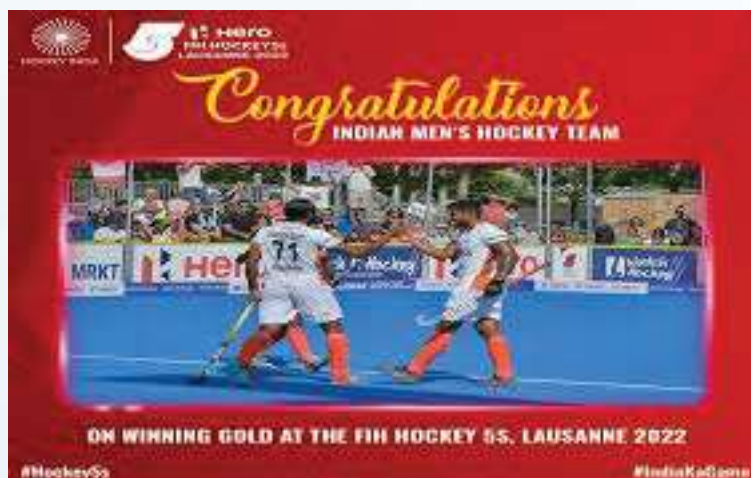
- The second, Shenzhou-13, saw three astronauts spend six months in space for the first time.

2. AMAN SEHRAWAT STRIKES GOLD AT 2022 BOLAT TURLYKHANOV CUP WRESTLING TOURNAMENT



- National champion Aman Sehrawat clinched gold medal while Tokyo 2020 bronze medallist Bajrang Punia settled for bronze of the 2022 Bolat Turlykhanov Cup wrestling tournament in Almaty, Kazakhstan on Sunday.
- With the two more medals, India concluded the United World Wrestling's ranking series with 11 medals - six golds, one silver, and four bronze. Five of the golds were won by women.

3. INDIA BEAT POLAND 6-4 IN FINAL TO CLINCH INAUGURAL FIH HOCKEY 5S CHAMPIONSHIP



- India beat Poland 6-4 in final to clinch the inaugural FIH Hockey 5s championship in

Lausanne in Switzerland on Sunday. India, ended their campaign with an unbeaten record.

- Earlier, India first outplayed Malaysia 7-3, pumping in four goals in the second half in a stunning show before beating Poland 6-2 in the second match of the day.
- India had topped the five-team standings after the round-robin league stage with 10 points from three wins and one draw.
- India had beaten hosts Switzerland 4-3 and drawn with arch-rivals Pakistan 2-2.

4. RAFAEL NADAL WINS FRENCH OPEN TITLE BEATING CASPER RUUD 6-3, 6-3, 6-0



- In French Open tennis, Spaniard Rafael Nadal has won the 14th singles title of the tournament beating Casper Ruud of Norway 6-3, 6-3, 6-0 in the final.
- With this victory, 36-year-old Nadal has become the oldest champion at Roland Garros. It is his 22nd Grand Slam title.
- In women's singles, World Number One Tennis player Iga Swiatek clinched this year's title by beating US teenager Coco Gauff in Paris last evening.
- The 21-year-old polish player won her second Grand Slam title in straight sets 6-1, 6-3 over Gauff who was making her first final appearance at the clay-court Slam.

5. WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY BEING CELEBRATED ACROSS THE GLOBE



- World Environment Day is being celebrated across the globe on Sunday.
- The day is observed to raise global awareness to take positive environmental action to protect nature and the planet Earth.
- It is observed on 5th of June every year since 1973 as part of the United Nations Environment Programme to build awareness to save life on planet Earth.
- The theme of this year's World Environment Day is - only one Earth.

6. INDIAN RAILWAYS WORKS TO EXPEDITE PLANS TO REVIVE RAMESWARAM-DHANUSHKODI RAIL LINE



- The Indian Railways is working to expedite plans to revive the Rameswaram-Dhanushkodi rail line.
- Nearly 60 years after Dhanushkodi was wiped out by a devastating cyclone in 1964, Railways is reconstructing the 18-km railway line.

- The Railways has begun the process of acquiring land for the Rs. 733-crore project, for which the foundation stone was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019.
- About 28.6 hectares are forest land and 43.81 hectares belong to the State government, while 3.66 hectares are privately held.
- The cyclone had washed away the track along with a train and other infrastructure, leaving over 100 people dead and bringing to a halt to the train service.
- The project would take around 18 months to be completed, and is expected to give a new lease of life to Dhanushkodi through easier access.

7. 1.2 METER TRISONIC WIND TUNNEL AT NAL BENGALURU COMPLETES 55 YEARS OF GLORIOUS SERVICE



- The 1.2 meter Trisonic wind tunnel at National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) in Bengaluru has completed its 55 years of glorious service to the nation.
- Built between 1963 and 1967, the first blowdown test was conducted on May 29, 1967.
- It has achieved an important milestone of 55,000 blowdowns.
- The highest speed of this tunnel is Mach 4.0 which is four times the speed of sound.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) have tested their launch vehicles, missiles and aircraft here.
- ISRO has tested ASLV, PSLV, SLV, SSLV, GSLV, RLV and Gaganyaan satellite launch vehicles in the tunnel.
- DRDO has tested Agni, Akaash, Prithvi, Pralay, SRSAM, LRSAM, ASTRA, NAG, Brahmos, Nirbhay missiles and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in the tunnel.
- The nation's first Light Combat Aircraft Tejas was conceived at this facility. Mirage 2000, Sukhoi 30, Jaguar, MiG aircraft were successfully integrated with weapons and tested in the tunnel.

8. AMIT SHAH TO INAUGURATE NATIONAL TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN DELHI



- Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate the National Tribal Research Institute in New Delhi on Tuesday.
- The inaugural event will be part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebration by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- NTRI will be a premier national level institute and become the nerve-centre of tribal concerns, issues and matters in academic, executive and legislative fields.
- It will collaborate and network with reputed research institutes, universities, organizations as well as academic bodies and resource centres.
- It will monitor projects of Tribal Research Institutes, Centres of Excellence and set up norms for improvement in the quality of research and training.
- Its other activities would be to provide policy inputs to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs as well as State Welfare Departments, design studies and programmes that improve or support socio-economic aspects of tribal lifestyles.
- Minister of Tribal Affairs, Arjun Munda, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju and other Union Ministers will grace the occasion.

9. TAMIL NADU CM FLAGS OFF LUXURY CRUISE LINER “EMPRESS” FROM CHENNAI PORT



- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin flagged off the luxury cruise liner “Empress” from Chennai port.
- The eleven-storey tourist vessel can accommodate up to two thousand passengers and about 800 crew members.
- The packages include going to the high seas from the city port and to return, and also to anchor at Puducherry and Visakhapatnam harbours, as said by the operator.
- The three different packages consist of two, three and five days. The vessel has a swimming pool, children’s play area, gym, theatre and a multi-cuisine restaurant, as said by its operator Cordelia.
- This is considered the first luxury cruise liner to be operated from the state, while the state officials say a few other prominent operators have also shown interest in offering sea-based tourism services.

10. TATA PROJECTS WINS BID TO BUILD JEWAR AIRPORT, BEATS SP GROUP AND L&T



- Tata Projects will build the national capital region’s new airport at Jewar, after outbidding the Shapoorji Pallonji Group and Larsen & Toubro for the contract.
- While the deal size has not been disclosed, sources pegged it at over Rs 6,000 crore.

- Tata Projects, the infrastructure and construction arm of the Tata group, will construct the terminal, runway, airside infrastructure, roads, utilities, landside facilities and other ancillary buildings at the Noida International Airport.
- The new airport is expected to be functional by 2024. With the closure of the EPC contract, the first phase of the airport is on track to be delivered within three years of the commencement of the concession period.
- According to the contract terms for the Jewar airport, a fine of Rs 10 lakh per day will be levied on the developer of the upcoming Noida International Airport in case of a project delay.

11. IAF HERITAGE CENTER TO BE SET UP IN CHANDIGARH



- A heritage center to showcase the role of the Indian Air Force in various wars and its overall functioning will come up at Chandigarh.
- The 'IAF Heritage Center' will be set up jointly by the force and the Chandigarh administration.
- An MoU between the Union Territory of Chandigarh and the IAF for setting up of the center was inked.
- The ceremony was attended by Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit and Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari.
- This heritage center will have artifacts, simulators and interactive boards to highlight various facets of IAF.
- It will also showcase the vital role played by the service in various wars and assistance rendered for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. This joint project of Administration of UT Chandigarh and IAF is planned to be completed by October.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. UNION HEALTH MINISTER MANSUKH MANDAVIYA LAUNCHES LOGO FOR 'AYURVEDA AAHAR ON OCCASION OF WORLD FOOD SAFETY DAY



- Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has said that the dream of developed India can be realized only if its citizens are healthy.
- Addressing the World Food Safety Day Celebration in New Delhi today, Dr Mandaviya said, a healthy citizens makes a healthy society.
- He said, Narendra Modi Government has established Health and Wellness Centres across the country to provide affordable and accessible health care for all.
- On the occasion of World Food Safety Day, Dr Mandaviya launched the logo for 'Ayurveda Aahar'.
- He said, this will help in creating a unique identity of 'Ayurveda Aahar' for easy identification and its proven benefits to improve health and well-being.
- Dr Mandaviya highlighted that in the last few years, health care has also seen a holistic development in the country.
- He said, states have an important role in ensuring food safety and healthy food practices.
- Dr Mandaviya said, it is the need of the hour that all the citizens come together to ensure a healthy nation.

2. UNION CIVIL AVIATION MINISTER JYOTIRADITYA SCINDIA ANNOUNCES FIRST EVER NATIONAL AIR SPORTS POLICY 2022



- Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia today announced first-ever National Air Sports Policy-2022 in New Delhi.
- The objective of this policy is to include India among the top air sporting nations by 2030.
- It is also aimed at providing a safe, affordable and sustainable air sports ecosystem in the country.
- Eleven air sports including Aerobatics, Ballooning, Gliding, Parachuting, Powered aircraft and Rotorcraft will be promoted through this policy.
- Speaking on this occasion, Mr. Scindia said, this policy will create a robust ecosystem of air sports activities in the country.
- He said, this will help in generation of one lakh jobs in the sector and increase the revenue from existing 100 crore rupees to 10 thousand crore rupees in coming years.
- Highlighting the salient features of the policy, the Civil Aviation Minister said, segregated air spaces will be created in certain locations to allow uninhibited air sporting activities in the designated areas.
- He said, domestic manufacturing of air sports equipment will be promoted through this policy.

3. HM AMIT SHAH INAUGURATES NEW BUILDING OF NATIONAL TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN NEW DELHI



- Home Minister Amit Shah has said that the National Tribal Research Institute will play a crucial role in tribal development.
- Inaugurating the newly-built National Tribal Research Institute at India Institute of Public Administration Campus in New Delhi, Mr Shah said, it is being established at a cost of ten crore rupees.
- He said, government is taking several measure for the development of tribal communities.
- Mr Shah said, this research institute will help the government in framing the policy

4. INDIA SUCCESSFULLY CARRIES OUT TRAINING LAUNCH OF INTERMEDIATE RANGE AGNI 4 BALLISTIC MISSILE



- India successfully tested the Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile Agni-4 yesterday.
- The successful training launch of Agni-4, was carried out from APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha.
- The Defence Ministry said, the test was part of routine user training launches carried out

under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command.

- The launch validated all operational parameters as also the reliability of the system.
- The Ministry said, the successful test reaffirms country's policy of having a credible minimum deterrence capab

5. WORLD FOOD SAFETY DAY 2022: 7 JUNE



- World Food Safety Day is celebrated globally on June 7 every year as per the World Health Organization (WHO).
- World Food Safety Day aims to transform food systems to deliver better health sustainably and prevent foodborne diseases.
- This day also provides an opportunity to strengthen efforts to ensure that the food we eat is safe and reduce the burden of foodborne illnesses globally.
- The World Health Organisation (WHO) announced the theme of World Food Safety Day in March.
- This year, the theme is 'Safer food, better health'. WHO also launched a campaign to inspire global participation.

6. GEHLOT ANNOUNCES RAJIV GANDHI KHEL RATNA AWARD FOR RAJ SPORTSPERSONS



- Rajasthan Chief Minister(CM) Ashok Gehlot has announced that the state government is set to introduce the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award to the State's sportspersons.
- He made the announcement while addressing the inauguration and player award ceremony at Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- The CM inaugurated Rajasthan High-Performance Sports and Rehabilitation Centre, Renovated Synthetic Hockey Astro Turf and Badminton Indoor Hall, Olympic and also awarded Para Olympic medalists, Asian Games-2022 and Commonwealth Games-2022 players.
- He also informed that Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympics will commence on 29th August 2022 in which more than 27 lakh players of all ages can participate.
- He also released the torch of the Rural Olympic during the event.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. INDONESIA MASTERS BADMINTON 2022 BEGINS IN JAKARTA



- Indonesia Masters Badminton 2022 began in Jakarta today. The tournament started with the qualifying matches today, followed by the first and second round, quarterfinals, and semifinal and conclude with the finals on the 12th of this month.
- At the tournament, all eyes will be on P.V. Sindhu who will take on Line Christophersen of Denmark in the Women's Singles and Lakshya Sen meet Hans-Kristian Solberg Vittinghus also of Denmark in Men's Singles tomorrow as they look to hit the top gear in the build-up to the Commonwealth Games, starting July 28. However, Saina Nehwal and Parupalli Kashyap, along with India's recent Thomas Cup hero HS Prannoy, made late pullouts.

2. TODAY IS WORLD BRAIN TUMOR DAY



- Today is World Brain Tumor Day. It is observed to raise awareness and educate people about brain tumors.

- The day also pays tribute to those affected by brain tumors.
- The German Brain Tumor Association started this international commemoration day in the year 2000 as a tribute to all brain tumor patients and their families.
- A brain tumor occurs when cells grow at an abnormal rate to form a mass of abnormal cells within the brain. There are two main types of tumors-cancerous tumors and non-cancerous tumors.
- On a global scale, 330,000 children and adults worldwide were diagnosed with cancer of the central nervous system in one year.
- This number continues to rise along with the mortality rate for brain cancer.
- Some common symptoms of brain tumor are headaches, seizures, problems with vision, vomiting, and mental changes. Patients may feel headache and vomiting in the morning.
- More specific problems may include difficulty in walking, speaking and sensation.

3. MITHALI RAJ HAS ANNOUNCED HER RETIREMENT



- Indian Women Cricket team captain, Mithali Raj has announced her retirement from all forms of international cricket.
- Announcing the retirement today in social media, she said like all journeys, this one too must come to an end. She retired from T20 Cricket back in September 2019 but continued to play in ODIs and Tests.
- Mithali is the highest run-scorer in women's international cricket and is considered to be one of the most influential figures in helping grow women's cricket in India.
- Mithali, a right-handed batter, will go down in history for her incredible run-scoring feats, including a record 7,805 runs to date in ODI matches, almost over 2,000 more than her closest rival, former England captain Charlotte Edwards.
- Mithali has played 12 Tests for India scoring 699 runs and 89 T20Is where she amassed 2,364 runs.

4. SATISH PAI APPOINTED GLOBAL ALUMINUM BODY'S CHAIRMAN



- The International Aluminium Institute (IAI), the only body representing the global primary aluminium industry, has announced the appointment of Satish Pai as its new Chair.
- He is the Managing Director of Hindalco Industries, one of the world's largest integrated producers of aluminium.
- Earlier serving as Vice Chairman, he succeeds Ben Kahrs, Chief Innovation Officer, Alcoa Corporation.
- An engineer by education and profession, Satish earlier worked with Schlumberger, based out of Paris, where he was responsible for Schlumberger's operations globally.

5. MARUTI SUZUKI SETS UP ASIA'S LARGEST CARPORT TYPE SOLAR PLANT AT MANESAR FACILITY



- Maruti Suzuki India has installed a 20 MW solar carport at its Manesar, Haryana, site.
- The project is projected to provide the organisation with 28,000 MWh of electricity per year.
- According to the firm, the energy generated by this initiative will be similar to the energy required to create nearly 67,000 cars every year.

- This is Asia's largest solar carport, according to the business.
- Using the East-West orientation approach, the solar carport is constructed with the smallest area per unit of electricity generation.
- The East-West approach allows developers to add more rows and panels, increasing generation capacity while using less space.
- Approximately 9,000 finished vehicles can be parked at the site.
- Companies are focused on making the most of available space in order to save money on energy and meet sustainability goals.
- Solar carports are an excellent way to turn an otherwise unused space into a source of renewable energy

6. MULTINATIONAL PEACEKEEPING EXERCISE 'EX KHAAN QUEST 2022' COMMENCES IN MONGOLIA



- The Indian Army participated in a multinational exercise "Ex Khaan Quest 2022" where 16 other countries also took part in Mongolia.
- President of Mongolia, Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh inaugurated the Exercise as the host.
- The Indian Army is represented by a contingent from the LADAKH SCOUTS.
- The 14-day exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability, building military to military relationships, developing peace support operations and military readiness among participating nations.

7. ENVIRONMENT PERFORMANCE INDEX: INDIA FAILS GREEN TEST, FINISHES AT BOTTOM



- In the 2022 Environment Performance Index (EPI), an analysis by Yale and Columbia University researchers that gives a data-driven evaluation of the situation of sustainability around the world, India came in last out of 180 countries.
- Climate change, environmental public health, and biodiversity are among the 40 performance factors used by the EPI to rank 180 nations.
- India and Nigeria are at the bottom of the list. Their poor EPI scores indicate that more attention should be paid to the full range of sustainability needs, with a particular emphasis on crucial concerns like as air and water quality, biodiversity, and climate change.
- Only a few nations, like Denmark and the United Kingdom, are on track to fulfil net zero emission objectives by 2050, according to EPI estimates.
- With rapidly expanding greenhouse gas emissions, countries like China, India, and Russia are heading in the wrong way.

8. TAMIL NADU TO LAUNCH SKILLING PROGRAMME FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS



- The Tamil Nadu government recently launched Naan Mudhalvan (I am the first). Under this programme, Tamil Nadu government has now launched Nalaya Thiran (Tomorrow's

ability).

- In this programme, 50,000 college students will train with the knowledge in computer science, electronics and IT domains, skilling them on problem solving using technologies.
- The Tamil Nadu government has created the Nalaya Thiran program to help the industry get skilled students.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. NHAI ENTERS GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS FOR LAYING 75 KM LONG CONTINUOUS BITUMINOUS CONCRETE ROAD IN RECORD 5 DAYS



- National Highways Authority of India - NHAI and its contractors entered Guinness World Records for laying 75 Km long continuous Bituminous Concrete Road in record 5 days.
- Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has congratulated NHAI, Consultants and Concessionaire, Rajpath Infracon Pvt. Limited and Jagdish Kadam on achieving the Guinness World Record by constructing 75 Km continuous Bituminous Concrete Road.
- NHAI is celebrating the rich legacy of the nation with Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

- He said, the work has been completed in a record time of 105 hours and 33 minutes.
- The Amravati to Akola section is part of National Highway-53 and an important East-West corridor.

2. VOLUME-IV OF SELECTED SPEECHES OF PRESIDENT RAM NATH KOVIND NAMED 'LOKTANTRA KE SWAR' AND 'REPUBLICAN ETHICS' RELEASED



- Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur today released the Volume-IV of selected speeches of President Ram Nath Kovind named 'Loktantra Ke Swar' and 'Republican Ethics' at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre.
- In his address, Mr Pradhan said, the compilation of speeches by President Ram Nath Kovind in his 4th year in office is a good barometer for the state of the nation.
- He highlighted that this book captures the President's thoughts on varied topics such as public service, ethics, education, aspirations of the youth, contemporary global issues.
- The Minister said, the book will enrich public discourse and serve as guiding light towards taking India forward in the 'Amrit Kaal'.
- He also suggested that the educational institutions should engage students in discussions and debates on the relevant topics elucidated by President in his speeches.
- Mr Pradhan said, the President in his speeches, while aptly covering the soul of India, its civilisational wealth and culture, has also laid the vision for the future.
- The Minister said, speaking about NEP-2020, Mr Kovind has rightly called for achieving the twin vision of inclusion and excellence in education.

3. DEFENSE MINISTRY'S TECH DEVELOPMENT FUND CAP RAISED FIVE-FOLD TO RS 50 CR



- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh authorized an increase in financing for MSMEs and startups under the Ministry of Defence's Technology Development Fund (TDF) plan.
- The initiative, which encourages the development of indigenous components, products, systems, and technologies, will now have a maximum project value of Rs 50 crore, up from Rs 10 crore previously.
- The increased funding is in accordance with the budget announcement and will help the government achieve its goal of self-reliance in the defence sector, according to the defence ministry.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in her budget address that 25% of the defence R&D budget will be allocated to private business, startups, and universities.
- The initiative aims to increase public and private sector engagement, particularly among MSMEs, in order to establish an ecosystem that will develop technical competence for defence applications.
- According to the scheme's provisions, the financial assistance is delivered in the form of grants-in-aid to the industry.
- Projects with a cost of up to Rs 50 crore will now be evaluated for funding, but only up to 90% of the total project cost would be funded.

4. SONY EX-CEO NOBUYUKI IDEI, WHO LED BRAND'S GLOBAL GROWTH, DIES AT 84



- Nobuyuki Idei, who led Japan's Sony from 1998 through 2005, steering its growth in the digital and entertainment businesses, has died. He was 84.
- During his seven years as CEO from 1998, Mr Idei made an immense contribution to Sony's evolution as a global company.
- Tokyo-based Sony is among Japan's stellar brands, having brought the world the Walkman portable music player. Idei joined Sony in 1960, after graduating from Tokyo's prestigious Waseda University, and worked in its audio and video divisions.
- He was appointed president in 1995, and is credited with being behind hit products such as the Vaio laptop.
- Idei pushed Sony's digital operations under the slogan Digital Dream Kids.
- He also accelerated Sony's global expansion, including the PlayStation video game business, and Sony's sprawling entertainment empire that includes music and movies.

5. 'IRONMAN OF INDIA' AND RAILWAY OFFICIAL SHREYAS G HOSUR MAKES HISTORY



- Creating a history of sorts, Shreyas G. Hosur, became the first officer from the Indian

Railways to complete the gruelling 'Ironman' Triathlon, considered to be the toughest single-day sports event in the world.

- This event includes 3.8 km of swimming, 180 km of cycling and 42.2 km of running.
- He completed the event in 13 hours and 26 minutes in Hamburg, Germany.
- Shreyas G. Hosur is the first officer from the non-uniformed Civil Services to complete the event, making this a proud moment for the Railways.
- Shreyas G. Hosur, is an Indian Railway Accounts Service (IRAS) officer of the 2012 Batch.
- He is returned from deputation to National Technical Research Organization (NTRO), Delhi and is currently serving as Dy. FA&CAO in Construction/SWR.

6. MUKESH AMBANI, GAUTAM ADANI: NET WORTH OF INDIA'S RICHEST MEN



- Recently, Forbes Real Time Billionaires List was declared. It featured the list of the richest person around the world.
- The chairman and managing director of Reliance Industries Ltd, Mukesh Ambani and the chairperson of Adani Group, Gautam Adani are also in the list of top 10 richest persons in the world.
- In the "Bloomberg Billionaires Index", Mukesh Ambani is in eighth spot, and Gautam Adani is in ninth position. Elon Musk topped both the lists.
- Forbes' Real-Time Billionaires rankings tracks the daily ups and downs of the world's richest people.
- The wealth-tracking platform provides ongoing updates on the net worth and ranking of each individual confirmed by Forbes to be a billionaire.
- The value of individuals' public holdings are updated every 5 minutes when respective stock markets are open (there will be a 15-minute delay for stock prices).

7. ALOK KUMAR CHOUDHARY TAKES CHARGE AS MD OF SBI



- Alok Kumar Choudhary has taken charge as the new Managing Director (MD) of State Bank of India (SBI).
- His appointment comes in the wake of the superannuation of Ashwani Bhatia as Managing Director on May 31, 2022.
- Choudhary was previously Deputy Managing Director (Finance) at the bank. As the new MD, he will be handling retail business and operations.
- Per a notification issued by the Department of Financial Services, the new MD's appointment is with effect from the date of assumption of office and up to the date of his superannuation (June 30, 2024), or until further order, whichever is earlier.
- Following Choudhary's appointment, SBI now has four MDs.
- The other MDs are Challa Sreenivasulu Setty, Swaminathan J and Ashwini Kumar Tewari.

8. INDIA BEAT POLAND 6-4 TO CLINCH INAUGURAL FIH HOCKEY 5S TITLE



- India beat Poland 6-4 in final to clinch the inaugural FIH Hockey 5s championship in Lausanne in Switzerland.

- Earlier, India first outplayed Malaysia 7-3, pumping in four goals in the second half in a stunning show before beating Poland 6-2 in the second match of the day.
- India, who had topped the five-team league standings with three wins and one draw en route final, ended their campaign with an unbeaten record.
- India had topped the five-team standings after the round-robin league stage with 10 points from three wins and one draw.
- India had beaten hosts Switzerland 4-3 and drawn with arch-rivals Pakistan 2-2.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. PM INAUGURATES & LAYS FOUNDATION STONE OF MULTIPLE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WORTH RS 3,050 CRORE IN GUJARAT'S TRIBAL REGION NAVSARI



- The Prime Minister performed the Bhumi Pujan of 13 water supply projects for residents of Tapi, Navsari and Surat districts worth 961 crore rupees.
- He also performed the Bhumi Pujan of a Medical College in Navsari district to be built at the cost of 542 crore rupees, which will provide affordable and quality health care to the people of this region.
- The Prime Minister also inaugurated the Madhuban Dam based Astol regional water supply project, built at the cost of around 586 crore rupees. He has also inaugurated 'Nal Se Jal' projects worth 163 crore rupees on this occasion. These projects will provide clean and adequate drinking water supply to the residents of Surat, Navsari, Valsad and Tapi districts.
- The Prime Minister launched Virpur Vyara Sub-Station, constructed at a cost of over 85 crore rupees to provide electricity to residents of Tapi district. A sewage treatment plant

with a capacity of 14 MLD worth 20 crore rupees was also inaugurated for Vapi city of Valsad district for wastewater treatment.

- The Prime Minister also inaugurated government quarters built in Navsari at a cost of 21 crore rupees. He inaugurated roads constructed from Piplaidevi - Juner - Chichvihar - Pipaldahad and school buildings constructed in Dang at a cost of 12 crore rupees each.

2. EC ANNOUNCES SCHEDULE FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS; POLLING TO BE HELD ON JULY 18

| Schedule for Election | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Under sub-section (1) of Section (4) of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act 1952, the schedule for the election of the President of India is given below | |
| Issue of Election Commission's notification calling the election | 15.06.2022 (Wednesday) |
| Last date for making nominations | 29.06.2022 (Wednesday) |
| Date for the scrutiny of nominations | 30.06.2022 (Thursday) |
| Last date for the withdrawal of candidatures | 02.07.2022 (Saturday) |
| Date on which a poll shall, if necessary, be taken | 18.07.2022 (Monday) |
| Date on which counting, if required, shall be taken | 21.07.2022 (Thursday) |

- Election Commission of India yesterday announced the schedule for the Election of 16th President of India. Announcing the poll schedule in New Delhi yesterday, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said, poll will be held on 18th of July.
- Notification for the poll will be issued on 15th of June and last date for filing of nominations will be 29th of this month. Scrutiny of nomination papers will take place on 30th of this month. The counting will be taken up on 21st of July. Term of office of President Ram Nath Kovind is ending on 24th of next month.
- The President is elected by an electoral college comprising elected members of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. It also includes Legislative Assemblies of Delhi and Puducherry.
- Mr. Kumar said, election will be held by secret ballot in accordance with system of proportional representation as per the Constitution.
- The Chief Election Commissioner said, total number of electors will be 4,809 including 776 Members of Parliament and 4,033 Members of Legislative Assemblies. Total value of the votes will be 10 lakh 86 thousand 431.

3. BANGLADESH-INDIA BUS SERVICES RESUME AFTER TWO YEARS



- The passenger bus services between Bangladesh and India resumed on Friday, June 10 with the flagging off of the bus from Dhaka to Kolkata in the morning.
- The flagging off marked the opening of the bus services through the Akhaura-Agartala and Benapole-Haridaspur Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) between the two countries.
- The opening of the bus-services comes less than two weeks after the passenger train service between the two countries were started on May 29 with the flagging off of the Maitree Express and Bandhan Express train between Dhaka-Kolkata and Kolkata-Khulna respectively.
- A new biweekly train named Mitali Express between New Jalpaiguri and Dhaka was also flagged off by the Railway Ministers of India and Bangladesh on 1st June.

By Sameer Singhal

4. KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES: HARYANA RETAINS TOP POSITION FOLLOWED BY MAHARASHTRA AND MANIPUR

| RANK | STATE | Gold | Silver | Bronze | TOTAL |
|------|----------------|------|--------|--------|-------|
| 1 | HARYANA | 33 | 27 | 35 | 96 |
| 2 | MAHARASHTRA | 32 | 28 | 25 | 85 |
| 3 | MANIPUR | 15 | 8 | 7 | 31 |
| 4 | WEST BENGAL | 19 | 11 | 10 | 40 |
| 5 | TAMIL NADU | 18 | 11 | 6 | 35 |
| 6 | PUNJAB | 8 | 8 | 7 | 23 |
| 7 | WEST BENGAL | 7 | 4 | 4 | 15 |
| 8 | UTTAR PRADESH | 5 | 11 | 12 | 28 |
| 9 | MADHYA PRADESH | 5 | 5 | 7 | 17 |
| 10 | DELHI | 4 | 6 | 22 | 32 |

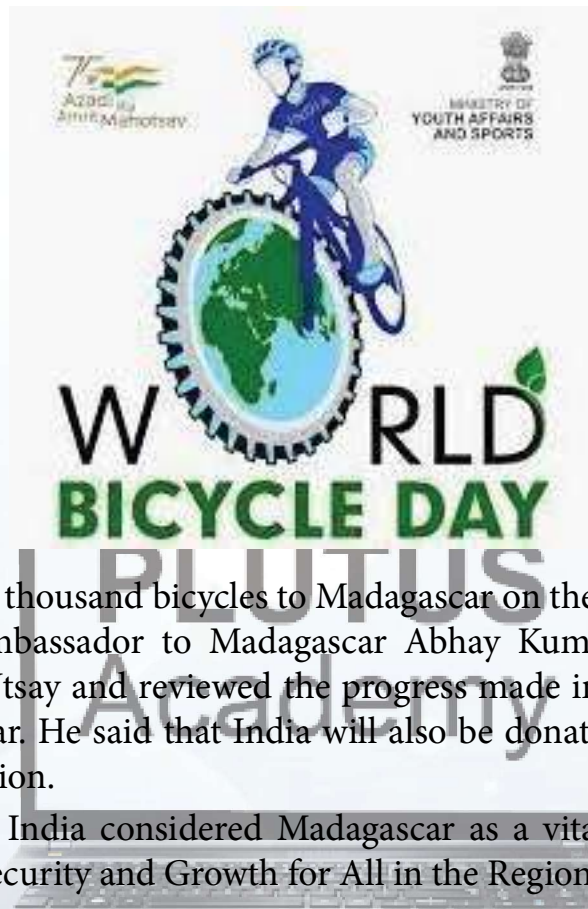
- In the Khelo India Youth Games, Haryana retained the leading position in the medal tally with 33 gold, 27 silver and 36 bronze medals. Haryana has so far grabbed 96 medals. Maharashtra is following with 83 medals including 30 gold, 28 silver and 25 bronze medals.
- Manipur also retained third place with 13 gold, three silver and two bronze medals followed by Tamil Nadu, which is at fourth place with 10 gold, 10 silver and eight bronze medals.

5. PV SINDHU AND LAKSHYA SEN ENTER QUARTERFINALS OF INDONESIA MASTERS



- Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu and World Championship bronze winner Lakshya Sen entered the quarterfinals of the Indonesia Masters in Jakarta yesterday.
- Sen, defeated his Danish opponent Rasmus Gemke 21-18 21-15. Sen, will next face Chinese Taipei's third seed Chou Tien Chen.
- In the Women's singles, PV Sindhu faced a stiff challenge from home favorite Gregoria Mariska Tunjung.
- However, Sindhu defeated her 23-21 20-22 21-11 in the second round.

6. WORLD BICYCLE DAY: INDIA ANNOUNCES DONATION OF 15 THOUSAND BICYCLES TO MADAGASCAR



- India has donated 15 thousand bicycles to Madagascar on the occasion of World Bicycle Day. The Indian Ambassador to Madagascar Abhay Kumar today called on Prime Minister Christian Ntsay and reviewed the progress made in the bilateral ties between India and Madagascar. He said that India will also be donating 5,000 metric tonnes of rice to the Island Nation.
- Mr. Abhay told that India considered Madagascar as a vital role in the collaborative maritime vision of Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR).

7. EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK TO INCREASE INTEREST RATES FOR FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN 11 YEARS IN JULY



- The European Central Bank (ECB) has said that it intends to raise interest rates for the first time in more than 11 years next month. ECB President Christine Lagarde yesterday said, the hike will be of 0.25 percentage points and will take place in July. The bank also intends to end its bond-buying stimulus programme on 1st of July.

- The bank said, the ECB's main policy interest rate is currently at -0.50 per cent and it could be back at zero or above by the end of September. The last time it raised interest rates in the eurozone was in 2011.
- The ECB also cut its growth forecast for the eurozone from 3.7 per cent to 2.8 per cent for 2022 and from 2.8 per cent to 2.1 per cent for 2023.
- Several other central banks have already started raising interest rates as they try to slow inflation that has been accelerating amid surging energy costs.

8. CABINET COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS APPROVES INCREASE OF AT LEAST 1.5 TIMES IN MSP FOR KHARIF CROPS FOR MARKETING SEASON 2022-23

Benchmark rises | On Wednesday, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for all mandated Kharif crops for marketing season 2022-23. A look at the increase in MSP for select crops

| Crop | MSP 2022-23 | Increase in MSP (Absolute) | Return over cost (%) |
|----------------|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Paddy (Common) | 2,040 | 100 | 50 |
| Bajra | 2,350 | 100 | 85 |
| Ragi | 3,578 | 201 | 50 |
| Maize | 1,962 | 92 | 50 |
| Moong | 7,755 | 480 | 50 |
| Urad | 6,600 | 300 | 59 |
| Groundnut | 5,850 | 300 | 51 |
| Sesame | 7,830 | 523 | 50 |



SOURCE: PIB

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved increase in Minimum Support Price for all intended Kharif crops for Marketing Season 2022-23.
- The Union Cabinet on Wednesday raised the minimum support price (MSP) for paddy by Rs. 100 a quintal for the Kharif season of 2022-23. The rates for 14 crops have been increased in the range of 4% to 8%.
- The Union Cabinet, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said Indian agriculture had scaled new heights in the past eight years because of the government's 'seed to market' vision.

9. KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES: PUNJAB BOYS WIN HOCKEY TITLE



- The Punjab boys hockey team defeated Uttar Pradesh (UP) 3-1 to win the boys hockey title in Khelo India Youth Games at Panchkula.

KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES

- To accomplish the above objectives, Khelo India programme has been divided into 12 verticals, namely:

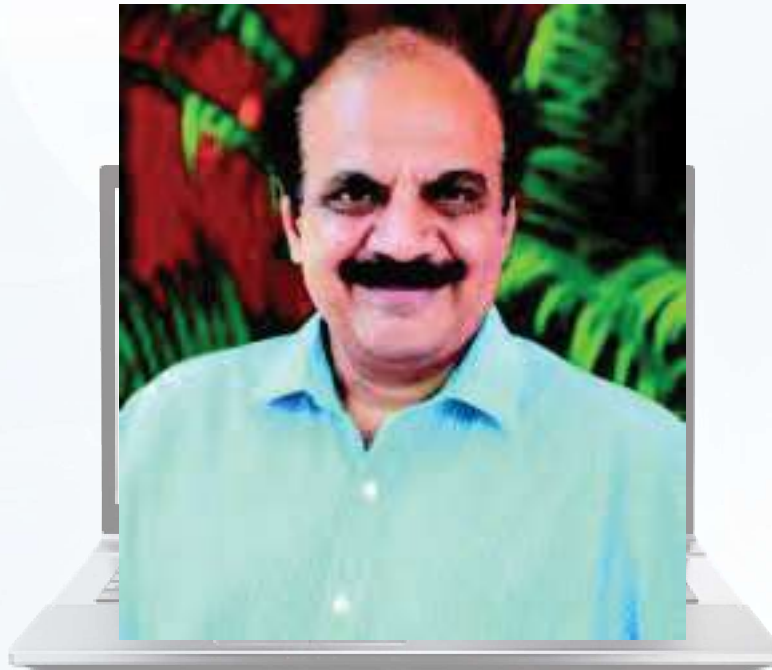


- Talented players identified in priority sports disciplines at various levels by the High-Powered Committee will be provided annual financial assistance of INR 5 lakh per annum for 8 years.
- Khelo India School Games, which are a part of the Khelo India programme, are being held from 31st January to 8th February, 2018 in New Delhi.

- Under-17 athletes have been invited to participate across 16 disciplines, which are as follows: Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Football, Gymnastics, Hockey, Judo, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Shooting, Swimming, Volleyball, Weightlifting, and Wrestling.

By BHUPENDRA YADAV

1. EX-REGISTRAR OF MSU APPOINTED MGNREGA OMBUDSMAN



- N J Ojha has been appointed as ombudsman for a two-year term under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.
- An ombudsman has the power to receive complaints from MGNREGA workers, consider such complaints, pass awards within 30 days from the date of receipt of complaint and issue direction for conducting spot investigation and also initiate proceedings 'suo motu' if there are any grievance including on issues related to delayed payment of wages or non-payment of unemployment allowance. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), also known as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) is Indian legislation enacted on August 25, 2005. The MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee for one hundred days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work at the statutory minimum wage. The Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), Govt of India is monitoring the entire implementation of this scheme in association with state governments.

2. AMANDEEP SINGH GILL APPOINTED AS UN CHIEF GUTERRES' ENVOY ON TECHNOLOGY



- Senior Indian diplomat Amandeep Singh Gill has been appointed by United Nations chief as his Envoy on Technology, with the world body describing him as a “thought leader on digital technology”
- Gill, who was India’s Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva from 2016-to 2018, is the Chief Executive Officer of the International Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative (I-DAIR) project, based at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.
- Previously, Gill was the Executive Director and Co-Lead of the United Nations Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation (2018-2019).
- The United Nations (UN) is an intergovernmental organization whose purpose is to maintain international peace and security, develop friendly relations among nations, achieve international cooperation, and be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations.
- It is the world’s largest and most familiar international organization. The UN is headquartered on international territory in New York City, and has other main offices in Geneva, Nairobi, Vienna, and The Hague

3. UNGA ADOPTS INDIA-SPONSORED RESOLUTION ON MULTILINGUALISM, MENTIONS HINDI LANGUAGE FOR FIRST TIME



- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has adopted an India-sponsored resolution on multilingualism that mentions the Hindi language for the first time.
- The resolution passed yesterday urges the United Nations to continue spreading vital communications and messages in both official and non-official languages, including Hindi.
- India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations T. S. Tirumurti said, multilingualism is acknowledged as a basic principle of the United Nations and expressed gratitude to the Secretary-General for supporting multilingualism.
- He said, for the first time, the Hindi language is mentioned in the resolution besides Bangla and Urdu for the first time in the resolution.

There are six official languages of the UN. These are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

4. WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE TO BEGIN FROM JUNE 12 IN GENEVA; COMMERCE & INDUSTRY MINISTER PIYUSH GOYAL TO LEAD INDIAN DELEGATION



- The 12th World Trade Organisation, WTO Ministerial Conference will begin from tomorrow in Geneva, Switzerland after a gap of almost five years.
- The key areas of discussions and negotiations this year's conference include WTO's response to the pandemic, Fisheries subsidies negotiations and Agriculture issues including Public Stockholding for Food security.
- The Indian delegation will be headed by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal. India has a vital stake in protecting the interests of all stakeholders in the country as well as the interests of the developing and poor nations that look up to the leadership of India at multilateral forums including WTO.
- For wto refer to class notes.

5. RBI DOUBLES HOME LOAN LIMITS OF CO-OP BANKS



- The RBI allowed urban cooperative banks to provide doorstep banking services to meet the needs of customers, especially senior citizens and differently abled persons.
- In a big boost to the home loan segment, the Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday doubled the limit on housing loans from cooperative banks and also permitted rural cooperative banks (RCB) to finance residential real estate projects to support affordable housing and inclusive growth.
- The RBI allowed urban cooperative banks (UCBs) to provide doorstep banking services to meet the needs of customers, especially senior citizens and differently abled persons.
- The limits for tier-I and tier-II UCBs have been revised from Rs 30 lakh to Rs 60 lakh and Rs 70 lakh to Rs 1.40 crore, respectively. These limits were last revised for UCBs in 2011 and for RCBs in 2009.
- For rural co-operative banks, the limits have been revised from Rs 20 lakh to Rs 50 lakh for RCBs with assessed net worth less than Rs 100 crore and for other RCBs, the limits would increase from Rs 30 lakh to Rs 75 lakh.

6. FM LAUNCHES EASE 5.0 PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS COMMON REFORM AGENDA



- Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, on Wednesday, launched

the fifth edition of Enhanced Access and Service Excellence-EASE 5.0, which spells out the common reforms agenda for public sector banks (PSBs) under the EASENext program.

- Under EASE 5.0, PSBs will continue to invest in new-age capabilities and deepen the ongoing reforms to respond to evolving customer needs, changing competition and the technology environment.
- EASE 5.0 will focus on digital customer experience, and integrated and inclusive banking, with emphasis on supporting small businesses and agriculture. Simultaneously, all PSBs will also create a bank-specific three-year strategic roadmap. It will entail strategic initiatives beyond EASE 5.0.
- The initiatives will be across diverse themes — business growth, profitability, risk, customer service, operations, and capability building

7. INDIAN GM PRAGGNANANDHAA WINS TITLE IN NORWAY CHESS OPEN



- The 16-year old GM, the top-seed, was in fine form and remained unbeaten through the nine rounds
- He finished one point ahead of nearest rivals Marsel Efroimski and Jung Min Seo, who shared second place.
- The Indian teenaged star has been putting in impressive performances in recent times and had beaten world number one Magnus Carlsen for a second time in the Chessable Master online event and lost a close final to China's Ding Liren.

8. CHINA CONTINUING TO HARDEN ITS POSITION ALONG BORDERS WITH INDIA: US DEFENCE SECRETARY



- Speaking at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, Lloyd James Austin noted that China is taking aggressive and illegal approaches
- Speaking at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, Austin noted that China is taking aggressive and illegal approaches to the territories it claims in the South China Sea and advancing its illegal maritime plans.
- The Indian and Chinese troops have been locked in a tense border standoff in eastern Ladakh since May 5, 2020, when a violent clash between the two sides erupted in the Pangong lake area.
- China has also been building bridges and constructing other infrastructure such as roads and residential units in the border areas with India.
- China has also been building bridges and constructing other infrastructure such as roads and residential units in the border areas with India.

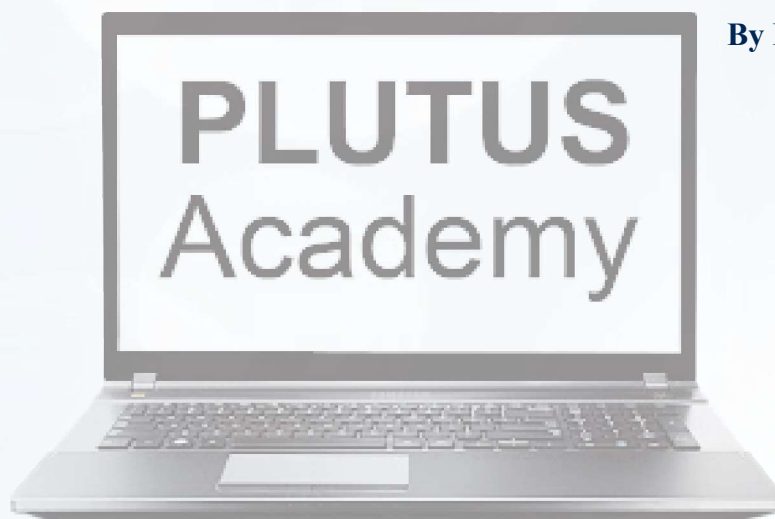
9. SHANGRI-LA DIALOGUE



- The IISS Asia Security Summit: The Shangri-La Dialogue, more commonly known as just the Shangri-La Dialogue (SLD), is a “Track One” inter-governmental security conference

held annually in Singapore by an independent think tank, the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) which is attended by defense ministers, permanent heads of ministries and military chiefs of 28 Asia-Pacific states. The forum gets its name from the Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore where it has been held since 2002.

- Over the years, the Shangri-La Dialogue has become one of the most important independent forums for the exchange of views by international security policy decision-makers.
- The participants have included Australia, Brunei, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, the United Kingdom, the United States and Vietnam.



By **BHUPENDRA YADAV**



CURRENT AFFAIRS

JUNE 2022

National News

1. ATHER ENERGY PARTNERS SBI FOR CUSTOMER RETAIL FINANCE



- Electric two-wheeler manufacturer Ather Energy has partnered State Bank of India to provide customers with vehicle financing.
- As part of the association Ather Energy customers will get instant loans at interest rates as low as 9.55 percent per annum. Pre-approved loans will also be administered, depending on the buyer's creditworthiness.
- SBI will offer the vehicle loans on their YONO mobile application as well as at their branch network, as the public sector lender ensures ease of adoption for the buyers.
- With this collaboration, the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) aims to accelerate the growth of the electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem in the country.
- The customers, depending on their profiles, will be eligible to avail loans up to 85 percent of the on-road prices of the electric two-wheelers.

2. GOA: SITHARAMAN INAUGURATES MUSEUM THAT SHOWCASES WORK THAT CUSTOMS DO



- Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman has inaugurated the National Museum of Customs and GST “Dharohar” in Goa as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Iconic week of the Ministry of Finance, being celebrated from June 6 to 12.
- The two-storey ‘Blue building’, which was earlier known as Alfandega, during the period of Portuguese rule in Goa, has been standing on the banks of the Mandovi River in Panaji for more than 400 years.
- Dharohar is one of its kind museum in the country that showcases not only the artefacts seized by Indian Customs but also depicts various aspects of work performed by the Customs Department while safeguarding the economic frontiers of the country, its heritage, flora & fauna and the society.
- Dharohar has 8 galleries viz: Introductory gallery, History of Taxation Gallery, Guardians of our economic frontiers gallery, Guardians of our Art & Heritage, Guardians of Flora & Fauna, Custodians of our social well being, Journey of Indirect taxes -Salt Tax to GST and the GST gallery.
- The Museum provides the rare opportunity of having a peep into the working of the Department over the years ushering in change in its methodologies to meet the emanating challenges while at the same time providing yeomen service to the Nation.

3. TENCENT BOUGHT STAKE IN FLIPKART WORTH RS 2,060 CRORE



- Chinese technology conglomerate Tencent has bought stake worth USD 264 million (about Rs 2,060 crore) in Flipkart from its co-founder Binny Bansal through its European subsidiary, according to official documents.
- Singapore-headquartered e-commerce firm Flipkart has operations in India only.
- Bansal holds around 1.84 per cent stake in Flipkart after selling part of his stake to Tencent Cloud Europe BV.
- Post the transaction, Tencent arm holds 0.72 per stake in Flipkart which is valued at around USD 264 million, as per last valuation of USD 37.6 billion disclosed by the e-commerce firm in July 2021.
- The company's valuation surged to USD 37.6 billion after raising USD 3.6 billion (about ₹26,805.6 crore) in funding round led by Singapore's sovereign wealth fund GIC, CPP Investments, SoftBank Vision Fund 2 and Walmart.

4. INTERNATIONAL ALBINISM AWARENESS DAY 2022



- International Albinism Awareness Day is observed by the United Nations on June 13 every year.
- The day represents the importance and celebration of human rights of people with albinism.
- The United Nations Human Rights Council adopted this resolution and put its firm foot down for the prevention of attacks and discrimination against people with albinism.
- This day is mandated to remind people of the perils of the past and the path to the future in the case of albinism and the people living with it.
- The theme for International Albinism Awareness Day 2022 is “United in making our voice heard”.
- According to the United Nations, the theme was chosen because including voices of persons with albinism is essential to ensure equality #Inclusion4equality
- 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.

5. CHINA RELEASES WORLD'S MOST DETAILED MAP OF THE MOON



- China has released a new geological map of the moon, which it says is the most detailed to date, registering even finer details of the lunar surface than mapped by the US in 2020.
- The new map, which has details of craters and structures not charted before, will assist in further research of the moon.
- The world's most detailed map of the moon released by China is expected to make a great contribution to the scientific research, exploration, and landing site selection on the moon.
- The new comprehensive geological map of the moon released by China is to a scale of 1:2,500,000. It is the most detailed moon map to date. The moon map includes the 12,341 impact craters, 17 rock types, 81 impact basins, and 14 types of structures.
- The new significant details of moon map have provided abundant information about the geology of the moon and its evolution.
- The most detailed map of the moon was published by Science Bulletin on May 30, 2022.

6. ICICI BANK PARTNERS WITH ZESTMONEY TO EXPAND 'CARDLESS EMI' FACILITY



- ICICI Bank has announced that it has partnered with digital EMI/pay-later platform ZestMoney, to expand its 'Cardless EMI' facility for purchases on retail and e-commerce

platforms.

- The partnership enhances affordability of customers of the Bank who can use pre-approved cardless credit to instantly buy products/ services using ZestMoney and take care of the cost into Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs).
- Customers can convert transactions up to Rs 10 lakh into EMIs by simply putting their registered mobile number, PAN and OTP (received on registered mobile number) at the check-out of the e-commerce website/app or at the PoS machine in retail outlets, without using cards.
- The facility, in partnership with ZestMoney, is live on select e-commerce websites and will soon be available at retail stores.
- With this partnership, the Bank's customers will be able to use ZestMoney's wide merchant base.
- They will also be able to use ZestMoney's flagship 'Pay-in-3' offering, where they can split the bill into three EMIs without extra cost.

7. ANOCOVAX, INDIA'S FIRST COVID-19 VACCINE FOR ANIMALS.



- India now has a Covid-19 vaccine to protect animals from infection. Anocovax has been developed by Haryana's ICAR-National Research Centre on Equines.
- The vaccine offers protection against both Delta and Omicron variants of the infection, the institute said as agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched Anocovax, the country's first indigenously developed Covid-19 vaccine for animals.
- The institute also launched antibody detection kits for animals.
- The vaccine contains inactivated SARS-CoV-2 (Delta) antigen with Alhydrogel as an adjuvant. It is safe for dogs, lions, leopards, mice and rabbits, it added.
- The COVID-19 vaccine for animals, Anocovax, is effective and capable of neutralising both Delta and Omicron variants of SARS-CoV-2.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. SAANAPATHI GURUNAIDU CLINCHES GOLD MEDAL IN MEN'S 55 KILOGRAM EVENT AT IWF YOUTH WORLD C'SHIPS



- Indian weightlifter Saanapathi Gurunaidu clinched Gold medal in men's 55 kilogram event at the IWF Youth World Championships in Leon, Mexico on Sunday.
- Two other Indian weightlifters Vijay Prajapati and Akansha Kishor Vyavhare clinched silver medals on the opening day of the event.
- Saanapathi won Gold medal in men's 55 kilogram event with total lift of 230 kilogram.
- He lifted 104 kilogram in Snatch winning Silver while 126 kilogram lifting in Clean and Jerk to finish on the top to grab the Gold medal.
- Vijay finished second in the Men's 49 kilogram event with a total lift of 175 kilogram. Vijay lifted 78 kilogram in Snatch and 97 kilogram in the Clean and Jerk category.

2. INDIA CREATE HISTORY BY QUALIFYING FOR FIFAE NATIONS CUP 2022



- In Football, India created history by securing a spot at the highly coveted FIFAE Nations Cup (FeNC) 2022.

- Representatives from the country will join esports athletes from 23 other nations to compete at the highest level of FIFA 22 Esports from July 26 to 30 in Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Organized and conducted by EA Sports, the FeNC is one of three major esports events that are held on a worldwide scale to crown the global champions of the game.
- This tournament will feature teams representing their nations and competing in a 2v2 format against opponents from all over the world.
- The tournament's Playoffs 2022 commenced in June 2022.
- In this double elimination bracket, India will take on several top-tier nations from Asia and Oceania to secure a slot at the prestigious Nations Cup 2022. Charanjot Singh, Siddh Chandarana and Saransh Jain are the three athletes who will be representing India at the biggest stage of FIFA Esports at Copenhagen for the Nations Cup 2022.

3. TODAY IS WORLD BLOOD DONOR DAY



- Today is World Blood Donor Day. The day is observed every year on 14th of June with an aim to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products for transfusion and also to thank voluntary, unpaid blood donors for their life-saving gifts of blood.
- The slogan for this year is 'Donating blood is an act of solidarity. Join the effort and save lives'.
- Millions of lives are saved every year by transfusion of blood and blood products in patients suffering from life threatening conditions and during complex medical and surgical procedures.
- It also has an important, life-saving role in maternal and child care and during the emergency response to man made and natural disasters.
- World Blood Donor Day is observed in order to support and provide an opportunity to health authorities to provide adequate resources to increase the collection of blood from voluntary, unpaid blood donors, as well as to manage access to blood and transfusion.

- It marks the Birth Anniversary of Karl Landsteiner, who first distinguished human blood into A, B, AB and O groups.

4. KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES 2021 CONCLUDES ; HARYANA TOP TALLY WITH 137 MEDALS



- The Khelo India Youth Games 2021 concluded yesterday, with Haryana grabbed the top position in the medal tally with 52 gold, 39 silver and 46 bronze medals.
- Maharashtra got second position by winning 125 medals including 45 gold, 40 silver and 40 bronze medals.
- Karnataka remained at third place with 22 gold, 17 silver and 28 bronze medals
- In the closing ceremony organised at Indradanush Auditorium in Panchkula, Chief Guest Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya said that he is sure the Khelo India Youth games will produce international level players.
- He said that the players from different states did hard work and won the medals.
- Addressing the sportspersons on this occasion Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur congratulated the Chief Minister Manohar Lal and Haryana Sports Minister Sandeep Singh for organizing the fourth edition of Khelo India youth Games 2021 and providing all the facilities to the participating sports persons.

5. RAILWAYS MINISTER ASHWINI VAISHNAW LAUNCHES “START-UPS FOR RAILWAYS” IN NEW DELHI



- Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has launched “StartUps for Railways” in New Delhi yesterday.
- This Start-Ups policy aims to leverage innovative technologies developed by Indian Startups, MSMEs, Innovators and Entrepreneurs to improve operational efficiency and safety of Indian Railways.
- The policy which is part Indian Railways Innovation Programme, will bring scale and efficiency in the field of operation, maintenance and infrastructure creation through participation of very large and untapped startup ecosystem.
- Speaking on the occasion, Mr Vaishnaw said, through this platform, start-ups will get a good opportunity to connect with Railways.
- He said, out of over 100 problem statements received from different divisions, field offices or zones of Railways, 11 problem statements like rail fracture and headway reduction have been taken up for phase 1 of this programme.
- The Minister said, these will be presented before the start ups to find innovative solutions.

6. PM INAUGURATES JAGATGURU SREESANT TUKARAM MAHARAJ SHILA MANDIR AT DEHU IN PUNE



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi today dedicated to the nation the Shila Mandir - a rock temple in honour of the 17th century saint, Sant Tukaram at Dehu near Pune in Maharashtra.
- He also interacted with Warkaris, the devotees of Sant Tukaram who undertake the Wari or holy pilgrimage to Pandharpur.
- Built with a special type of Rajasthani stone, Shila Mandir is a temple dedicated to a slab of stone on which Sant Tukaram had meditated for 13 days.
- Devotees of Tukaram, the Warkaris, offer prayers at the Shila Temple before starting their pilgrimage to Pandharpur.
- A new idol of Sant Tukaram has also been installed in the temple near the 'Shila Mandir' which was also unveiled by the Prime Minister.
- The 17th century Bhakti poet and saint Tukaram was famous for his devotional poetry known as Abhangas and spiritual songs known as Kirtanas.
- His works are central to the Warkari sect in Maharashtra. Dehu, on the banks of the Indrayani River is the birth place of the poet saint.

7. CENTER ANNOUNCES AGNIPATH SCHEME FOR RECRUITMENT OF YOUTH IN THE ARMED FORCES



- The Centre today cleared the AGNIPATH Scheme for recruitment of youth in the Armed Forces.
- Briefing media in New Delhi with three Service Chiefs, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh said, the youth selected under this scheme will be known as Agniveers.
- He said, the Agniveers will be getting attractive monthly package with Risk and Hardship allowances as applicable in the three services.
- Mr Singh said Agniveers will be also paid one-time Seva Nidhi package upon completion of engagement period of four years.
- The AGNIPATH Scheme cleared by Cabinet Committee on Security allows patriotic and motivated youth to serve in the Armed Forces for a period of four years.
- Over forty six thousand Agniveers to be recruited this year. This is a major defense policy reform introduced by the Government to usher in a new era in the Human Resource policy of the three services.
- The policy, which comes into immediate effect, will govern the enrollment for the three services.

8. TWO-TIME OLYMPIAN AND LONG DISTANCE RUNNING LEGEND HARI CHAND PASSES AWAY



- Long distance great Hari Chand, a two-time Olympian and a double Asian Games gold medallist, passed away in Jalandhar. He was 69.
- Chand won the 5000 and 10,000m gold at the 1978 Bangkok Asiad and also the 10,000m title at the 1975 Asian Championships in Seoul.
- Chand, who hailed from Ghorewaha village in Punjab's Hoshiarpur District, made waves with his barefoot running and broke the 10,000m National record at the 1976 Montreal Olympics which stood for 32 years before falling to Surendra Singh
- He was eighth in his heats in Montreal, clocking 28:48.72s. And in the next Olympics, in Moscow 1980, he was 10th in the 10,000m heats and finished 31st in the marathon which had 74 runners.

9. KARKINOS HEALTHCARE OPENS ADVANCED CANCER DIAGNOSTICS, RESEARCH CENTER IN KOCHI



- Kerala Chief Minister, Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated a cancer diagnostics and

research centre here, which is slated to be the country's first oncology laboratory for comprehensive cancer diagnostic services.

- Karkinos Healthcare's advanced centre for cancer diagnostics and research will serve as a central lab for analysing specimens at molecular and genomic levels to aid in personalised targeted therapy, predicting possible response to treatment and evaluate response by liquid biopsy.
- The focus is on early diagnostic tools, molecular assays for precision medicine, which are not readily available in the country.
- The Tata Group is investing Rs 110 crore in Karkinos while Rakuten Medical, the global clinical stage biotechnology company, Mayo Clinic and Reliance Digital Health, hold minority stakes

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. TODAY IS GLOBAL WIND DAY



- Today is Global Wind Day. It is a worldwide event that occurs annually on 15th of 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.
- It is an age-old energy source that is still used widely in this modern era. It is the most efficient and established renewable sources of energy.
- According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, India's wind energy sector is led by the indigenous wind power industry and has shown consistent progress.
- The expansion of the wind industry has resulted in a strong ecosystem, project operation capabilities and manufacturing base of about 10,000 MW per annum.
- The country currently has the fourth-highest wind installed capacity in the world with total installed capacity of 39.25 Giga Watt as on 31st March 2021 and has generated

around 60.149 Billion Units during 2020-21.

2. ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING TO BE HELD IN NEW DELHI TOMORROW



- PicIndia will host two-day Special ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' meeting starting tomorrow.
- This will be the first meeting hosted by India in New Delhi. It will be accompanied by 12th Edition of Delhi Dialogue.
- The theme of Delhi Dialogue is 'Building Bridges in the Indo-Pacific'.
- The Ministerial Session will be attended by External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and ASEAN's Foreign Ministers.
- External Affairs Spokesman Arindam Bagchi termed the ASEAN, central to India's Act East Policy.

3. NAGALAND'S FIRST WOMAN MP IN RS TO ATTEND IPU GLOBAL CONFERENCE IN EGYPT



- Egypt is hosting the Eighth Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians in Sharm El Sheikh today.

- The two-day conference is jointly organized by the House of Representatives and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).
- Nagaland's first woman elected as Member of Parliament to Rajya Sabha S. Phangon Konyak is representing India at the Conference.
- She, along with two other young Lok Sabha MPs from India, will be sharing her thoughts on the 'Young MPs for Climate Actions'.
- The 8th Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians provides a platform for young MPs from across the world to exchange learn and define common and innovative strategies to advance youth empowerment.
- This year in Egypt, around 200 young MPs, from 60 countries are participating to discuss strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change and ensure that global warming does not exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius in line with the Paris Agreement.

4. OLYMPICS GOLD MEDALIST NEERAJ CHOPRA SETS NEW JAVELIN RECORD AT PAAVO NURMI GAMES IN FINLAND



- Tokyo Olympics gold medalist ace Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra set a new national record of 89.30 metres at Paavo Nurmi Games in Finland.
- Chopra's earlier national record was 88.07m which he had set in Patiala in March last year. He had won the Tokyo Olympics gold with a throw of 87.58m on August 7, 2021.
- Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Thakur has lauded the outstanding performance of Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra who set a new national record in a sporting event in Finland.
- In a tweet, Mr. Thakur said, Neeraj Chopra threw his javelin to 89.30 metres at Paavo Nurmi Games to create a new National Record.
- He said, absolutely thrilled; golden great Neeraj Chopra does it again.
- Neeraj Chopra is India's first-ever Olympic gold medallist in athletics and only the second individual gold medallist at Olympics.

5. TAMIL NADU TRIPLE JUMPER PRAVEEN CHITRAVEL SETS NEW MEET RECORD OF 17.18M



- In Athletics, Tamil Nadu triple jumper Praveen Chitravel set a new meet record of 17.18m at the ongoing National Inter-State Championships at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Chennai today.
- The previous inter-state meet record was held by Punjab's Arpinder Singh - 17.17m in Lucknow in 2014.
- The effort, which came in his second attempt, means that Chitravel has qualified for the upcoming World Championships in Oregon.
- The entry standard for worlds is 17.14m. Chitravel's jump of 17.18m is third on the all-time India list.

6. MICROSOFT'S INTERNET EXPLORER IS FINALLY RETIRING AFTER 27 YEARS



- Microsoft has announced the retirement of 27-year-old Internet Explorer (IE) as the firm's oldest browser will be completely phased out from June 15.

- Microsoft released the first version of Internet Explorer in 1995 as an add-on package for Windows 95, the antediluvian era of web surfing dominated by the first widely popular browser, Netscape Navigator.
- The Internet Explorer project was started in the summer of 1994 by Thomas Reardon, who, according to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Review of 2003, used source code from Spyglass, Inc. Mosaic, which was an early commercial web browser with formal ties to the pioneering National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) Mosaic browser.
- In late 1994, licensed Spyglass Mosaic for a quarterly fee plus a percentage of Microsoft's non-Windows revenues for the software.
- Although bearing a name like NCSA Mosaic, Spyglass Mosaic had used the NCSA Mosaic source code sparingly.

7. INDIA'S FIRST AC RAILWAY TERMINAL IN BENGALURU TO BE INAUGURATED 'SOON' BY PM MODI

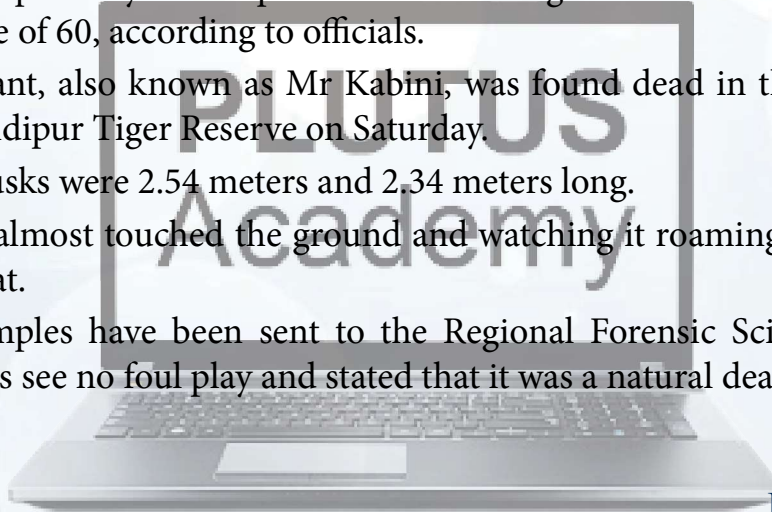


- The ultra luxury Sir M Visvesvaraya Railway Terminal in Karnataka's capital city Bengaluru was made operational.
- The Ernakulam Tri-Weekly Express chugged through the station to mark this special occasion.
- According to the railway officials, the air-conditioned SMV Railway Terminal is a Rs 314 crore project. It has solar rooftop panels and rainwater harvesting mechanism.
- The railway terminal at the city's Baiyappanahalli area, named after Bharat Ratna Sir M. Visvesvaraya, is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and claims to have an airport-like aura.
- It was a joyous moment for the crew and passengers for being the first to use the city's third major terminal, which is situated between Banaswadi and Baiyyappanahalli in the city

8. ASIA'S 'LONGEST-TUSKED' ELEPHANT BHOGESHWARA DIES OF NATURAL CAUSES



- Bhogeshwara, reportedly the elephant with the longest tusks in Asia, died of natural causes at the age of 60, according to officials.
- The wild elephant, also known as Mr Kabini, was found dead in the Gundre range of Karnataka's Bandipur Tiger Reserve on Saturday.
- Bhogeshwar's tusks were 2.54 meters and 2.34 meters long.
- Both the tusks almost touched the ground and watching it roaming in the thick jungle was a visual treat.
- The viscera samples have been sent to the Regional Forensic Science Laboratory of Mysuru. Experts see no foul play and stated that it was a natural death.



By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. 12TH MEETING OF BRICS NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISORS TO BE HELD

TODAY VIRTUALLY



- The 12th meeting of BRICS National Security Advisors (NSA) will be held today.
- Announcing this at a regular press briefing in Beijing on Wednesday, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said that Yang Jiechi, a member of the political bureau of the CPC Central Committee will chair the meeting in Beijing which will be attended by the NSAs of Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa.
- He said that the meeting of BRICS NSAs is an important platform for BRICS countries to enhance political and security cooperation.
- He said, at the upcoming meeting, NSAs of the five BRICS countries will have an in-depth exchange of views, coordinate positions and build consensus on a range of issues including multilateralism and global governance, new threats and challenges in national security and governance in new domains.

2. INDIAN PARA-POWER- LIFTERS MANPREET KAUR AND PARMJEET KUMAR WIN BRONZE MEDALS IN ASIA OCEANIA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS



- Indian para-powerlifters Manpreet Kaur and Parmjeet Kumar have won bronze medals on the opening day of World Para-powerlifting 2022 Asia Oceania Open Championships at Pyeongtaek in South Korea yesterday.
- Manpreet Kaur won the bronze medal in the 41 kg category. She had the best lift of 88 kg and the total lift of 173 kg.
- In men's category, Parmjeet Kumar, also won the bronze medal in 49 kg category.
- He lifted 160 and 163 kilograms in two rounds which were his lifetime best lifts.

3. UNION MINISTERS INAUGURATE SQUASH COURTS AT MAJOR DHYANCHAND STADIUM IN NEW DELHI



- External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur today inaugurated the Squash Courts at the Major Dhyan Chand Stadium in New Delhi.
- These are the first-ever Squash courts opened by the Sports Authority of India in any centre across the country.

- Addressing the event, Dr Jaishankar who is also an avid Squash enthusiast, said, the Ministry of Sports is solely responsible for the entire project and for making the facilities available.
- He said, many sports now are getting recognition and the message sent out by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to inculcate a lifestyle of fitness and give chance to talents, is being resonated everywhere. Dr Jaishankar said, Mr Modi has always stressed on physical fitness, competitiveness and mental strength, which is needed for New India.
- Dr Jaishankar also mentioned that the Government of India will do everything possible to create more such sports facilities in the country.
- The External Affairs Minister said, he started playing Squash at the age of 24 and he is 68 today. He said, all we need is good facilities, good coach and an intention to play.
- Dr Jaishankar said, Khelo India and Fit India is for one and all and this has no age limit.

4. WORLD SEA TURTLE DAY BEING OBSERVED TODAY



- World Sea Turtle Day is observed every year on June 16. This day is celebrated to save this aquatic species from extinction.
- It highlights the importance of sea turtles in the marine system.
- The sea turtles are magnificent creatures that live as the keystone species on the ocean body.
- Not only are sea turtles beautiful animals, but they also show incredible perseverance and resiliency.
- Sea turtles that feed on seagrass and soft corals are heralded as ecosystem engineers.
- Green turtles graze on seagrass, preventing seagrass beds from becoming overgrown and stimulating new growth

5. UNION MINISTER NITIN GADKARI INAUGURATES INDUSTRIAL DECARBONIZATION SUMMIT 2022 IN NEW DELHI



- Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has emphasized on maintaining equilibrium between ecology, environment and development.
- Inaugurating Industrial Decarbonization Summit 2022 in New Delhi today, Mr Gadkari said, in the coming days, we have to strengthen the country's economy and at the same time save the environment.
- He said the government's priority is green hydrogen and by using biotechnology we can increase the productivity of Biomass.
- He said, by using Biomass we can make Bio-ethanol, Bio-LNG and Bio-CNG.

6. RENOWNED CRITIC AND LINGUIST PROFESSOR GOPI CHAND NARANG PASSES AWAY



- One of the most respected Urdu critics, theorists and linguists Professor Gopi Chand Narang has passed away. He was 91. He breathed his last in the United States yesterday.
- A recipient of Padma Bhushan and Sahitya Akademi Awards, Prof. Narang published more than 65 scholarly and critical books on language, literature, poetics and cultural studies in Urdu, Hindi and English.

- He was Professor Emeritus at the University of Delhi and Jamia Millia Islamia.
- He incorporated a range of modern theoretical frameworks, including stylistics, structuralism, post-structuralism and Sanskrit poetics.

7. RAILWAYS FLAGS OFF COUNTRY'S FIRST PRIVATE TRAIN UNDER BHARAT GAURAV SCHEME



- The first train to be operated between Coimbatore and Shirdi by a private operator, under the 'Bharat Gaurav' scheme of the Indian Railways, was flagged off.
- Ministry of Tourism has informed that the first ever Bharat Gaurav Train has been flagged off on Coimbatore north to Sainagar Shirdi route.
- The train will cover several historical destinations on the route while giving the passengers an insight into the cultural heritage of the country.
- Indian Railways had launched the operation of theme-based Bharat Gaurav train in the month of November 2021.
- The objective of this theme is to showcase India's rich cultural heritage and magnificent historical places to the people of India and the world, through Bharat Gaurav Trains.

8. 8. RAMSAY HUNT SYNDROME — THE RARE FACIAL CONDITION AFFECTING JUSTIN BIEBER



- Singer Justin Bieber has revealed he is suffering from a health condition called Ramsay Hunt Syndrome, which has caused full facial paralysis on one side of his face.
- A viral infection, Ramsay Hunt Syndrome is caused by varicella-zoster virus and affects facial nerve near the ear.
- Three different neurological syndromes carry the name of Ramsay Hunt syndrome.
- Their only connection is that they were all first documented by the famous neurologist James Ramsay Hunt (1872–1937).
- A viral infection, Ramsay Hunt Syndrome is caused by varicella-zoster virus and affects facial nerve near the ear and it can also cause facial nerve paresis or paralysis. It is the same virus that causes chickenpox and shingles.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. SHORT-RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILE PRITHVI-II, SUCCESSFULLY TESTED AT CHANDIPUR, ODISHA



- A successful training launch of a Short-Range Ballistic Missile, Prithvi-II was carried out from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur in Odisha last evening.
- The missile is a proven system and is capable of striking targets with a very high degree of precision.
- The user training launch successfully validated all operational and technical parameters of the missile.

2. INDIA LEAPS 6 PLACES ON WORLD COMPETITIVENESS INDEX; NOW AT 37TH POSITION



- India has seen the sharpest growth among the Asian economies, with a six-position jump from 43rd to 37th rank on the annual World Competitiveness Index 2022.
- The Index has been compiled by the Institute for Management Development (IMD). Meanwhile, the top-performing Asian economies are Singapore (3rd), Hong Kong (5th),

Taiwan (7th), China (17th) and Australia (19th).

- India is also a driving force in the global movement to fight climate change and Mr. Modi's pledge of net-zero by 2070 at the COP26 summit in November 2021, sits in harmony with its strength in environment-related technologies in the ranking.
- The top five attractive factors of India's economy for business are – a skilled workforce, cost competitiveness, dynamism of the economy, high educational level and open and positive attitudes.
- Denmark has moved to the top of the 63-nation list from the third position last year, while Switzerland slipped from the top ranking to the second position and Singapore regained the third spot from fifth, a global study showed.
- Others in the top 10 include Sweden at the fourth position, followed by Hong Kong SAR (5th), the Netherlands (6th), Taiwan (7th), Finland (8th), Norway (9th) and the USA (10th).

3. COAI NAMES RELIANCE JIO'S PRAMOD MITTAL AS CHAIRPERSON FOR 2022-23



- Industry body Cellular Operators' Association of India (COAI) named Pramod K Mittal, President of Reliance Jio Infocomm, as the new Chairperson of the association for 2022-23.
- Mittal was previously the Vice-Chairperson of the COAI, whose members include Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and Vodafone Idea (VIL).
- Mittal will replace Ajai Puri as the COAI Chairperson. Mittal comes with a rich experience of 42 years in telecommunications.
- Prior to joining India's leading telecom operator, the Reliance Jio Infocomm President has also served in the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) for over 37 years.
- P Balaji, Chief Regulatory and Corporate Affairs Officer of Vodafone Idea (VIL), will be the Vice-Chairperson of the association for 2022-23.
- Balaji is also the Chairman of Assocham National Digital Communications Council, and

a Member of the National Council of apex industry chambers CII, Ficci, Assocham and All India Management Association.

By Sameer Singhal

4. NOW YOUR NATIVE UPI WILL RUN IN FRANCE ALSO, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PAY WITH RUPAY CARD



- Union Communication Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that UPI and Rupay card services will be available in France soon, giving a huge boost to the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Rupay cards.
- The overseas branch of India's National Payments Corporation (NPCI) has inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with France's Lyra Network for the acceptance of UPI and Rupay in the country.
- So far, countries such as Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, Bhutan, and Nepal have adopted India's UPI payment system.
- The NPCI International is in discussions to expand UPI services in the United States, Europe, and West Asia.
- Indian travelers will be able to make smooth payments throughout their trip to France thanks to an agreement between NPCI International and Lyra Network.

5. KARNATAKA CM BOMMAI ELEVATES FORMER HC JUDGE JUSTICE B S PATIL TO LOKAYUKTA POST



- Former Karnataka High Court judge, Bhimanagouda Sangnagouda Patil was sworn in as the Lokayukta of Karnataka. Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot administered the oath of office to Justice Patil.
- Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, Leader of Opposition Siddaramaiah, ministers in the State Government and legislators attended the programme, and greeted Justice Patil.
- Justice Patil, who served as the Upalokayukta of Karnataka, was elevated to the post of Lokayukta on June 14.
- The post of the head of the anti-corruption ombudsman in Karnataka was vacant after the end of the tenure of Justice P. Vishwanath Shetty in January 2022, served in the post for five years.

6. UNION MINISTER NITIN GADKARI INAUGURATES INDUSTRIAL DECARBONIZATION SUMMIT 2022 IN NEW DELHI



- Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has emphasized on maintaining

equilibrium between ecology, environment and development.

- Inaugurating Industrial Decarbonization Summit 2022 in New Delhi today, Mr Gadkari said, in the coming days, we have to strengthen the country's economy and at the same time save the environment.
- He said the government's priority is green hydrogen and by using biotechnology we can increase the productivity of Biomass.
- He said, by using Biomass we can make Bio-ethanol, Bio-LNG and Bio-CNG.

7. APEDA ORGANIZES EIGHT-DAY LONG MANGO FESTIVAL IN BAHRAIN TO BOOST EXPORT OF MANGOES



- The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has organized an eight-day long mango festival in Bahrain to boost the export of Mangoes.
- 34 varieties of mangoes from eastern states of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Odisha, are being displayed at eight different locations of Bahrain's Al Jazira group supermarket.
- All the varieties of mangoes have been directly procured from farmers and two Farmer Producer Organizations. The mango show will continue till the 20th of this month.
- The mango show in Bahrain is part of APEDA's new initiatives to explore international markets for Indian mangoes under the 'Mango Festival 2022'.
- The mango show in Bahrain is part of APEDA's new initiatives to explore international markets for Indian mangoes under the 'Mango Festival 2022'.

8. BIDEN TO APPOINT ARATI PRABHAKAR AS SCIENCE ADVISER TO POTUS



- US president Joe Biden is expected to name Arati Prabhakar as the head of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).
- She will succeed Eric Lander who left the role nine months after his appointment after he admitted to bullying his staff and creating a hostile work environment during his tenure.
- Once the Senate approves the 63-year-old's appointment, Arati would be the first woman and the first person of color to serve as science adviser to the President of the United States.
- Her role will require advising Biden on how to compete with China, bring forth rules which will protect US-funded academic research from theft and aim to reduce inequality within the research community.

9. JUSTICE RANJANA PRAKASH DESAI SELECTED NEW PCI CHIEF



- Former Supreme Court judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai is believed to have been chosen as the next head of the Press Council of India (PCI).
- Justice Desai recently served as the chairman of the Delimitation Commission on Jammu and Kashmir, which was established to redesign the Union Territory's assembly constituencies.

- Since Justice Chandramauli Kumar Prasad (retd) completed his tenure as PCI chairperson and demitted office in November of last year, the position has been empty.
- The appointment of Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai as PCI chairwoman was accepted by a committee that included Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, and PCI member Prakash Dubey.
- Justice Desai, 72, has also served on the Bombay High Court as a judge.
- The selection of Justice Desai as the PCI chief will be announced in the near future.
- A suggestion for the recruitment of MPs to the panel is also awaited.

By Sameer Singhal

1. ZOMATO AND JIO-BP TIE-UP FOR EV



- Zomato and Jio-bp have entered into an agreement to support Zomato's commitment towards "The Climate Group's EV100 initiative of 100 per cent EV fleet by 2030."
- The collaboration is poised to accelerate EV adoption in the rapidly growing Indian delivery and transportation segment.
- Jio-bp, the fuel and mobility joint venture between Reliance Industries Ltd and bp, will provide EV mobility services to Zomato and access to 'Jio-bp pulse' battery swapping stations for last-mile delivery.
- As per reports, Jio-bp constructed and launched India's two largest EV charging hubs last year.
- The company has been teaming up with construction firms and EV companies to enhance the battery charging ecosystem, as per reports.
- Its pulse mobile app enables customers to find nearby charging stations and charge their EVs

2. INDIAN AMERICAN SOWMYANARAYAN SAMPATH NAMED VERIZON BUSINESS CEO



- According to a Verizon news release, Sowmyanarayan Sampath, an Indian American, will be the new CEO of Verizon Business.
- Sampath joined Verizon in 2014 and will continue in his present role as Chief Revenue Officer for Verizon Business until June 30.
- According to the press release, Sampath has demonstrated strategic planning prowess in several roles during his stint with the organisation.
- Sampath will report directly to Verizon Chairman and CEO Hans Vestberg.
- Sampath has in-depth understanding of Verizon's products and the company's role in supporting enterprise development and global security, according to Vestberg, with more than two decades of experience in key network infrastructure and digital transformation.
- Sampath worked at KPMG and Boston Consulting Group before joining Verizon. He graduated from St. Xavier's College in Kolkata with a bachelor's degree in accounting, a Chartered Accountancy from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, and an MBA from Boston University.

3. JAPAN IS ATTENDING A NATO SUMMIT FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, PROMPTED BY RUSSIA'S INVASION OF UKRAINE



- Japanese Prime Minister, Fumio Kishida will attend this month's NATO summit in Madrid, becoming the country's first leader to join a top meeting of the transatlantic alliance.
- The June 28-30 gathering is seen as a crunch moment for the 30 North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies, four months into Russia's war in Ukraine.
- Japan, a key U.S. ally and not a NATO member, has delivered defensive supplies to Ukraine and imposed tough sanctions on Russia in tandem with the other Group of Seven countries.
- Sweden and Finland, which have applied to join NATO, are sending delegations to the summit, and South Korea's new President Yoon Suk-yeol will also be the first leader from his country to attend.

4. SUSTAINABLE GASTRONOMY DAY 2022



- Every year, the world observes Sustainable Gastronomy Day on 18 June.
- The objective of this day is to recognise the practices associated with sustainable food consumption, especially with the art of collecting and preparing the food we eat.
- To make this day a memorable one, the organisations work in collaboration with global and regional bodies to observe the day.
- Gastronomy is sometimes called the art of food.
- It can also refer to a style of cooking from a particular region.
- In other words, gastronomy often refers to local food and cuisine. Sustainability is the idea that something (e.g. agriculture, fishing or even preparation of food) is done in a way that is not wasteful of our natural resources and can be continued into the future without being detrimental to our environment or health.
- Sustainable gastronomy, therefore, means cuisine that takes into account where the ingredients are from, how the food is grown and how it gets to our markets and eventually to our plates.

5. ICC RETAINS NITIN MENON IN ELITE PANEL, SET FOR MAIDEN NEUTRAL APPEARANCE IN SRI LANKA



- Renowned Indian umpire Nitin Menon has retained his place in the ICC Elite Panel of umpires, making him the only Indian among 11 members.
- The 38-year-old is set to make his debut as a neutral umpire where he will officiate in Sri Lanka later this month.
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) recently gave a one-year extension to Menon who has been a leading umpire over the last three to four years.
- He was promoted to the Elite Panel at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, becoming the third Indian to enter the club after S Venkataraghavan and S Ravi.

- However, he was limited to officiating international matches only within India with the ICC allowing local umpires due to the travel restrictions in place.
- “Menon has got a one-year extension from the International Cricket Council. He has been our leading umpire over the last three to four years.
- You will also see him making his debut as a neutral umpire later this month,” news agency PTI quoted a BCCI official as saying.

6. INDIA IS CHINA’S TOP RICE SUPPLIER DURING JANUARY–AUGUST THIS YEAR



- China has emerged as the largest importer or buyer of broken rice from India.
- China takes over the largest importer of broken rice in India, which were the African countries.
- During the pandemic, China took the lead as the largest importer of broken rice in India.
- 7.7 percent has been imported to China which is 16.34 lakh metric tonnes, and India’s total export is 212.10 Lakh metric tonnes in the year 2021-2022.
- According to the analysis of the trade, out of 16.34 LMT, 96 percent of the rice exported to China was broken rice. China has become the top buyer of broken rice from India.
- The total export for basmati and non-basmati altogether was 212.10 LMT in 2021-2022, which is 19.30 percent higher than the earlier export in 2020-2021 which stood at 177.79 LMT.
- During this time export of broken rice to China from India increased from 3.31 LTM to 16.34 LMT.

7. WORLD'S BIGGEST PLANT DISCOVERED OFF AUSTRALIAN COAST



- The world's largest living plant has been identified in the shallow waters off the coast of Western Australia.
- The sprawling seagrass, a marine flowering plant known as *Posidonia australis*, stretches for more than 112 miles (180 kilometers) in Shark Bay, a wilderness area protected as a World Heritage site.
- Using genetic testing, scientists have determined a large underwater meadow in Western Australia is in fact one plant. It is believed to have spread from a single seed over at least 4,500 years.
- The seagrass covers about 200 sq km.
- The plant is so large because it clones itself, creating genetically identical offshoots.
- This process is a way of reproducing that is rare in the animal kingdom although it happens in certain environmental conditions and occurs more often among some plants, fungi and bacteria.

By Sameer Singhal



CURRENT AFFAIRS

JUNE 2022

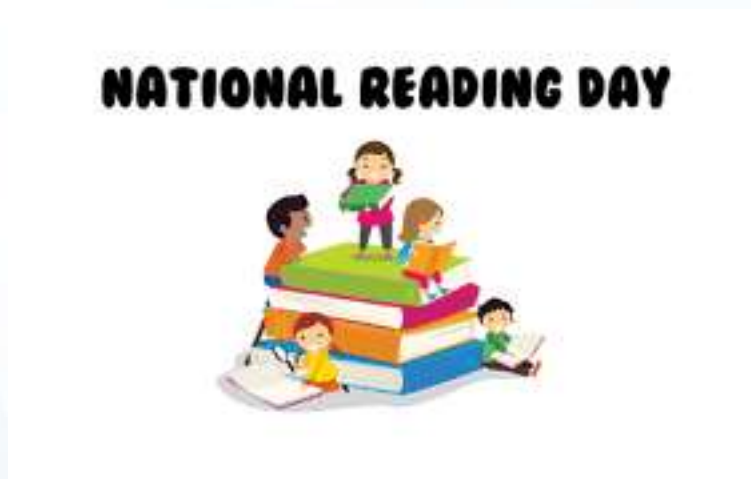
National News

1. CHINA LAUNCHES MOST ADVANCED 3RD AIRCRAFT CARRIER, EYES EXTENDED RANGE INTO INDO-PACIFIC



- China launched its third aircraft carrier named 'Fujian' on Friday, the country's most advanced as well as the first "fully domestically built" naval vessel, as an aggressive Beijing sought to project its naval power in the strategic Indo-Pacific region.
- Official media reported the launching ceremony of ship 'Fujian' was held at the Shanghai's Jiangnan Shipyard.
- Fujian is the name of China's eastern coastal province of Fujian.
- The launch of the ship was delayed by two months due to the COVID lockdown of Shanghai.
- It was due to be launched on April 23 around the 73rd anniversary of the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN). China's first aircraft carrier, the 'Liaoning', was a refit of the Soviet-era ship commissioned in 2012 followed by the indigenously built 2nd aircraft carrier 'Shandong' in 2019.
- Liaoning and Shandong are names of two provinces of China.

2. TODAY IS NATIONAL READING DAY



- Today is the National Reading Day. The day is celebrated in honor of P N Panicker, considered the Father of Kerala's Library and Literacy Movement.
- It also marks the beginning of the month-long Digital Reading celebrations.
- Started as a Reading Day celebration on June 19, 1996, by the Government of Kerala in association with the P N Panicker Foundation, National Reading Day, became a mass movement to promote literacy and the culture of reading in the state.
- In 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the National Reading / Digital Reading Month in Kochi and gave a clarion call to the country's citizens to propagate the message, Read and Grow.

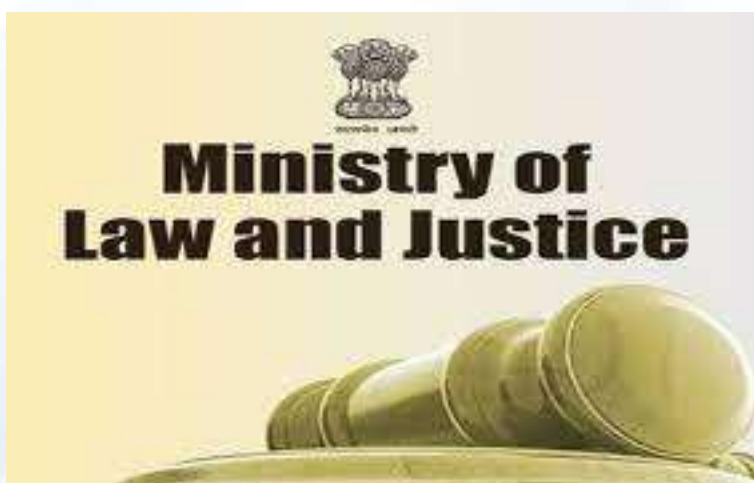
3. GUJARAT BECOMES FIRST STATE IN THE COUNTRY TO LAUNCH BALIKA PANCHAYAT



- Gujarat is the first state in the country to launch Balika Panchayat. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid stress on women- led development instead of women's development. Balika Panchayat is a step in this direction.

- Presently, the girls participating in the Panchayat elections, not only vote for their own leader, they participate in electioneering, highlighting their aspirations and needs clearly.
- For sure, present empowered girls as future women will lead to women-led development not only at grassroots level, but also in nation building.
- Establishment of Balika Panchayat have strengthened girl power in Gujarat.
- It's a replicable model for other states where child marriage is prevalent or girls education is on the decline.
- Balika Panchayat have made girls vocal, which is proven by the Gujarat model.

4. GOVERNMENT CLEARS THE APPOINTMENT OF NEW CHIEF JUSTICES IN 5 HIGH COURTS



- Government has cleared the appointment of new chief justices in five high courts. Law and Justice Ministry has notified the appointment for Uttarakhand, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gauhati.
- Justice Vipin Sanghi of the Delhi High Court will be appointed as the Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court, while Justice Ujjal Bhuyan of Telangana High Court to Chief Justice of Telangana High Court.
- Justice Amjad Ahtesham Sayed of the Bombay High Court will take over as the Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court and Justice Shinde Sambhaji Shiwaji of Bombay High Court has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court.
- Justice Rashmin M Chhaya of the Gujarat High Court has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court.
- The Ministry said, Telangana High Court Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma has been appointed to the Delhi High Court.

5. INDIA-BANGLADESH HOLDS 7TH ROUND OF JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION IN NEW DELHI



- The seventh round of the India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Commission was held in New Delhi yesterday.
- It was co-chaired by External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar and his Bangladesh counterpart Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen.
- The Ministers welcomed the further strengthening of bilateral ties with the unprecedented visits by both the President and the Prime Minister of India to Bangladesh last year.
- The visits were made to commemorate three epochal events - the birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the fiftieth anniversary of the independence of Bangladesh and the golden anniversary of India-Bangladesh diplomatic ties.
- The Ministers appreciated that the trust and mutual respect shared between the two countries has only strengthened in the last decade.
- A recent testimony of this was the launch of the trailer of 'Mujib - making of a nation' at the Cannes Film Festival in May this year. It was jointly produced biopic on Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

6. WOMEN SOLDIERS PARTICIPATE IN 4-DAY 'WOMEN PEACE AND SECURITY' SEMINAR IN MONGOLIA



- Women soldiers of the Indian Army participated in the four-day 'Women Peace and Security' Seminar at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- The four-day event kicked off on Thursday and is being held under the auspices of Mongolian President Ukhnaa Khurelsukh.
- Mongolian President said that the country will bolster the participation of women in the United Nations peacekeeping operations. Khurelsukh made the remarks during the opening ceremony of an international conference of female peacekeepers under the theme of "Women, Peace, and Security" in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- This year marks the 20th anniversary of the first deployment of Mongolian peacekeepers to UN peacekeeping operations.
- The Union Law and Justice Minister Kiren Rijiju interacted with the Indian diaspora.

7. INDIA, EU TO RE-LAUNCH NEGOTIATIONS FOR FREE TRADE AGREEMENT AFTER NINE YEAR LULL



- After a nine year lull, India and European Union are to re-launch negotiations for India-

EU Free Trade Agreement.

- Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission have also announced the launch of negotiations for an Investment Protection Agreement and a Geographical Indicators (GI) Agreement at a joint event at the EU headquarters at Brussels.
- Among the most significant FTAs for India as EU is its 2nd largest trading partner, India-EU merchandise trade. registered an all-time high value of 116.36 Billion US dollars in 2021-22 with a year-on growth of 43.5 per cent.
- The Delhi visit of the European Commission President Ms. Ursula von der Leyen in April this year and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Europe accelerated the FTA discussions and helped in defining a clear roadmap for the negotiations.

8. EDUCATION MINISTER DHARMENDRA PRADHAN INAUGURATES NATIONAL YOGA OLYMPIAD 2022



- Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan today inaugurated National Yoga Olympiad - 2022 and quiz competition in New Delhi.
- The National Yoga Olympiad is being organised jointly by the Ministry of Education and the National Council of Educational Research and Training from today till the 20th of this month.
- This year about six hundred students from 26 states and UTs and Demonstration Multipurpose Schools of Regional Institutions of Education will be participating in the forthcoming National Yoga Olympiad.
- Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Pradhan highlighted that to encourage healthier choices and bring people closer, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has suitably chosen this year's theme as Yoga For Humanity.
- The Minister said, Yoga is uniting the world in the pursuit of good health and wellness.

9. PM RELEASES RAM BAHADUR RAI'S BOOK 'BHARTIYA SAMVIDHAN: ANKAHI KAHANI'



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said, the constitution is not just a book but an idea, a commitment and a belief in freedom.
- He said, synergy of rights and duties make our constitution so special. The Prime Minister released Ram Bahadur Rai's book 'Bhartiya Samvidhan: Ankahi Kahani' and addressed the event through a video message yesterday.
- He said that from the formation of the Constituent Assembly to its debates, from the adoption of the Constitution to its present stage, we have consistently seen a dynamic and progressive constitution. He noted that it was on 18 June that the President Rajendra Prasad signed the first amendment of the constitution.
- He said it marks the first day of the democratic dynamism of the Constitution, which is our biggest strength. Mr Modi said, we have argued, raised questions, debated and made changes.
- He expressed confidence that this will continue in our masses and in the minds of the people.
- The Prime Minister also emphasized the need for widespread awareness about the constitution. Dwelling upon the living nature of the constitution the Prime Minister elaborated India has by nature been a free-thinking country and inertia is not part of our basic nature. free-thinking country and inertia is not part of our basic nature.

10. RETIRED SUPREME COURT JUDGE RANJANA PRAKASH DESAI BECOMES FIRST WOMEN CHAIRPERSON OF PRESS COUNCIL OF INDIA



- Retired judge of the Supreme Court, Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai has been appointed as the chairperson of the Press Council of India. Justice Desai is the first lady chairperson of the council.
- Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai had recently headed the Delimitation Commission on Jammu and Kashmir which was set up to redraw the assembly constituencies of the Union Territory

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA BEING CELEBRATED ACROSS THE WORLD TODAY



- The 8th edition of International Day of Yoga is being celebrated today. Prime Minister

Narendra Modi will lead the mass Yoga demonstration at Mysuru in Karnataka.

- Over 15 thousand participants are expected to do yoga along with the Prime Minister.
- Crores of people will participate in various International Day of Yoga programs being organized in India and the world.
- The theme of this year's International Day of Yoga is 'Yoga for Humanity'.
- As the International Day of Yoga is falling in the year of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', Yoga Day is being celebrated in 75 iconic places across the country.
- As part of the Guardian Ring initiative, the movement of the Sun from east to west will be celebrated through Yoga.
- Indian Missions in different countries will organise Yoga programmes at sunrise according to the local time there.

2. NEW ADVANCED LIGHT HELICOPTER SQUADRON 840 CG INDUCTED IN INDIAN COAST GUARD



- In the Indian Coast Guard, a new air squadron was created in Chennai yesterday by the name 840 Squadron, initially with an Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mark-III aircraft.
- The aircraft was received with the traditional water cannon salute, in presence of Inspector General AP Badola, Commander of the eastern Coast Guard Region.
- This is the first such aircraft to be positioned by the defence force in the eastern region.
- Three more ALH aircraft will be added in the inventory of the new Squadron shortly, says the Coast Guard.
- The aircraft are having Beyond the Visual Range detection, using modern radars.
- It is equipped for target neutralisation operations, using its mounted Heavy Machine Gun.

3. AGNIVEERS: INDIAN ARMY ISSUES NOTIFICATION, REGISTRATIONS FROM JULY



- The Indian Army today issued notification for the recruitment for Agniveers under the newly launched Agnipath scheme.
- The registrations will be opened from July onwards by the respective Army Recruitment Offices (ARO) for various trades.
- Registrations can be done through Indian Army's website joinindianarmy.nic.in
- In the notification, Indian Army said, personnel enrolled through Agniveers scheme will be required to undergo periodical medical check-ups and physical, written and field tests.
- The performance would be considered for subsequent offer for enrolment in the regular cadre. It has been stated in the notification that Agniveers can be posted to any regiment and can be further transferred in organisational interest and all agniveers will be discharged on completion of four years of service.
- Based on organizational requirement and policies, Agniveers who are completing their engagement period in each batch will be offered an opportunity to apply for enrolment in the regular cadre of Indian Army.
- It has been clearly stated that not more than 25 per cent of each specific batch of Agniveers will be enrolled in regular cadre of the Indian Army post completion of four years' engagement period.
- Agniveers enrolled as regular cadre would be required to serve for a further engagement period of 15 years in the Indian Army.

4. WORLD REFUGEE DAY OBSERVED WITH THE THEME 'RIGHT TO SEEK SAFETY'



- Today is World Refugee Day. It is observed every year on 20th of June, to honour refugees around the globe and to spread awareness and sensitivity towards millions of people who have been displaced due to war, persecution, political turmoil or violence.
- The theme set by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for this year is 'Right to Seek Safety'.
- we have a report --
- Every minute 20 people leave everything behind to escape war, persecution or terror. There are several types of forcibly displaced persons.
- According to the United Nations report, more than 100 million people have been forced to flee their homes so far due to various reasons including violence, disasters and war, among other reasons.

5. TODAY IS NATIONAL READING DAY

NATIONAL READING DAY



- Today is the National Reading Day. The day is celebrated in honour of P N Panicker, considered the Father of Kerala's Library and Literacy Movement.

- It also marks the beginning of the month-long Digital Reading celebrations.
- Started as a Reading Day celebration on June 19, 1996, by the Government of Kerala in association with the P N Panicker Foundation, National Reading Day, became a mass movement to promote literacy and the culture of reading in the state.
- In 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the National Reading / Digital Reading Month in Kochi and gave a clarion call to the country's citizens to propagate the message, Read and Grow.
- Several programmes are envisaged for the month-long celebrations by the union and state governments, NITI Ayog, National Digital Library of India in association with the PN Panicker Foundation and various other stakeholders.

6. THE TOP 20 BEST AIRPORTS IN THE WORLD ACCORDING TO PASSENGERS



- Qatar's Hamad International Airport has been named the World's Best Airport for the second year running.
- The announcement took place at the Skytrax 2022 World Airport Awards, held at Passenger Terminal EXPO in Paris, France.
- Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru (BLR Airport) was named the finest regional airport in India and South Asia. Customers voted for the airport with the greatest customer service every year in a global study, and BLR Airport received this honor.
- Singapore Changi Airport (World's Best Airport Staff Service and World's Best Airport Dining). Istanbul Airport (World's Best Airport Shopping and Most Family-Friendly Airport).
- Tokyo Haneda Airport won awards as the World's Cleanest Airport, the World's Best Domestic Airport, the Best Airport in Asia, and the Best Airport PRM & Accessible Facilities.
- King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh secured the award as the World's Most Improved Airport.

7. WORLD CUP 2026 HOST CITIES REVEALED, WITH 11 VENUES IN U.S., 3 IN MEXICO AND 2 IN CANADA



- Matches for the 2026 World Cup will be held in 11 US cities as well as three host sites in Mexico and two in Canada, soccer's world governing body, FIFA, announced.
- The 16 host cities will be: Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Guadalajara, Houston, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Mexico City, Miami, Monterrey, New York/New Jersey, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, Toronto and Vancouver.
- It will also be the first time that 48 teams will feature in the tournament, an increase from the 32 that will contest in FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 from November 21 – December 18.
- 60 matches will take place in the US, including all matches from the quarter-finals onward, while Canada and Mexico will host 10 games each.
- Mexico also hosted the FIFA World Cup in 1970 and 1986.

8. LIC INTRODUCES 'DHAN SANCHAY' SAVINGS LIFE INSURANCE PLAN; DETAILS HERE



- The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has introduced Dhan Sanchay, a non-linked, non-participating individual savings life insurance plan that offers both protection

and savings.

- This plan provides financial support to the family if the life assured dies prematurely during the policy's term.
- According to a LIC press release, it also provides a guaranteed income stream from the date of maturity to the conclusion of the payout period
- The first two alternatives require a minimum Sum Assured of Rs.3,30,000/-, the third option requires a minimum Sum Assured of Rs.2,50,000, and the fourth option requires a minimum Sum Assured of Rs.22,00,000.
- There are no limitations on the maximum Premium. The minimum age for entrance varies depending on the Policy term selected.
- The death benefit payable on the death of a Life Assured during the policy term after the date of starting of risk but before the stipulated date of maturity is known as the Sum Assured on Death.
- According to the Policyholder's/Life Assured's option, the Death Benefit will be paid in a lump sum or in instalments over a 5-year term. After the Death Benefit is paid, the policy will expire, and no further payments will be paid.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. WORLD MUSIC DAY CELEBRATED



- 21st June is World Music Day. It is an annual celebration observed around the world.
- It is a day to encourage young and amateur musicians to perform.
- More than 120 countries including India, Italy, Greece, Russia, Australia, Brazil, Canada, the United States commemorate this day as people organise free public concerts in parks, stadiums and public places, mostly for music lovers and learners. This year's theme for

World Music Day is 'Music on the inter-sections'.

- World Music Day was started to make music more relatable and consumable for the young generation.
- On this day, also known as Music Day or Make Music Day, anyone can play their favourite instruments for enjoyment and relaxation.
- Back in 1982, Jack Lange and Maurice Fleuret organized a concert on 21st of June in the public spaces of Paris in the presence of both professional and amateur musicians from the different corners of France.

2. INDIAN WOMEN'S WRESTLING TEAM WINS UNDER-17 ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIP WITH TOTAL OF EIGHT GOLD IN KYRGYZSTAN



- Indian women's Wrestling team has won five medals to claim Under-17 Asian Championship title with a total of eight gold at Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- India lifted the title with a total of 235 points from eight golds, one silver and one bronze.
- Japan had to be content with the runners-up trophy with 143 points and Mongolia finished third with 138 points.
- Bouts in 5 weight categories of women wrestling were held. Indian women including Ritika won gold in 43 kilogram, Ahilaya Shinde got gold in 49 kilogram, Siksha lifted gold medal in 57 kilogram, Priya received gold in 73 kilogram while Pulkit secured a Silver medal in 65 kilogram.

3. ONE NATION, ONE RATION CARD SCHEME BECOMES OPERATIONAL IN ENTIRE COUNTRY WITH ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN ASSAM



- Assam has become the 36th State to implement One Nation One Ration Card scheme. With this, One Nation One Ration Card scheme is successfully implemented in all the 36 states and Union Territories making food security portable throughout the country.
- This scheme is aimed at enabling migrant workers and their family members to seamlessly lift their entitled subsidized foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop of their choice anywhere in the country.
- One Nation One Ration Card scheme has significantly contributed in ensuring subsidized foodgrains to beneficiaries especially migrant beneficiaries during the Covid pandemic.
- Within a short-span of time, it covered 80 crore beneficiaries. Since its inception in August 2019, about 71 crore portable transactions have taken place under this scheme, delivering foodgrains equivalent to 40 thousand crore rupees as a food subsidy.

4. RUCHIRA KAMBOJ APPOINTED NEXT PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDIA TO THE UN



- Senior Diplomat Ruchira Kamboj has been appointed as the next Ambassador and

Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations.

- A 1987 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, Ruchira Kamboj is presently serving as Ambassador of India to Bhutan.
- She will succeed TS Tirumurti as the Indian ambassador to the United Nation. Ministry of External Affairs said, Ruchira Kamboj is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

5. FORMER JHARKHAND GOVERNOR DRAUPADI MURMU TO BE BJP-LED NDA CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENTIAL POLLS; OPPOSITION TO FIELD YASHWANT SINHA



- Former Jharkhand Governor Draupadi Murmu will be BJP-led NDA candidate for the Presidential polls.
- Briefing media after the BJP Parliamentary Board meeting in New Delhi, party Chief JP Nadda said, for the first time, preference has been given to a woman tribal candidate.
- BJP Parliamentary Board discussed 20 names for presidential nominee and it was decided to pick someone from east India, a tribal and woman.
- Mr Nadda said that Union Minister Rajnath Singh spoke to the constituents of the UPA but there was no consensus on the name.
- Ms Murmu said she is surprised to learn about her candidature and is unable to believe it.
- She noted that she will work according to the powers of the President enshrined in the constitution.
- The former Jharkhand Governor said she will reach out to members of the electoral college for their support.
- The voting for presidential elections will be held on 18th of next month.

6. CULTURE MINISTER G KISHAN REDDY INAUGURATES 'JYOTIRGAMAYA' FESTIVAL SHOWCASING TALENT OF UNSUNG PERFORMERS IN NEW DELHI



- Union Culture Minister G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated Jyotirgamaya - a festival showcasing the talent of unsung performers in New Delhi.
- As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and on the occasion of World Music Day yesterday, Sangeet Natak Akademi has organized this festival to showcase the talent of rare musical instruments from across the country, including street performers and train entertainers.
- Speaking on the occasion, Mr Reddy said that music is universal language and Indian music, like its culture, is very diverse.
- He said, in Indian culture music is integrated in every aspect of life.
- The Minister added that preservation of folk music and their instruments should be a top priority and this event will take it further.

7. PM TO ATTEND 14TH BRICS SUMMIT HOSTED BY CHINA ON JUNE 23 & 24



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the 14th BRICS Summit hosted by China on 23rd and 24th of this month.
- The Summit will be held in virtual format under the theme of Foster High-quality BRICS

Partnership, Usher in a New Era for Global Development.

- External Affairs Ministry said, BRICS has become a platform for discussing and deliberating on issues of common concern for all developing countries.
- During the 14th BRICS Summit, deliberations are expected to be held in areas like terrorism, trade, health, traditional medicine, environment, Science & Technology, innovation, agriculture, technical and vocational education & training and Micro Small and Medium Enterprises.
- Discussions are also likely to be held on issues like reform of the multilateral system, combating COVID-19 pandemic and global economic recovery.

8. SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BEING BANNED IN INDIA FROM JULY 1



- ‘Single-Use Plastic’ use to be outflow from July 1st, 2022 by the Union government.
- Single-use plastics, particularly those made of polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, will be illegal to produce, import, stock, distribute, sell, and use starting on July 1, 2022, nationwide.
- A national task group has also been established by the Environment Ministry to make coordinated efforts in this area.
- According to a response submitted by Minister of State for Environment Ashwini Choubey in Parliament, fourteen states and UTs have joined the special task force by July 23.
- The Delhi Environment Department will also launch a campaign on July 1 to guarantee compliance with the ban on 19 single-use plastics in the national capital, and any producers, suppliers, stockists, dealers, or sellers found in violation of the restrictions would be shut down.
- Earbuds, plastic balloon sticks, flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene (thermocool), plates, cups, glasses, forks, spoons, knives, straws, trays, wrapping or packaging films around sweets boxes, invitation cards, cigarette packets, plastic or PVC banners less than 100 micron, and banners made of less than 100 micron thick are among the 19 items identified as SUP

9. SHANAN DHAKA, AIR 1 OF THE FIRST WOMEN'S NDA BATCH



- Shanana Dhaka, daughter of Sundana village of Rohtak, has secured the first rank in the examination for admission to the country's first women's NDA batch.
- Shanana has secured 10th position in Boys' examination and first position in Girls' examination across the country.
- Selected for lieutenant, Shanana Dhaka, inspired by grandfather Subedar Chandrabhan Dhaka and father Nayak Subedar Vijay Kumar Dhaka, joined the army and chose to serve the country.
- The daughter has fulfilled her dream by passing the NDA exam in the first attempt itself. Shanana's father Vijay Kumar told that he has been living in Chandigarh for five years.
- Being in the army, Shanana was educated in army schools from the very beginning.
- Shanana attended Army School, Roorkee for four years, Jaipur for three years and Army School in Chandimandir for five years. Shanana had enrolled for an undergraduate course at Delhi University last year.

10. MUKHYAMANTRI MATRUSHAKTI YOJANA LAUNCHED



- Today Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in Gujarat Gaurav Abhiyan at Vadodara. There he inaugurated and lead the foundation stone for the development

projects worth rupees 21000 crores.

- The chief Minister Sri Bhupendra Bhai Patel, Union and State ministers, people's representatives, and other eminent personalities were also present on the occasion.
- Prime Minister Modi facilitated the Abhiyan by saying that for him it is a day of Matru Vandana or mother worship.
- He said that he started his day by seeking blessings from his mother who entered her 100 years today and after that, he inaugurated the temple of Shri Kalika Mata at Pavagadh hill which is redeveloped.
- Where he also prayed for the country and ask the goddess for the betterment of the country, he then bowed to the Matru Shakti present on the occasion.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. RANJI TROPHY FINAL BETWEEN MUMBAI AND MADHYA PRADESH UNDERWAY



- In the Ranji Trophy Final, Mumbai were 351 for 8 against Madhya Pradesh at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru when the reports last came in.
- On Day 2, Mumbai resumed their first innings at overnight score of 248 runs for the loss of five wickets.
- Sarfaraz Khan on 119 and Tushar Deshpande on 6 were at the crease. Yashasvi Jaiswal made 78 runs.
- For Madhya Pradesh, Gaurav Yadav, Saransh Jain and Anubhav Agarwal took two wickets each.

2. INDIAN OIL DEVELOPS SURYA NUTAN- AN INDOOR SOLAR COOKING SYSTEM



- Indian Oil has developed an indoor solar cooking system - Surya Nutan.
- It collects energy from sun and converts the sun energy into heat through a specially designed heating element.
- The product is rechargeable and suitable for four persons. While observing the demonstration of the system Surya Nutan in New Delhi today, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said, it is a revolutionary step.
- He said, the system has been installed at 60 locations for its testing.
- Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Giriraj Singh and Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Kaushal Kishore were also present on the occasion.

3. ISRO SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHES INDIA'S COMMUNICATION SATELLITE GSAT-24 FROM KOUROU IN FRENCH GUIANA



- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has successfully launched communication satellite GSAT-24 from Kourou in French Guiana early this morning.
- GSAT-24, built by ISRO for NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), was launched by French company Arianespace.

- GSAT-24 is a 24-Ku band communication satellite weighing 4180 kg with pan-India coverage for meeting DTH application needs.
- It was the first demand driven communication satellite mission undertaken by NSIL post space sector reforms.
- NSIL, a Government of India company under the Department of Space, has leased the entire satellite capacity to Tata Play.

4. DEADLIEST EARTHQUAKE IN DECADES CLAIMS OVER 1,000 LIVES IN AFGHANISTAN



- The Taliban in Afghanistan have appealed for international support, as the country deals with the aftermath of a devastating 6.1 magnitude earthquake.
- More than 1,000 people have died and at least 1,500 were injured.
- Paktika province in the south-east has been the most affected.
- The UN is scrambling to provide emergency shelter and food aid. The rescue efforts are being hampered by heavy rain and hail.
- The deadliest earthquake to strike the country in two decades is a major challenge for the Taliban, which regained power last year.
- The earthquake struck about 44 km from the city of Khost yesterday and tremors were felt as far away as Pakistan and India.
- Witnesses reported feeling the quake in both Afghanistan's capital, Kabul, and Pakistan's capital, Islamabad.

5. LISA STHALEKAR BECOMES FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF FICA



- Former Australia cricketer Lisa Sthalekar has become the first female president of Federation of International Cricketers' Association (FICA), the sport's international player's association.
- Her appointment was made at a meeting of the organisation's executive committee in Switzerland, the first in-person meeting since the start of the Covid pandemic.
- Sthalekar played 8 Tests, 125 ODIs and 54 T20Is for Australia between 2001 and 2013, finishing her career with a World Cup win.
- Last year, she was inducted into the Australian cricket hall of fame and has been a regular member of the broadcasting media around the world.
- She has also worked with the Australian Cricketers' Association and has experience in player welfare.

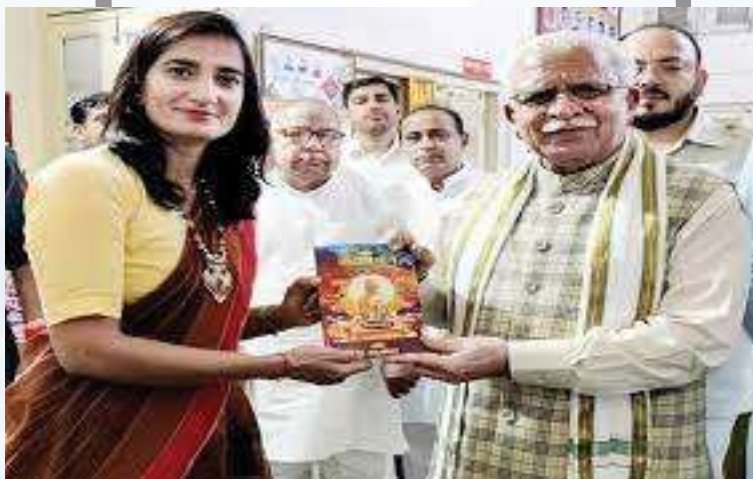
6. 1ST INDIAN MOUNTAINEER TO CLIMB 2 PEAKS WITHOUT SUPPLEMENTAL OXYGEN



- Skalzang Rigzin, the first Indian Mountaineer to climb Mount Annapurna peak without supplemental Oxygen, received a warm welcome in Leh.

- Fellow mountaineers received him at the Leh Airport on arrival after the successful summit of two mountains Annapurna and Lhotse, in Nepal.
- With 16 days of gap between climb of Mt Annapurna on April 28 and Mt Lhotse on May 14, Skalzang Rigzin has set a record to summit two peaks without oxygen supplements.
- The 41 year old Skalzang Rigzin has 23 years of experience in guiding adventure tourists in mountaineering in Ladakh.
- Mt Annapurna is one of the most difficult among the 8000 meters height peaks in the world and is also known as the Killer Mountain due to its fatality to summit rate.
- Skalzang Rigzin said, a fellow Mountaineer and Founder of Boots and Crampons Bharath Thammineni supported the expedition of Mt Annapurna, while Nepal-based Peak Promotion Company helped in climbing the Mt. Lhotse, which is close to Mt Everest.

7. HARYANA CM RELEASES A BOOK 'ASHTANG YOGA' BY DR SONU PHOGAT



- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal today on the eve of 8th International Yoga Day released a book titled Ashtang Yoga authored by Dr Sonu Phogat.
- Speaking on this occasion Haryana CM said that this year the theme of the International Yoga Day (IYD) is Yoga for Humanity. He said that on IYD various programmes are being organised in Haryana.
- He said that every person should have a resolution for Yoga and he has to connect himself with the resolution.
- He said that the Mantra of Yog to Sehyog will show us a new way to the future.
- Appreciating the efforts of writer Dr Sonu Phogat, it is a matter of pride that the book on Yoga was released on the eve of International Yoga Day.

8. PHONEPE TO OFFER VEHICLE COVER FROM KOTAK GENERAL INSURANCE



- Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited (Kotak General Insurance) announced that it has partnered with PhonePe Insurance Broking Services Pvt. Ltd (PhonePe), a digital payments platform, to offer motor insurance to PhonePe's 380 million users, placing a significant bet on the digital distribution and direct-to-customer space.
- Kotak General Insurance will provide its clients quick and easy vehicle and two-wheeler insurance policies via PhonePe.
- Through this partnership, PhonePe users will be able to quickly and easily purchase automobile and two-wheeler insurance online from the convenience of their smartphones.
- The relationship with PhonePe will enable to connect and engage with customers who are digital natives and seeking convenience.
- Kotak General Insurance, made it a mission to serve customers with straightforward and simple-to-understand solutions.

9. INDIA ADDED 3RD HIGHEST RENEWABLE POWER CAPACITY IN 2021 AFTER CHINA, US



- The REN21's renewables 2022 global status report noted that with this growth, India is now the third-largest market in the world for new solar photovoltaics (PV) capacity and

ranked fourth in the world for total solar energy installations (60.4 GW) by overtaking Germany at 59.2 GW and following China (305.9 GW), US (121.4 GW) and Japan (78 GW).

- The largest energy crisis in modern history started in the second half of 2021, and it was made worse by the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine in early 2022 and an unprecedented global commodities shock.
- The research states that India increased its hydroelectric capacity by 843 MW in 2021, bringing the total to 45.3 GW.
- India was the third-largest market globally and the second-largest market in Asia for new solar PV capacity (13 GW of additions in 2021).
- In terms of overall installations, it came in at number four (60.4 GW), passing Germany (59.2 GW) for the first time.
- India was in third place overall for installed wind power (40.1 GW), trailing only China, the US, and Germany.

PLUTUS
Academy
National News

By Sameer Singhal

1. 26TH SINDHU DARSHAN INAUGURATED



- In Ladakh, the 26th Sindhu Darshan Yatra is inaugurated on Friday. The 4-day yatra was inaugurated at Sindhu Ghat near Shey village in Leh this morning.
- Jagadguru Shankaracharya of Bhadrিকা Ashram of Joshi Math, Shri Shri 1008 Vasudevand Ji will be chief guest at the opening of 26th Sindhu Darshan.
- Yesterday, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) leader Indresh Kumar welcomed hundreds of yatis from differently parts of the country at an event in Leh.
- Postal Department will release a special commemorative stamp depicting Buddhism, Himalayas and Sindhu river today.

2. BUNDI CELEBRATES ITS 781ST FOUNDATION DAY



- In Rajasthan, the historical city of Bundi, popularly known as Choti Kashi, celebrated its 781st Foundation Day on Friday.
- “Puja Archana” was offered at Garh Ganesh and the music band was played.
- The programme started with Shehnai Vadan at Nagar Sagar Kund.
- A variety of cultural programmes will be held in the evening.

3. US SENATE PASSES GUN CONTROL BILL



- In US, the Senate has passed a Gun Control Bill, which is being considered the most significant firearms legislation in nearly 30 years.
- Fifteen Republicans joined Democrats in the Upper House of Congress to approve the measure by 65 votes to 33. The bill will have to be passed in the House of Representatives.
- The bill is also significant because it is the first time in decades that proposed reforms have received this level of support from both Democrats and Republicans.
- It follows mass shootings last month at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York and a primary school in Uvalde, Texas that left a combined 31 people dead.
- Meanwhile, the National Rifle Association (NRA) has opposed the bill and argued that it will not stop the violence.

4. WORLD OLYMPIC DAY CELEBRATIONS HELD IN MANIPUR



- In Manipur, Olympic Day Run, 2022 was held in Imphal as part of World Olympic Day celebrations which is observed on 23rd June, every year. Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh flagged off the Olympic Day Run, 2022.
- The Olympic Day is observed in the State with the motto to stand together for a peaceful Manipur as games and sports had always played an important role in maintaining peace and promoting brotherhood in the State.
- Speaking on the occasion, Biren Singh said that games and sports had always contributed a lot towards bringing a healthy and disciplined society.
- He said that the sporting spirit of the State had helped to overcome the high rate of HIV infection in Manipur.
- He also assured that the State Government would provide all possible support for development of games and sports in Manipur.
- The Chief Minister informed that the Government is planning to organise Chief Minister's Annual Sagol Kangjei (Polo) Championship and it would be of much support to Sagol

Kangjei players and pony breeders.

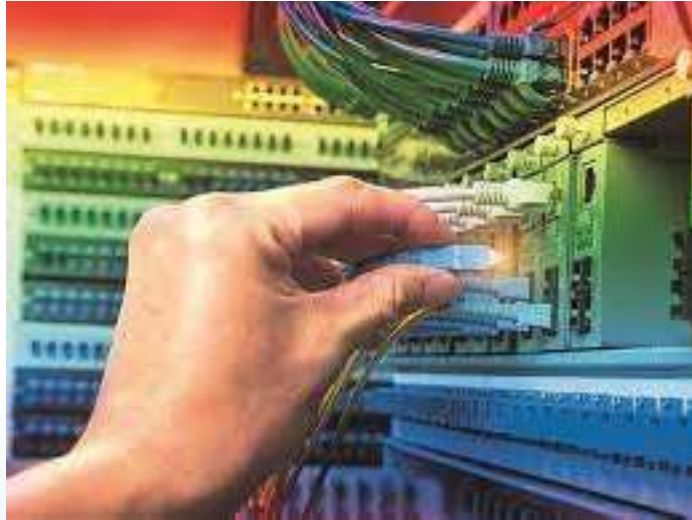
- He further informed that the Government would also take steps to construct grounds in all 16 districts under Khelo India.

5. ORACLE INTRODUCED OCI DEDICATED REGION FOR INDIAN MARKET



- US-based technology major Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI), Oracle's cloud services platform, has introduced the 'OCI dedicated region' for the Indian market.
- It will enable customers to leverage public cloud services on their premises while meeting strict latency, data residency, and data sovereignty requirements.
- According to the company, the OCI dedicated region requires 60-75 per cent less data centre space and power on average, with a significantly lower entry price of around \$1 million a year for a typical customer.
- The new offering will allow Oracle to deliver over 100 OCI public cloud services to customers within their premises, which were earlier available only to public cloud consumers.
- It will also help boost the adoption of public cloud in the public sector, banking and other sectors that were so far restricted to do so due to regulatory and other requirements.

6. OOKLA SPEEDTEST GLOBAL INDEX: INDIA RANKED 115TH



- The Speedtest Global Index released by network intelligence and connectivity insights provider Ookla showed that India recorded 14.28 Mbps median mobile download speeds in the month of May, slightly better than 14.19 Mbps in April 2022.
- With this, the country is now three notches up in its global ranking and is at 115th position.
- India also improved its global ranking for overall fixed median download speeds, from 76th in April to 75th in May, according to network intelligence and connectivity leader Ookla.
- In April, India had dropped four spots in rank globally for overall median fixed broadband speeds — from 72nd to 76th spot.

7. JAMMU AND KASHMIR TO HOST G-20 MEETINGS IN 2023



- Jammu and Kashmir will host the 2023 meetings of the G20, an influential group of the world's major economies.
- J&K government has set up a five-member high-level committee for overall coordination

of G20 meetings to be held in the Union Territory.

- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal was appointed as India's Sherpa for the G20 in September 2021.
- According to the Ministry of External Affairs, India will hold the G-20 presidency from December 1, 2022, and convene the first G20 leaders' summit in 2023.
- India's representation at G20 summits has been led by Prime Minister Modi since 2014.
- The G20 countries include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United States and the United Kingdom.

8. UNION MINISTER UNVEILED SEISMOLOGY OBSERVATORY IN UDHAMPUR



- In Jammu and Kashmir, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh today inaugurated the Seismology Observatory in Dandayal area Udhampur district today.
- The third such Centre in J&K has been set up by the Ministry of Earth Sciences at a cost of 20 lakh rupees.
- A complete seismic record of Udhampur, Doda, Kishtwar, Ramban and many other districts will be prepared at the observatory.
- Dr Jitendra Singh said that 152 Earthquake observatories are being established by the central government including three more in the Kashmir division in the next four months.

By Sameer Singhal

1. SHYAM SARAN TO TAKE OVER AS INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTER PRESIDENT



- India International Centre's President is now former foreign secretary and Prime Minister's Special Envoy for Nuclear Affairs and Climate Change Shyam Saran.
- After leaving the administration in 2010, he served as chairman of the National Security Advisory Board under the National Security Council and served as the director of the Research and Information System for Developing Countries, a renowned think tank specialising in economic issues, from 2011 to 2017.
- He is a member of the governing boards of the Institute of Chinese Studies and the Centre for Policy Research.
- How India Sees the World, his debut book, was released in 2017.
- His second book, How China Sees India and the World, was just released. For his achievements to the civil service, Saran received the Padma Bhushan in 2011, the third-highest civilian honour.
- He received the Spring Order Gold and Silver Star in May 2019 from the Emperor of Japan for fostering ties between India and Japan.

2. CHENNAI-BASED DRONE STARTUP TO SET UP PLANT IN MALAYSIA



- Garuda Aerospace Pvt. Ltd., an integrated drone manufacturer and drone-as-a-service

(DAAS) provider based in India, would invest Rs 115 crore in the construction of a production facility in Malaysia.

- The decision is made to establish a drone manufacturing plant in Malaysia, with a daily production capacity of around 50 drones. The components would be imported from India and other nations.
- The city-based business has partnered with HiiLSE Global Sdn Bhd (HiiLSE Drones), a Malaysian drone start-up.
- This alliance will establish a drone ecosystem with cutting-edge artificial intelligence, machine learning, and deep learning technology.
- The partnership is not a joint venture in which the equity capital is shared by two entities.
- The Malaysian firm will make it possible for Garuda Aerospace to establish the factory and other commercial opportunities.
- Garuda Aerospace would conclude in July after raising USD 30 million.

3. US SUPREME COURT OVERRULES WOMEN'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO ABORTION



- US Supreme Court has overturned a 50-year-old ruling that recognised a woman's constitutional right to an abortion.
- Supreme Court, in a 6-3 majority ruling, upheld a Republican-backed Mississippi law that bans abortion after 15 weeks.
- The judgement will transform abortion rights in America, with individual states now able to ban the procedure.
- Half of US states are expected to introduce new restrictions or bans.
- 13 have already passed trigger laws to automatically outlaw abortion following the Supreme Court's ruling.
- President Joe Biden has slammed the US Supreme Court for ending the right to abortion, accusing it of putting women's lives at risk in the name of an extreme ideology.
- In a White House speech, President Biden said it is a sad day for the court and the

country, calling the decision cruel and saying it takes America back 150 years.

4. US PASSES GUN CONTROL BILL; IMPOSES TOUGHER CHECKS ON YOUNG BUYERS



- The US Congress has passed a gun control bill, which is being considered the most significant firearms legislation in nearly 30 years.
- It imposes tougher checks on young buyers and encourages states to remove guns from people considered a threat.
- The measures enjoyed bipartisan support, with 14 Republicans joining Democrats in the House to approve the bill by 234 to 193 votes.
- Earlier, the bill also passed in the Senate, with 15 Republican Senators voting alongside their Democratic colleagues in favour of the bill.
- It ultimately passed in a late-night 65-33 vote. The bill is now headed to President Joe Biden to be signed into law.

5. ROAD TRANSPORT MINISTER NITIN GADKARI APPROVES THE DRAFT GSR NOTIFICATION TO INTRODUCE BHARAT NCAP



- Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has approved the Draft GSR Notification to introduce Bharat NCAP (New Car Assessment Program), wherein automobiles in India shall be accorded Star Ratings based upon their performance in

Crash Tests.

- In a series of tweets, Mr Gadkari, said Bharat-NCAP will serve as a consumer-centric platform allowing customers to opt for safer cars based upon their star-ratings, while promoting a healthy competition among OEMs in India to manufacture safer vehicles.
- The Minister said Star Rating of Indian Cars based on Crash Tests is extremely crucial not only to ensure structural and passenger safety in cars, but to also increase the export-worthiness of Indian automobiles.
- He said, the testing protocol of Bharat NCAP shall be aligned with Global Crash Test Protocols factoring in the existing Indian regulations, allowing OEMs to get their vehicles tested at India's own in-house testing facilities.

6. SPAIN GERMANY BATTLE WILDFIRES AMID UNUSUAL HEAT WAVE



- On Sunday amid an unusual heat wave in western Europe and Germany struggled with wildfires. There has been used damage in several places in Spain and Germany.
- The Northwest province of Zamora is affected by over 25000 hectares. Up to 25000 hectares of the area have been consumed by the wildfire in Zamora.
- In Germany residents of three villages near Berlin have been ordered to leave their homes due to the approaching wildfire as requested by the officials on Sunday.
- On Sunday morning the Spanish authorities said that after 3 days of high-temperature high wind and low humidity some rest came with dropping temperatures.
- 650 firefighters along with water dumping aircraft were allowed to establish a perimeter around the fire which started in Zamora's Sierra de la Culebra.
- The authorities have won the people that there was still a danger of unfavorable shifts in weather and the revival of the blaze.
- Arjun Spain has been on alert for an outbreak of intense wildfire as the country suffers from the record temperature in many places in the country.

7. SOUTH KOREA LAUNCHES SATELLITE WITH ITS OWN ROCKET FOR THE FIRST TIME



- South Korea launched its first satellite successfully using a homegrown rocket, boosting the nation's expanding aerospace ambitions and proving it has the necessary technologies to build larger missiles and launch spy satellites in the midst of tensions with rival North Korea.
- The Science Ministry reported that the three-stage Nuri rocket successfully launched a working “performance verification” satellite to a target altitude of 435 miles from South Korea's space launch facility on a southern island.
- An unmanned South Korean station in Antarctica received signals from the satellite informing it of its condition.
- It is carrying four smaller satellites that will be launched for Earth observation and other missions in the following days.
- At a live-streamed press conference at the launch facility, science minister Lee Jong-Ho declared that “the science and technology of the Republic of Korea have achieved a remarkable advance.” Together with the people, the government will continue its bold march toward becoming a space power.
- President Yoon Suk Yeol congratulated scientists and other launch participants in a video conference and promised to uphold his campaign pledge to create a state aerospace agency, according to his office.
- The 154-foot rocket was seen ascending in live TV footage among brilliant flames and copious amounts of white smoke.

8. BSE APPOINTS FORMER RBI DEPUTY GOVERNOR S S MUNDRA AS A CHAIRMAN



- S.S. Mundra, a public interest director to lead the world's largest stock exchange, according to the BSE. Justice Vikramajit Sen will be replaced by Mr. Mundra.
- After serving for three years, Mr. Mundra left his position as Reserve Bank of India's Deputy Governor in July 2017.
- Before that, he held the positions of Chairman and Managing Director at Bank of Baroda, until he retired in July 2014.
- Mr. Mundra has held a number of significant positions over his more than 40-year banking career, including Executive Director of Union Bank of India and Chief Executive of Bank of Baroda (European Operations), among others.
- Additionally, he represented the RBI as the G20 Forum's nominee on the Financial Stability Board and its numerous committees.
- Additionally, he served as the International Network on Financial Education's Vice-Chair for the OECD.
- He served on the boards of a number of multi-faceted businesses before to the RBI, including Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. and Central Depository Services (India) Ltd. (CDSL).

9. INDIA JUMP TWO PLACES TO 104 IN FIFA RANKING AFTER ASIAN CUP QUALIFICATION



- The Indian football team reaped a good harvest of its impressive Asian Cup qualification campaign as it gained two places to jump to 104th in the latest FIFA world rankings released.
- The Blue Tigers are placed just below New Zealand (103), who missed out on a 2022 FIFA World Cup spot after losing 0-1 to Costa Rica in the intercontinental play-off earlier this month.
- India's ranking among Asian Football Confederation (AFC) members, however, still remained static at 19th place.
- Iran retained the top spot among the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) countries (23).
- Brazil remained on top, three months after taking the top spot from Belgium (2nd).
- Argentina jumped one place to third at the expense of France (4th) who paid the price for four winless games in the UEFA Nations League.
- England, Spain, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal and Denmark complete the top-10.
- The next FIFA world ranking will be out on August 25.

By Sameer Singhal



CURRENT AFFAIRS

JUNE 2022

National News

1. G7 LEADERS PLEDGE 600 BILLION FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



- Leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) began three days of talks yesterday in Germany's Bavarian Alps.
- One of the first announcements was a 600 billion dollar infrastructure initiative to help developing countries tackle climate change.
- The initiative is seen as the West's response to China's massive Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
- US President Joe Biden said, this is not aid or charity but an investment that will deliver returns for everyone, including the American people and the people of all our nations.
- It will boost all of our economies, he said. China has been accused of trapping low-income countries into unaffordable debts to be part of its trillion-dollar BRI push.
- EU Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen said G7 is offering sustainable, quality infrastructure and will be listening closely to the recipient countries.

2. IRAN LAUNCHES A SOLID-FUELED ROCKET INTO SPACE



- Iran has launched a solid-fueled rocket into space. Defense Ministry Spokesman Ahmad Hosseini said Zuljanah, a 25.5 meter-long rocket, is capable of carrying a satellite of 220 kilograms that will ultimately gather data in low-earth orbit and promote Iran's space industry.
- Zuljanah is named for the horse of Imam Hussein, the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad.
- However, it drew a rebuke from Washington ahead of the expected resumption of stalled talks over Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers.
- The White House said it is aware of Iran's announcement and criticized the move as unhelpful and destabilizing.
- The White House said it is committed to using sanctions and other measures to prevent further advances in Iran's ballistic missile program.
- Iran, which long has said it does not seek nuclear weapons, maintains its satellite launches and rocket tests do not have a military component.

3. MADHYA PRADESH CLINCH FIRST EVER RANJI TROPHY TITLE WITH SIX-WICKET WIN AGAINST MUMBAI



- In Ranji Trophy Final, Madhya Pradesh defeated Mumbai by six wickets to win their first-ever Ranji Trophy title at M.Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru today.
- Needing 108 runs to win in the second innings, the Aditya Shrivastava-led Madhya Pradesh took just 29.5 overs to achieve the target riding on Shubham Sharma's 30 and Rajat Patidar's unbeaten 30.
- Sharma and Patidar had also scored centuries in the first innings along with Yash Dubey. With the ball, Kumar Kartikeya picked up four wickets as Madhya Pradesh bowled Mumbai out for 269 in the first session of Day 5.
- Mumbai's Suved Parkar scored 51 off 58 while Sarfaraz Khan added 45 but Mumbai kept losing wickets at regular intervals to be bundled out for 269.
- Madhya Pradesh: 536 and 108 for 4
- Mumbai: 374 and 269

4. QOSANOV MEMORIAL ATHLETICS MEET: NAVJEET DHILLON GRABS GOLD IN DISCUS THROW



- Indian women's discus thrower Navjeet Dhillon won the gold medal at the Qosanov Memorial 2022 athletics meet in Almaty, Kazakhstan, yesterday.
- Navjeet Dhillon, who is looking to seal her place in the Indian team for Commonwealth Games, won the women's discus throw with a 56.24m effort.
- Local athlete Karina Vasilyeva with 44.61m and Uzbekistan's Yulianna Shchukina with 40.48m followed Navjeet Dhillon on the podium.
- Meanwhile, Dutee Chand produced a season-best 11.38s to top the 100m but failed to repeat the performance in the finals.
- Dutee Chand, who has been selected in the 4x100m relay team for CWG, clocked 11.49s in the 100m final to finish second behind Olga Safronova of Kazakhstan, who claimed

gold in 11.40s.

- India's MV Jilna came third in 11.61s. India won 14 medals on the day, including seven golds..

5. SEAFARER DAY: 25 OF JUNE



- The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is celebrating Seafarer Day today.
- It is celebrated on the 25 of June each year to pay respect to Seafarers and sailors who help the entire world function by conducting sea transport.
- The day was proposed by International Maritime Organization in 2010 to celebrate the contribution of the seafarer to the world economy and civil society.
- Day of the Seafarer recognizes the invaluable contribution of seafarers to the worldwide commerce and economic system.
- Almost 90 per cent of the world's goods trade are transported by ships and behind these ships are the seafarers who work relentlessly to ensure the smooth flow of trade via water.
- The day honours their contributions and is celebrated to show reverence to them.
- The theme of this year is 'Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future.'

6. NOTED LYRICIST, AUTHOR AND JOURNALIST, CHOWALLOOR KRISHNANKUTTY PASSED AWAY



- In Kerala, noted lyricist, author and journalist, Chowalloor Krishnankutty passed away at a private Medical College Hospital in Thrissur last night. He was 86.
- A former Staff Artist with AIR, Krishnankutty penned over 3000 devotional songs and authored more than 200 books. He retired as an Assistant Editor with the Malayala Manorama daily.
- He won several awards including the Kerala Sahithya Academy Award for satire, Poonthanam Jnanapana and Revathy Pattathanam Awards among others.
- Chowalloor Krishanankutty also made his mark as a screen writer in Malayalam movies and produced documentaries on some well-known Kathakali artists. He also served as the Vice-Chairman of the Kerala Kalamandalam.

7. ODISHA'S MO BUS WON UN'S PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD



- Mo Bus, Odisha-based public transport service has been honored with a prestigious United Nations award, for their role and efforts in helping the world recover better from Covid19.
- The public transport service has been recognised for its role in “promoting gender-responsive public services to achieve the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)”, the UN said.
- Among the other winners of this year’s awards, announced by Liu Zhenmin, United Nations Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs during a virtual event to commemorate the United Nations Public Service Day (celebrated on June 22), were public service initiatives from Thailand, Brazil, Canada, Ireland, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, and Ukraine.
- The UN recognition said the “problem” was that “bus services in the city of Bhubaneswar needed improvement”, as a result of which “the majority of people used private vehicles, two-wheelers and auto-rickshaw to commute instead of taking public transportation”.

8. GUJARAT CM BHUPENDRA PATEL LAUNCHES 17TH 'SHALA PRAVESHOTSAV'



- In Gujarat, the Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has launched the 17th 'Shala Praveshotsav', the drive to enrol students in primary schools in the state.
- The three-day enrollment drive begins from Memadpur primary school in Vadgam taluka of Banaskantha district. Chief Minister Patel said that the dropout rate of students' reduced drastically following the mass enrolment drives of the children.
- He said that the drop out rate has been reduced to just 3.07 percent from 37.22 percent in 2002.
- According to official sources, the state officials including IAS and IPS officers and Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly will visit different schools of the state and enrol children in Class I.

By Sameer Singhal

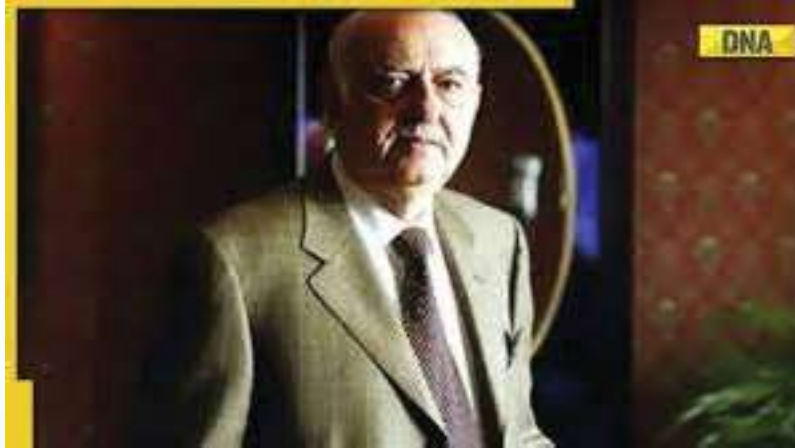
National News

1. UN OCEAN CONFERENCE KICKS OFF IN LISBON



- A five-day UN Ocean Conference kicked off yesterday with the Kenya and Portugal being the co-hosts.
- Leaders from over 130 countries from across the world will deliberate for five days to find an international agreement on protecting the world's oceans, seas and marine resources.
- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh is leading the Indian delegation. On the first day, the Minister had bilateral talks with a number of Ministers from different countries attending the meet.
- Today, Dr Jitendra Singh is scheduled to present India's statement before the full House of the UN meet.
- The Ocean Conference comes at a crucial juncture as the world is seeking to address many of the challenges requiring structural transformations and Innovative and Green solutions to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 14.
- The SDG calls for Conservation and Sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources.

2. PALLONJI MISTRY PASSES AWAY



- Business tycoon Pallonji Mistry passed away at the age of 93 at his Mumbai residence Monday night.
- The construction magnate, who was born on June 1, 1929 in the metropolis, is survived by his four children – two sons and two daughters.
- Mistry was the chairman of the Shapoorji Pallonji Group, which was established in 1865.
- Headquartered in Mumbai, the conglomerate operates in sectors such as construction, real estate, textiles, home appliances, power, biotechnology etc.
- At 18.4%, Pallonji was the highest individual shareholder in Tata Sons.
- His son, Cyrus, headed Tata Sons from November 2011 to October 2016. Cyrus, after his removal from the post, fought a legal battle with Ratan Tata, the-then chairman of Tata Sons.
- In April 2021, the Bloomberg Billionaires Index estimated Pallonji Mistry's wealth to be USD 28 billion, making him the wealthiest person in Ireland.

3. AMBUBACHI MELA 2022 AT ASSAM'S KAMAKHYA TEMPLE



- The doors of the Kamakhya Temple were opened today morning for the devotees to pay their obisieiance during the Ambubachi Festival.
- According to the rituals, the doors opened after four days and with this the Ambubachi Mela concluded for the season.
- The festival had begun on June 22 amidst many restrictions but nonetheless pilgrims poured in to seek the blessings of Goddess Kamakhya.
- The festival marks the celebration of the goddess who is believed to undergo her annual menstrual cycle during these days.
- An annual Hindu festival known as the Ambubachi Mela takes place at the Kamakhya Temple in Guwahati, Assam.
- This annual festival is held in the middle of June, when the Brahmaputra River is at its highest flow, during the monsoon season, which also happens to fall within the Assamese month of Ahaar.

4. TATA POWER SOLAR COMMISSIONS INDIA'S LARGEST FLOATING SOLAR POWER PROJECT



- Tata Power Solar Systems, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tata Power, has accomplished a remarkable feat by commissioning India's largest floating solar power project in Kayamkulam, Kerala.
- On a 350-acre water body, backwaters area, having an installed capacity of 101.6 Megawatt Peak.
- Tata Power Solar successfully built a scaffolding platform on the water body to make the entire solar plant float on water.
- This project is the first one in the Floating Solar Photovoltaic (FSPV) through Power Purchase Agreement category. This plant boasts a floating inverter platform having a 5 Megawatt (MW) capacity.
- The entire array involving floats and solar panel modules had to be towed for 3 kilometers

on a sea-linked National waterway, which was 15 meters deep, exposing the solar modules to high winds and gushing tides often reaching a height of about 3.5 meters.

- To operationalize the project, Tata Power Solar 's execution team was successfully able to synchronize the 33/220 Kilovolts Air Insulated Substation (AIS) with 220 Kilovolts existing Gas Insulated Substation (GIS).

5. IRARC's AVINASH KULKARNI TO HEAD INDIA DEBT RESOLUTION COMPANY



- The chief govt of India Resurgence Asset Reconstruction Firm (IRARC), Avinash Kulkarni, has been chosen to head the India Debt Decision Firm (IDRCL).
- Kulkarni is a (SBI) veteran, having undertaken numerous roles on the public sector behemoth.
- His engagements on the SBI group have included assignments within the funding banking and advisory arm, Capital Markets.
- Kulkarni was selected from among a shortlist of about six candidates earlier this month.
- With this selection, the key executives are in place to start consolidating bad loans from banks through the NARCL.
- Kulkarni's appointment follows another SBI veteran Natarajan Sundar being selected as CEO of the National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL) in April.

6. WORLD'S BIGGEST BACTERIUM FOUND IN CARIBBEAN MANGROVE SWAMP



- In a Caribbean mangrove swamp, researchers found the largest bacterium known to science.
- While the majority of bacteria are tiny, this one is so large that it can be seen with the unaided eye.
- It is by far the largest bacterium known to date, according to Jean-Marie Volland, a marine biologist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and a co-author of a paper reporting the finding in the journal Science.
- The thin white thread is about the size of a human eyelash.
- The cell has a shape that is unusual for bacteria, according to the researchers, but they have not yet been able to develop it in lab culture.
- One significant distinction is that it includes a sizable central compartment, or vacuole, which enables some cell functions to take place there rather than all across the cell.

7. PARAMESWARAN IYER TO TAKE OVER AS NITI AAYOG CEO AS AMITABH KANT LEAVES



- Former Drinking and water Sanitation Secretary, Parameswaren Iyer has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog for 2 years.

- He will succeed Amitabh Kant. Kant was appointed as the CEO of the National Institution for Transforming India (Niti Aayog) on February 17, 2016, for a fixed two-year term. Kant was later given an extension till June 30, 2019.
- His term was further extended for two years, till this month-end, in June 2019. In June 2021, Kant received another one-year extension.

8. TAPAN DEKA IS NEW IB CHIEF, R&AW HEAD SAMANT GOEL GETS ANOTHER EXTENSION



- The Central government has appointed senior IPS officer Tapan Kumar Deka as Director of Intelligence Bureau.
- Tapan Kumar Deka, a 1988 batch Himachal Pradesh cadre IPS officer, was appointed for a tenure of two years from the date of assumption of the charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
- Deka will succeed incumbent Intelligence Bureau Director Arvind Kumar, whose tenure ends on June 30.

9. INDIA SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTS VL-SRSAM MISSILE TEST OFF THE COAST OF ODISHA



- Off the coast of Chandipur, in the state of Odisha, India successfully tested the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM).

- Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and Indian Navy successfully conducted flight tests for the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM).
- Off the coast of Chandipur, Odisha, the launch was carried out from an Indian Naval Ship.
- A ship-borne weapon system called VL-SRSAM is designed to eliminate close-range aerial threats such targets that skim the surface of the sea.
- A high-speed aerial target resembling an aeroplane was launched with the system, and it was effectively engaged.
- ITR, Chandipur deployed a variety of tracking sensors to track the vehicle's flight path and health indicators. Senior representatives from the Indian Navy and DRDO kept an eye on the test launch.
- Shri Rajnath Singh, the minister of defence, also expressed his gratitude to the DRDO, the Indian Navy, and the industry for the successful flight test and noted that the system's additional armour will improve the ability of Indian naval ships to defend themselves from aerial threats.

10. GOA CELEBRATES 'SAO JOAO' FESTIVAL 2022



- The people of Goa has celebrated the Sao Joao festival, the feast of St John the Baptist with traditional enthusiasm after a two-year coronavirus-induced gap.
- The festival is dedicated to Saint John the Baptist, who baptised Lord Jesus on the river of Jordan and is celebrated at the onset of monsoon.
- Siolim, a village in North Goa, hosts a traditional canoe parade on the occasion of Sao Joao.
- A large number of people participated in the boat parade in Siolim village of Goa's Bardez taluka, marking the beginning of revelry in the 'Sao Joao' festival.
- Traditionally, people jump into the well but since the wells are fast disappearing, people prefer to celebrate it in swimming pools.
- The festival is marked to herald the monsoon season in the state every year in June.
- People are often seen having a great time by enjoying and dancing in the artificial rain

which adds charm to the celebrations.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. PRIME MINISTER TO PARTICIPATE IN ‘UDYAMI BHARAT’ PROGRAMME IN NEW DELHI ON JUNE 30



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the ‘Udyami Bharat’ programme in New Delhi on the 30th of this month.
- During the event, Prime Minister will launch the ‘Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance’ Scheme, ‘Capacity Building of First-Time MSME Exporters’ Scheme and new features of the ‘Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme’, PMEGP.
- Prime Minister will also digitally transfer assistance to beneficiaries of PMEGP for 2022-23.
- He will announce the results of the MSME Idea Hackathon-2022 and distribute National MSME Awards.
- Mr Modi will also issue Digital Equity Certificates to 75 MSMEs in the Self-Reliant India Fund.
- ‘Udyami Bharat’ is reflective of the continuous commitment of the government, right from day one, to work towards the empowerment of MSMEs.
- The government has launched several initiatives from time to time like MUDRA Yojana, Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme, and Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries.

- This has been done to provide necessary and timely support to the MSME sector, which has helped benefit crores of people across the country.

2. DEEPAK PUNIA WINS BRONZE IN U23 ASIAN WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022



- Tokyo Olympian Deepak Punia won a bronze medal after defeating Maksat Satybaldy in the 86kg freestyle weight category at the U23 Asian wrestling championships 2022 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- Despite a win, it was an unimpressive result from him as the Indian contingent was expecting a better outing from the world championships silver medallist in the tournament.
- In the opening two rounds, the 23-year-old Punia lost to eventual gold medallist Azizbek Fayzullaev of Uzbekistan and Nurtilek Karypbaev of Kyrgyzstan.
- However, he overpowered Satybaldy of Kazakhstan to settle for the bronze.
- India won 25 medals in all in the U23 meet in the event, including 10 gold medals.

3. 29TH JUNE IS CELEBRATED AS STATISTICS DAY



- This year's theme is Data for Sustainable Development. Union Government has been celebrating Statistics Day on 29th June every year since 2007 to mark the birth anniversary of late Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, in recognition of his

valuable contribution in the field of Economic Planning and Statistics.

- The major objective of celebrating Statistics Day is creation of public awareness, especially among the younger generation, on the role and importance of statistics in socio-economic planning and policy formulation for development of the country.
- On each Statistics Day, one particular theme of current national importance is chosen for intensive and focused discussions towards filling the data gaps and improvement in data collection, processing and dissemination.

4. NASA SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHES A ROCKET FROM AUSTRALIA'S REMOTE NORTHERN TERRITORY



- NASA has successfully launched a rocket from Australia's remote Northern Territory, making history as the agency's first commercial spaceport launch outside the United States.
- According to Equatorial Launch Australia, the rocket blasted off at just past midnight local time on Monday from the Arnhem Space Centre on the Dhupuma Plateau, near the township of Nhulunbuy.
- The rocket is expected to travel more than 300 kilometres into space on its mission to observe the Alpha Centauri 'A' and 'B' constellations, the nearest star systems to the Earth.
- Monday's Launch also made history for Australia as the first commercial space launch in the country.
- According to NASA, it was the first of three launches, with a further two planned for 4th and 12th of July.

5. 125 TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF ALLURI SEETHARAMA RAJU, JULY 4TH



- Elaborate arrangements are being made for the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of revolutionary Alluri Sitarama Raju from June 27 to July 4 across the State, Special Chief Secretary (Youth Welfare and Culture) Rajat Bhargava.
- Alluri was born on July 4, 1897 and martyred on May 7, 1924 at a young age of 27 years.
- On Monday, orders were issued to all the District Collectors to make arrangements for celebration of the birth anniversary on a grand scale.
- As part of the celebrations, competitions will be held for schoolchildren in painting, essay writing, Rangoli, mono acting. Music concerts, patriotic songs and cycle rallies, blood donation camps, yoga and photo exhibitions will also be organised.

6. AKASH AMBANI NAMED RELIANCE JIO CHAIRMAN; MUKESH AMBANI RESIGNS



- Mukesh Ambani's eldest son Akash Ambani will take over as chairman of Jio Infocomm's board, the digital division of Reliance industries, in what is viewed as the 65-year-old billionaire's succession planning.
- Mukesh Ambani has resigned as the company director effective from 27 June.
- Pankaj Mohan Pawar was among the other selections made, and his five-year term as

managing director began on 27 June.

- KV Chowdary and Raminder Singh Gujral were named independent directors.

7. ZOMATO DIPS 6% AS BOARD APPROVES ACQUISITION OF BLINKIT FOR RS 4,447 CRORE



- Zomato (Online food delivery platform) has announced the acquisition of Blink Commerce (Blinkit), earlier known as Grofers India.
- The company's Board of Directors approved a proposal to acquire cash-strapped quick commerce company Blinkit for Rs 4,447 crore.
- Last year, Zomato extended USD 50 million loans to Grofers India Private Limited. Zomato already owned more than a 9 percent stake in Blinkit (earlier Grofers).
- While the earlier Blinkit deal value was around \$700 million, the drop in Zomato's share price reduced it to \$568 million.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. INDIA SUCCESSFULLY TESTS HIGH-SPEED EXPENDABLE AERIAL TARGET ABHYAS OFF ODISHA COAST



- India has successfully flight-tested the indigenously developed high-speed expendable aerial target - ABHYAS, from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur off the Odisha coast.
- The performance of the aircraft at low altitude, including sustained level and high maneuverability, was demonstrated during the test flight.
- The target aircraft was flown from a ground-based controller in a pre-designated low-altitude flight path, which was monitored by various tracking sensors deployed by the ITR, including radar and an electro-optical targeting system.
- ABHYAS is designed and developed by Aeronautical Development Establishment of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated DRDO and the armed forces for the successful flight trial of ABHYAS.
- He said that the development of this system will meet the requirements of aerial targets.

2. ISRO TO LAUNCH ROCKET PSLV-C53, CARRYING THREE SINGAPORE SATELLITES THIS EVENING



- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is set to launch the rocket PSLV-C53, carrying three Singapore satellites at 6.02 pm today.
- The launch vehicle will lift off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota.
- The 25 hours countdown for the mission that began yesterday evening is progressing well.
- Six nano-satellites including those belonging to India's two private space start-ups also will go to space, in today's mission.
- "The second launch pad is bustling with activities in preparation of today's launch.
- PSLV-C53 is the second dedicated commercial mission of the NewSpace India Limited, a public sector unit under the Department of Space.
- It was formed after the recent space sector reforms. For the workhorse launch vehicle PSLV, this will be the 55th mission.
- Its primary payloads are the 365 kg earth observation satellite called DS-EO, a 155 kg NeuSAR satellite and the 2.8 kg Scoob-1 nano-satellite of the Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

3. VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 6



- The Vice Presidential Election will be held on the 6th of August. In a statement, the Election Commission of India ECI said, notification for the election will be issued on 5th July and nominations can be filed till 19th of next month.
- The scrutiny of nominations will be done on 20th July.
- The Commission said, the Electoral College for the Vice Presidential Election consists of 233 elected members of Rajya Sabha, 12 nominated members of Rajya Sabha and 543 elected members of Lok Sabha.
- The Secretary-General of Lok Sabha will be the Returning Officer for the Election.

4. IRAN APPLIES TO JOIN BRICS GROUP OF EMERGING COUNTRIES



- Iran has submitted an application to become a member of the BRICS, an Iranian official said yesterday.
- Iran, which holds the world's second-largest gas reserves, wants to join the BRICS group of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- The term BRIC was coined by Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill in 2001 to describe the startling rise of Brazil, Russia, India, and China.
- The BRIC powers had their first summit in 2009 in Russia. South Africa joined in 2010.
- Iran's Foreign Ministry Spokesperson said that Tehran's membership in the BRICS group would result in added values for both sides. Russia said, Argentina had also applied to join.
- Argentine President Alberto Fernandez, currently in Europe, has in recent days reiterated his desire for Argentina to join BRICS.
- China has by far the largest economy in the BRICS grouping, accounting for more than 70 of the group's collective 27.5 trillion US dollars in economic might.
- India accounts for about 13 per cent, with Russia and Brazil each accounting for about seven per cent, according to IMF data.

5. UDDHAV THACKERAY RESIGNS AS SUPREME COURT REFUSES TO STAY FLOOR TEST



- Uddhav Thackeray has resigned as the Chief minister of Maharashtra.
- This comes immediately after the Supreme Court refused to stay Maharashtra Governor's direction to the Uddhav Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government to take a floor test in the Assembly.
- Late in the evening, Mr. Thackeray submitted his resignation to Mr. Bhagat Singh Koshiyari at the Raj Bhavan in Mumbai.
- The Governor accepted the resignation of Mr. Thackeray and asked him to officiate as the Chief Minister until alternate arrangements are made.
- With Mr. Thackeray's resignation, the unique three-party experiment of the MVA, in which the Shiv Sena tied up with the Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), has come to an end.
- The BJP, which is the single-largest party in the Assembly with 106 MLAs, is likely to stake claim to form the government.

6. ENGLAND CAPTAIN MORGAN RETIRES



- Eoin Morgan has announced his immediate retirement from international cricket,

according to the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB).

- Morgan was the captain of England's men's white-ball team.
- The 35-year-old captained England Men to their first-ever ICC Men's Cricket World Cup victory at Lord's in 2019 throughout his 13-year international career with England.
- He also competed for England in the 2010 ICC Men's T20 Cricket World Cup, which was held in the Caribbean.
- In all ODI and T20I games, Morgan has scored the most runs for England Men overall and has received the most caps.
- He led England to the top of the ICC world rankings throughout his seven years as the Men's ODI captain, winning noteworthy series against all the major countries.
- He earned a record-breaking 225 ODI caps and amassed 6,957 runs—including 1300 at an average of 39.75—during that time.
- The highest win record by any England Men's ODI Captain in the history of the game was 76 victories in 126 games Morgan managed, with a win rate of 60%.

7. INAUGURATION OF HONEY TESTING LAB IN NAGALAND BY UNION AGRICULTURE MINISTER



- During his visit to Nagaland, the Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar, officially inaugurated the Dimapur Honey Testing Laboratory.
- The honey testing facility will support beekeepers and producers in testing their produced honey.
- At the North-East Agri Expo, Chumaokedlma, Tomar was attending an event.
- Among others, G. Kaito, the Nagaland Agriculture Minister, Chief Secretary J. Alam, and Central Horticulture Commissioner Prabhat Kumar attended the ceremony.
- Speaking at the event, Tomar stated that when it comes to overall growth, the Northeast Region cannot be ignored.
- Therefore, the government aims to make the north east region self-sufficient through its

plans, initiatives, funds, and institutions.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. EKNATH SHINDE SWORN-IN AS CM OF MAHARASHTRA, DEVENDRA FADNAVIS AS DEPUTY CM



- Rebel Shiv Sena leader Eknath Shinde has been sworn-in as Chief Minister of Maharashtra, while BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis took over as Deputy Chief Minister.
- Maharashtra Governor has asked Chief Minister Shinde to prove majority of his government in the state assembly tomorrow. Chief Minister Shinde convened the first cabinet meeting of the new government yesterday.
- The Cabinet decided to convene a two-day special session of the state legislature on 2nd and 3rd this month.
- The Speaker of the assembly will also be elected tomorrow. The Cabinet also reviewed the Kharif season, rain water and crop insurance in the state.
- Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde in his first cabinet meeting stressed on the importance of taking ahead the developmental works in the state in a fast and efficient manner.
- Acknowledging Deputy Chief minister Devendra Fadnavis's experience, Shri Shinde said he is fortunate to have an experienced Deputy Chief Minister like Fadnavis in his team whose presence will ease managing various affairs of the state including the developmental programs.

2. ISRAEL TO GO FOR ELECTIONS ON THE NOVEMBER 1ST



- Israel is set for election on the 1st of November as lawmakers dissolved the parliament today. It will be the fifth election for Israelis in less than four years.
- The Israeli parliament, the Knesset, voted 92-Nil, bringing an end to Prime Minister Naftali Bennett's run as premier-- one of the shortest terms in Israeli history.
- Tomorrow, Foreign Minister Yair Lapid will take over as caretaker prime minister under the terms of a coalition agreement made between the outgoing Prime Minister and Lapid last year.

3. NEERAJ CHOPRA CLINCHES SILVER MEDAL AT PRESTIGIOUS DIAMOND LEAGUE MEET



- Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra clinched his first-ever medal at the prestigious Diamond League meet in Stockholm yesterday as he broke his own national record for the second time in a month.
- Chopra finished 2nd at the Stockholm Diamond League with a massive throw of 89.94 meter.
- Reigning world champion Anderson Peters won the event with a best throw of 90.31 meter.

- Chopra broke his own national record of 89.30m that he set at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Turku earlier this month.
- The prestigious one-day meet at the Swedish capital is Chopra's biggest event ahead of the World Championships in Eugene, USA, next month.
- Chopra is the first Indian to win a gold medal in athletics at the Olympics.

4. SYNERGY CONFERENCE OF INDIAN ARMY AND DEFENSE ACCOUNTS DEPT DISCUSSES PAY & ALLOWANCES SYSTEM FOR AGNIVEERS



- In New Delhi, there was the fourth Synergy Conference between the Indian Army and the Defense Accounts Department (DAD).
- Senior commanders of the Indian Army and DAD attended the one-day meeting, which was co-chaired by Vice Chief of Army Staff (VCOAS) Lt Gen BS Raju and Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA) Shri Rajnish Kumar.
- Deliberations on the AGNIPATH plan and the timeline for the prompt implementation of a system for pay and allowances for Agniveers were on the conference's main agenda.
- Enhancing the performance of Pay and Accounts Offices (PAOs) for better service delivery to Junior Commissioned Officers/Other Ranks of the Indian Army was another item on the agenda. Senior officers from both sides were consulted as concrete action plans for the future were developed.
- The CGDA agreed with the department's goal of using technology to improve service delivery to the armed forces and to implement creative business process re-engineering to significantly alter the way that bills are processed and paid.
- He described the numerous DAD projects, including the future Centralized Pay System and DARPAN (Defence Accounts Receipt, Payment and Analysis). He also emphasised the importance of the Army's cooperation in achieving the goals.

5. NATIONAL CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS DAY 2022, 1ST JULY



- The Chartered Accountants' Day or CA Day is held on 01 July every year in India. It is also known as ICAI Foundation Day.
- The day is marked to commemorate the foundation of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) on July 1, 1949.
- ICAI is among the oldest professional institutions in the country and also the second largest professional accounting and finance body in the world in terms of members.
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), which sets the requirements for chartered accountants, administers the exams, and issues certificates of practice, is a key player in the regulation of the accounting profession in India.
- The Chartered Accountants' Day honors the founding of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), the second-largest accounting organization in the world and the country's first national professional accounting body.

6. OLYMPIC MEDALLIST HOCKEY PLAYER VARINDER SINGH PASSES AWAY



- Indian hockey stalwart and member of the gold medal winning 1975 World Cup team, Varinder Singh passed away.
- He was 75. Singh was part of the gold medal-winning Indian team at the 1975 men's

Hockey World Cup in Kuala Lumpur.

- Singh was also part of the bronze medal-winning team at the 1972 Munich Olympics and silver medal at 1973 World Cup in Amsterdam.
- In 2007, Varinder was conferred with the prestigious Dhyani Chand Lifetime Achievement Award.

7. PADMA, THE CENTRALISED PAY SYSTEM FOR INDIAN COAST GUARD LAUNCHED



- Pay Roll Automation for Disbursement of Monthly Allowances (PADMA), an automated Pay & Allowances module for the Indian Coast Guard was inaugurated by Shri Rajnish Kumar, Controller General of Defence Accounts (CGDA), Ministry of Defence.
- The CGDA emphasized that the Government has campaigned for Digital India to ensure dedicated services and reduce manual intervention at every level & to promote E-Governance in a big way.
- Launch of PADMA will strengthen the Digital India concept. Also, it is an 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative as the entire module has been designed and developed by Indian entrepreneurs assisted by domain experts.
- PADMA is an automated platform leveraging latest technology which will provide seamless and timely disbursement of Pay & Allowances to around 15,000 Indian Coast Guard personnel.
- This module has been developed under the aegis of Defense Accounts Department and will be operated by Pay Accounts Office Coast Guard, Noida.

By Sameer Singhal

National News

1. INDIA'S LARGEST FLOATING SOLAR POWER PROJECT COMMISSIONED



- India's largest floating solar power project is now fully operational.
- NTPC declared commercial operation of the final part capacity of 20 MW out of 100 MW Ramagundam Floating Solar PV Project at Ramagundam, Telangana with effect from 1st of July.
- With the operationalisation of the 100-MW Solar PV Project at Ramagundam, the total commercial operation of floating solar capacity in the Southern Region rose to 217 MW.
- Earlier, NTPC declared commercial operation of 92 MW Floating Solar at Kayamkulam in Kerala and 25 MW Floating Solar at Simhadri in Andhra Pradesh.
- The 100-MW Floating Solar project at Ramagundam is endowed with advanced technology as well as environment-friendly features.
- Constructed with a financial implication of 423 crore rupees, the project spreads over 500 acres of its reservoir.
- An official release said that with the presence of floating solar panels, the evaporation rate from water bodies is reduced, thus helping in water conservation.

2. DRDO CARRIES OUT MAIDEN FLIGHT OF UNMANNED COMBAT AIRCRAFT



- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) yesterday successfully carried out the Maiden flight of Autonomous Flying Wing Technology Demonstrator from Aeronautical Test Range at Chitradurga in Karnataka.
- With this success, India's secretive unmanned combat aerial vehicle UCAV programme under which a technology demonstrator called stealth wing flying test bed (SWift) is being developed reached a milestone.
- The programme is linked to the development of India's fifth-generation stealth fighter advanced medium combat aircraft or AMCA.
- The flight operated in a fully autonomous mode. The aircraft exhibited a perfect flight, including take-off, way point navigation and a smooth touchdown. This aircraft is powered by a small turbofan engine.

3. RAILWAYS RECORDS BEST EVER MONTHLY FREIGHT LOADING OF OVER 125 MILLION TONNES IN JUNE THIS YEAR



- Railways has recorded best-ever monthly freight loading of over 125 million tonnes in

June this year. The incremental loading has been a growth of 11.28 percent over the same period in 2021.

- Railway Ministry said, this growth has been fuelled by incremental loading of over 13 million tonnes in Coal, followed by Cement and Food grains.
- The cumulative freight loading in the first quarter of this financial year has been over 379 million tonnes as against 339 million tonnes achieved in 2021-22.

4. K.K. VENUGOPAL RE-APPOINTED AS ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR THREE MONTHS



- Attorney General (A-G), K.K. Venugopal has been re-appointed as the country's top law officer for a period of three months.
- Mr. Venugopal, whose current one-year term ends on June 30, agreed to a short tenure following a request from the government.
- The sources cited above said that he was initially not willing to continue in the Constitutional post due to "personal reasons".
- In July 2017, Mr. Venugopal, 90, was appointed by the President of India to succeed Mukul Rohatgi as the A-G. The government's top law officer enjoys a tenure of three years.
- However, when Mr. Venugopal's first term as A-G was to end in 2020, he requested the government to give him a one-year tenure keeping in mind his advanced age.
- Last year too, he was reappointed for one year.

5. ISRO PLACES 3 SINGAPORE SATELLITES, 6 EXPERIMENTS IN ORBIT IN SECOND LAUNCH THIS YEAR



- Three Singaporean satellites were successfully launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) as part of a commercial mission for the New Space India Limited.
- This was the space agency's second launch of the year; its first, had put an Indian Earth Observation Satellite in orbit.
- The space agency also carried six in-orbit experiments mounted on the fourth stage of the rocket on the current mission in addition to the commercial satellites.
- The nation's workhorse rocket, PSLV-C53, launched from Sriharikota and put the three satellites into precise orbits about 18 minutes later.
- The launch vehicle was deployed in the core-alone configuration, which only uses the four primary engine stages.
- The 365 kg Singaporean DS-EO satellite served as the mission's primary payload.
- It is an electro-optic earth observation satellite that can deliver full-color images for land classification and disaster relief operations.
- Its first small commercial satellite, weighing 155 kg, is called NeuSAR. It can transmit images in all weather conditions, day or night.

6. DICTATOR'S SON FERDINAND MARCOS JR. TAKES OATH AS PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT



- Ferdinand Marcos Jr, the son of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos Sr, won the elections on 9th May with 31.6 million votes and was sworn as the 17th President of the Philippines.
- He took the oath at the National Museum of Fine Arts in Manila before the Supreme Court Justice, Alexander Gesmundo.
- The former President's daughter and his running mate, Sara Duterte Carpio, swore as vice president on 19th June. The two will be serving the nation until 2028.
- Marcos Jr. is more popularly known as “Bongbong” in the country and won on the platform of national unity, promising more jobs, lowering prices, and increasing investment in agriculture and infrastructure.
- Ferdinand Marcos Sr. was a dictator who ruled the country from 1965 to 1986 and was laid off due to abuse of human rights and increased corruption.
- During his reign, the country observed martial law from 1972-1981, where several people were tortured, imprisoned or killed for criticizing the government.

7. MALAYALAM ACTRESS AMBIKA RAO DIES OF CARDIAC ARREST AGED 58



- Malayalam actor and assistant director Ambika Rao passed away at the age of 58.
- She entered the movie industry as an assistant director with the 2002 release 'Krishna Gopalakrishna' helmed by Balachandra Menon.
- She forayed into the film industry as an assistant director in early 2000.
- She has assisted several directors, including Balachandra Menon, Anwar Rasheed, Shafi, and Vinayan.
- She also acted in many movies. Recently, she made a mark with her performances in hit films like Virus and Kumbalangi Nights.

By Sameer Singhal

