

# THE HINDU REVIEW

-MAY 2024-

• **CURRENT AFFAIRS**

• **MONTHLY CAPSULE**



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The Most Important Current Affairs May 2024

Kolkata Knight Riders Win IPL 2024 against Sunrisers Hyderabad

Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) etched their name in the annals of IPL history by clinching their third title after a resounding **eight-wicket victory** over the Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) in the final of the **IPL 2024** at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. The triumphant Knights, led by the astute captaincy of **Shreyas Iyer**, showcased their dominance throughout the tournament, culminating in a comprehensive triumph over SRH in the summit clash.

SRH's Batting Debacle Sets the Stage

The final witnessed a **batting collapse** of epic proportions from the Sunrisers Hyderabad, who were bundled out for a paltry **113 runs** in just 18.3 overs. This **lowest score in an IPL final** set the stage for a straightforward chase for the Knights, who had previously defeated SRH twice in the league stage.

Venkatesh Iyer's Blistering Knock Seals the Deal

Leading the charge for KKR was the in-form **Venkatesh Iyer**, who played a blistering innings of **50 runs** off just 24 balls. His explosive batting not only propelled KKR towards the target but also cemented his position as the team's **most prolific run-scorer in IPL Playoffs**, surpassing the 200-run mark in just five innings.

With an **unbeaten streak** extending to six completed matches, the Knights cruised to victory, ensuring their third IPL title triumph in a one-sided contest that showcased their overall superiority.

KKR's Resurgence and Dominance

The victory marked a momentous occasion for the Kolkata-based franchise, as they celebrated their **third IPL title** triumph, 12 years after their maiden triumph at the same venue against the Chennai Super Kings. Under the guidance of Shreyas Iyer, the Knights displayed a resurgence that saw them dominate the tournament from start to finish.

IPL 2024 Award Winners, Check the Complete list

**Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR)** won the IPL 2024 title, defeating **Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH)** in the final. **KKR's Sunil Narine** was named the Most Valuable Player and Ultimate Fantasy Player of the Season. SRH's Nitish Kumar Reddy was the Emerging Player of the Season. Virat Kohli (RCB) won the Orange Cap for most runs, while Harshal Patel (PBKS) took the Purple Cap for most wickets. Other award winners included Abhishek Sharma (SRH) for Most Sixes, Travis Head (SRH) for Most Fours, and Jake Fraser-McGurk (DC) for Best Strike Rate. SRH received the Fair Play Award, while the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad won the Pitch and Ground Award.

Here is the full list of awards for the Indian Premier League 2024 season

Kolkata Knight Riders emerged as champions of IPL 2024, defeating Sunrisers Hyderabad in the final. Sunil Narine (KKR) won the Most Valuable Player and Ultimate Fantasy Player awards, while Virat Kohli (RCB) and Harshal Patel (PBKS) claimed the Orange and Purple Caps respectively.

Award	Recipient
Winner (Rs. 20 crore)	Kolkata Knight Riders
Runner Up (Rs. 12.5 crore)	Sunrisers Hyderabad
Emerging Player of the Season (Rs. 10 Lakh)	Nitish Kumar Reddy (SRH)
Ultimate Fantasy Player of the Season (Rs. 10 Lakh)	Sunil Narine (KKR)
Most Valuable Player (Rs. 10 Lakh)	Sunil Narine (KKR)
Orange Cap (Rs. 10 Lakh)	Virat Kohli (RCB)
Purple Cap (Rs. 10 Lakh)	Harshal Patel (PBKS)
Most Sixes Award (Rs. 10 Lakh)	Abhishek Sharma (SRH)
Most Fours Award (Rs. 10 Lakh)	Travis Head (SRH)
Best Strike Rate Award (Rs. 10 Lakh)	Jake Fraser-McGurk (DC)
Catch of the Season (Rs. 10 Lakh)	Ramandeep Singh (KKR)
Fair Play Award (Rs. 10 Lakh)	Sunrisers Hyderabad
Pitch and Ground Award (Rs. 50 Lakh)	Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium, Hyderabad
Player of the match (IPL Final)	Mitchell Starc
Fantasy player of the match (IPL Final)	Mitchell Starc
Most sixes in the match (IPL Final)	Venkatesh Iyer
Most fours in the match (IPL Final)	Rahmanullah Gurbaz
Most dot balls in the match (IPL Final)	Harshit Rana

Alok Shukla Wins Prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize 2024

**Alok Shukla**, a renowned environmental activist and convenor of Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan, has been selected for the **prestigious 2024 Goldman Environmental Prize**. Also known as the **"Green Nobel Prize,"** this annual award honours grassroots environmental champions worldwide for their outstanding contributions to environmental protection.

**Winners of the 2024 Goldman Environmental Prize**

This year, seven people from six inhabited regions of the globe have been selected for the annual Goldman Environmental Prize. They are :

Serial no.	Winner	Country	Region
1	Marcel Gomes	Brazil	South and Central America
2	Murrawah Maroochy Johnson	Australia	Islands & Island Nations
3	Alok Shukla	India	Asia
4	Teresa Vicente	Spain	Europe
5	Andrea Vidaurre	United States of America	North America
6	Nonhle Mbuthuma and Sinegugu Zukulu	South Africa	Africa

**Protecting the Hasdeo Arand Forest**

Shukla’s recognition stems from his relentless efforts to safeguard the Hasdeo Arand Forest, considered the lungs of Chhattisgarh. In 2010, the government auctioned two coal blocks in this area to private companies for mining. To counter this threat, Shukla founded the Hasdeo Aranya Bachao Sangharsh Samiti and mobilized local tribal communities. Through sustained activism and pressure, Shukla succeeded in compelling the government to reverse its policy of auctioning 21 proposed coal mines in the Hasdeo Aranya area, ultimately leading to the cancellation of the proposed auction in 2022.

**Global Recognition for Environmental Leadership**

The Goldman Environmental Prize, established in 1989 by American couple Richard and Rhoda Goldman, aims to honor grassroots environmental leaders, draw international attention to environmental problems, and encourage action. This year, seven individuals from six inhabited regions of the globe have been selected for the prestigious award.

**Previous Indian Winners**

Alok Shukla joins the ranks of seven previous Indian recipients of the Goldman Environmental Prize, including renowned activists like Medha Patkar (1992), M.C. Mehta (1996), Rashida Bee and Champa Devi Shukla (2004), Ramesh Agarwal (2014), and Prafulla Samantara (2017). These remarkable individuals have fought tirelessly for environmental justice, land rights, and sustainable development across various parts of India.

**Grassroots Environmental Activism**

The Goldman Environmental Prize defines grassroots leaders as individuals involved in local efforts where positive change is created through community or citizen participation. Shukla’s recognition highlights the critical role played by grassroots

activism in protecting the environment and preserving natural resources for future generations.

As Alok Shukla receives this prestigious award, his efforts serve as an inspiration for environmental champions around the world, reminding us of the power of collective action and the importance of protecting our planet’s precious ecosystems.

**Eminent Personalities Honoured with Prestigious Pandit Lacchu Maharaj Award**

Noted Hindi film superstars **Hema Malini** and **Saira Banu**, along with other prominent personalities from the fields of art and culture, will be honoured with the prestigious Pandit Lacchu Maharaj Award. The award ceremony will take place on **31 August 2024** in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

**10 eminent personalities to be awarded the Lacchu Maharaj award**

The Lacchu Maharaj Award, Instituted in memory of the famous kathak exponent Lacchu Maharaj, was not given after 2014. Thus, the Pandit Lacchu Maharaj Ballet Foundation has decided to honour 10 personalities this year. No award has been announced for the year 2020 due to COVID-19. The awardees are:

Serial Number	Awardee	Award for Year	Belongs to Place	Exponent of Dance form
1	Uma Sharma	2015	New Delhi	Kathak
2	Rama Vaidyanathan	2016	New Delhi	Kathak
3	Uma Dogra	2017	Jaipur	Kathak
4	Hema Malini	2018	Mumbai	Kathak, Film actress
5	Saira Banu	2019	Mumbai	Kathak, Film actress
6	Sandhya Puricha, Chairman of Sangeet Natak Akademi	2018	Mumbai	Bharatanatyam Exponent
7	Dr. Malabika Mitra	2021	Kolkata	Kathak
8	Prachi Shah	2022	Mumbai	Kathak, Film actress
9	Ashim Bandhu Bhattacharya	2023	Mumbai	Kathak
10	Pandit Rajendra Gangani	2024	Jaipur	Kathak

### Reviving a Celebrated Tradition

The decision to honor these esteemed individuals was taken during a meeting held at Bhatkhande Sanskriti University, Lucknow, presided over by the university's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Mandavi Singh. The meeting was attended by the secretary of the Pt. Lachhu Maharaj Ballet Foundation and senior disciple of Pandit Lachhu Maharaj, Kumkum Adarsh.

### Honoring a Decade of Excellence

The Pandit Lachhu Maharaj Ballet Foundation has decided to honor ten personalities this year, as the award was not given after 2014. The esteemed awardees, spanning various years from 2015 to 2024, represent the pinnacle of artistic excellence in fields such as Kathak, Bharatanatyam, and cinema.

### Celebrating Kathak Legends

Among the awardees are renowned Kathak exponents like **Uma Sharma** (2015), **Rama Vaidyanathan** (2016), **Uma Dogra** (2017), and **Pandit Rajendra Gangani** (2024). Film actresses **Hema Malini** (2018) and **Saira Banu** (2019), both accomplished Kathak dancers, will also be honored for their remarkable contributions.

### Recognizing Artistic Brilliance

Other notable awardees include **Sandhya Puricha**, Chairman of Sangeet Natak Akademi (2018), a Bharatanatyam exponent; **Dr. Malabika Mitra** (2021), a Kathak maestro; **Prachi Shah** (2022), a Kathak dancer and film actress; and **Ashim Bandhu Bhattacharya** (2023), a Kathak exponent.

### Honoring the Legacy of Lachhu Maharaj

The Pandit Lachhu Maharaj Award is named after the legendary Kathak exponent, Lachhu Maharaj (1907-1978), who was born Baij Nath Prasad in Lucknow. He is renowned for choreographing Kathak dance sequences in iconic films like Mahal, Mughal-e-Azam, and Pakeezah, as well as numerous ballets.

As these eminent personalities are honoured with the Pandit Lachhu Maharaj Award, it serves as a testament to the rich cultural heritage of India and the enduring legacy of artistic excellence that continues to inspire generations.

### World Press Freedom Index 2024 Announced, India Ranked 159th Out of 180 Countries

In the latest edition of the **World Press Freedom Index** published annually by **Reporters Without Borders (RSF)**, India finds itself at a concerning position, **ranking 159th out of 180 countries**. This marks a slight improvement from its **previous rank of 161**, yet it still underscores significant challenges faced by journalists in the country. Surprisingly, India trails behind its neighboring nation **Pakistan**, which holds **the 152nd position**, while Sri Lanka stands at 150th place. **Norway** topped the ranking, while **Denmark** was on the second rank in World Press Freedom Index. **Sweden** ranked third on the list.

### Press Freedom Index Overview

The **World Press Freedom Index** evaluates **180 countries** based on the freedom and independence journalists have to work and report. The rankings shed light on the varying degrees of press freedom across the globe. In the **Asia-Pacific region**, which ranks as the **world's second most challenging area for journalism**, several countries, including Myanmar, China, North Korea, Vietnam, and Afghanistan, are among the most dangerous for media personnel. Notably, no Asian country made it to the **Index's top 15 this year**, indicating a pervasive challenge to press freedom in the region.

### Press Freedom in South Asia

The **recently released 2024 World Press Freedom Index** by **Reporters Without Borders (RSF)** has once again shed light on the state of press freedom across the globe. In **South Asia**, India finds itself ranked at **159th**, while its neighbor **Pakistan stands marginally higher at 152**. **Sri Lanka**, another regional player, is **positioned at 150**. These rankings underscore the challenges journalists face in the region, where the ability to work and report independently is often compromised.

### Changing Dynamic in Asia-Pacific Region

The **Asia-Pacific region**, known for its complexities, presents a challenging landscape for journalists. **Myanmar, China, North Korea, Vietnam, and Afghanistan** are among the **top ten most dangerous countries for media personnel**, reflecting the precarious environment journalists operate in. Notably, this year sees none of the region's countries in the top 15 of the index, signaling a concerning trend for press freedom advocates.

### Middle East and North Africa

In the **Middle East and North Africa**, press freedom concerns persist, with **nearly half of the countries facing "very serious" situations**. Countries like **Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Syria** continue to grapple with challenges to journalistic freedom. The United Arab Emirates joins the list of countries in the red zone, highlighting widespread issues across the region.

### Europe's Role and Challenges

Contrastingly, Europe, particularly within the **European Union**, boasts countries where press freedom is **considered "good."** However, challenges persist, with countries like **Hungary, Malta, and Greece** facing scrutiny for their treatment of the media. The adoption of the **European Media Freedom Act (EMFA)** reflects efforts to safeguard press freedom within the EU.

### Global Trends and Concerns

The **2024 World Press Freedom Index** reveals a worrying decline in the political indicator, one of five detailed indicators in the report. States and political forces are increasingly failing to protect press freedom, leading to hostile actions against journalists. The use of artificial intelligence, particularly in disinformation campaigns, poses a significant threat, with deepfakes being utilized to influence elections.

**War Against Nature and Journalist Peril**

Journalists covering environmental stories also face significant risks, **with 44 journalists killed in the past 15 years** while reporting on environmental issues. This underscores the dangers associated with reporting on critical global issues and the need to protect journalists working in these areas.

**2024 Pulitzer Prize Winners Announced**

The prestigious **Pulitzer Prizes** for 2024 were announced on **May 7, 2024**, by **Columbia University** in the United States of America. The awards, considered the most prestigious in the fields of journalism and arts, were conferred by Columbia University on the recommendation of the **Pulitzer Prize Board**. The winners will be formally recognized at a ceremony later, presided over by the president of Columbia University.

**Journalism Category**

Category	Winner
Public Service	Pro Publica (Joshua Kaplan, Justin Elliott, Brett Murphy, Alex Mierjeski, and Kirsten Berg)
Investigative Reporting	Hannah Dreier (The New York Times)
International Reporting	Staff of The New York Times
Editorial Writing	David E. Hoffman (The Washington Post)
Breaking News Photography	Photography Staff of Reuters
Feature Photography	Photography Staff of Associated Press
Audio Reporting	Staff of the Invisible Institute and USG Audio

**Book, Drama, and Music Category**

Category	Winner
Fiction	Night Watch by Jayne Anne Phillips
Drama	Primary Trust by Eboni Booth
History	No Right to an Honest Living: The Struggles of Boston’s Black Workers in the Civil War Era by Jacqueline Jones
Biography	King: A Life by Jonathan Eig Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom by Ilyon Woo
Memoir and Autobiography	Liliana’s Invincible Summer: A Sister’s Search for Justice by Cristina Rivera Garza
Poetry	Tripas: Poems by Brandon Som
Music	Adagio (For Wadada Leo Smith) by Tyshawn Sorey
General Nonfiction	A Day in the Life of Abed Salama: Anatomy of a Jerusalem Tragedy by Nathan Thrall

**Special Awards and Citations**

- A special citation was issued to the late writer and critic **Gregory Stephen Tate (Greg Tate)**, an American writer, musician, and producer.
- A special citation was also given to journalists and media workers covering the war in Gaza.

**About the Pulitzer Prize**

The Pulitzer Prize was established by Joseph Pulitzer, a newspaper owner who, in 1904, provided funds for the foundation of the Pulitzer Prize as an incentive for excellence in journalism, arts, and culture. He donated money to the Faculty of Journalism at Columbia University to administer the prizes. The first Pulitzer Prizes were awarded in 1917, and they continue to recognize outstanding achievements in these fields annually.

**Indian Literary Masterpieces Inscribed on UNESCO’s Memory of the World Register**

In a **proud moment** for India, three of its literary treasures – the **Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana** – have been inscribed on **UNESCO’s Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register**. This prestigious recognition celebrates India’s **rich literary heritage and cultural legacy**, affirming the timeless wisdom and artistic expressions that have shaped the nation’s identity.

**Preserving Timeless Wisdom for Future Generations**

The **inclusion** of these masterpieces in the Register signifies a crucial step in **global cultural preservation efforts**. It ensures that the profound teachings and narratives embodied within these works continue to **inspire and enlighten** generations to come, transcending boundaries of time and place.

**Honoring the Creative Genius of Literary Legends**

The **Ramcharitmanas**, authored by the renowned **Goswami Tulsidas**, the **Panchatantra** by **Pt. Vishnu Sharma**, and the **Sahṛdayāloka-Locana** by **Acharya Anandvardhan**, have profoundly influenced Indian literature and culture. These literary gems have left an **indelible mark** on readers and artists alike, shaping the nation’s **moral fabric and artistic expressions**.

**IGNCA’s Pivotal Role in Securing Global Recognition**

The **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)** played a pivotal role in securing this historic achievement during the **10th meeting of the Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP)**. Professor **Ramesh Chandra Gaur**, representing IGNCA, successfully presented and defended the nominations, highlighting their cultural significance and garnering support from representatives and observers.

**A Milestone in Cultural Preservation and Promotion**

This milestone not only celebrates India’s literary gems but also underscores IGNCA’s unwavering dedication to **preserving and promoting** the nation’s cultural heritage on a global stage. It reaffirms the organization’s commitment to advancing India’s literary legacy and contributing to the collective efforts of cultural preservation worldwide.

With the **Ramcharitmanas**, **Panchatantra**, and **Sahṛdayāloka-Locana** now inscribed on the prestigious Register, India's literary treasures have secured their rightful place among the world's most significant cultural assets, ensuring their enduring impact for generations to come.

**2024 MOWCAP Regional Register for Asia-Pacific**

Serial Number	Inscribed Item	Country
1	Funafuti: The Edgeworth David 1897 Expedition Documents	Australia and Tuvalu
2	Sultana's Dream- by Rokeya S. Hossain	Bangladesh
3	Archives Relating to the Chengdu Traditional Teahouses	China
4	Huizhou Genealogy Archives	China
5	Printing Blocks Housed at the Derge Printing House	China
6	The Illustrated Manuscripts of Rāmacaritamānasa of Tulasīdāsa	India
7	The Manuscript of the Sahṛdayāloka-Locana: Seminal Text of Indian Poetics	India
8	The 15th Century Manuscript of the Pañcatantra Fables	India
9	Indarung I, The First Cement Plant in Southeast Asia (1910-1972)	Indonesia
10	Indonesian Sugar Research Institute's Archives 1887-1986: The Role of ISRI's Research Activities to the World Sugar Industry	Indonesia
11	The Tambo Tuanku Imam Bonjol Manuscript	Indonesia
12	Al-Tarikh Salasilah Negeri Kedah: Genealogical History of Kedah State	Malaysia
13	The Royal Correspondence of Baginda Omar (Surat Persendirian Baginda Omar)	Malaysia
14	Family Chart of Hereditary Lords of the Khalkha Mongols, the House of Genghis Khan	Mongolia
15	Mongolia's First Postage Stamps 'Eldev Ochir'	Mongolia
16	Doctrina Christiana en Lengua Española y Tagala (Christian Doctrine in Spanish and Tagalog), Manila, 1593	Philippines
17	Hinilawod Epic Chant Recordings	Philippines
18	Images of Khorezm Oasis by Khudaibergan Devanov (1879-1937)	Uzbekistan
19	Turkestan Album" 1871-1872	Uzbekistan
20	Bas-reliefs on the Nine Bronze Urns in Huế Imperial Palace	Vietnam

**World's super-rich list of the Bloomberg Billionaires Index**

**Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani** have made it to the **top 15 world's super-rich list of the Bloomberg Billionaires Index**. This marks a significant achievement, especially for Gautam Adani, who reclaimed his position after losing it in 2023 due to short selling in his company's stock. Notably, for the first time, all individuals in the top 15 have a net worth of \$100 billion or more.

**Mukesh Ambani's Ranking and Wealth**

**Mukesh Ambani**, Chairman and Managing Director of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), is **ranked 12th with a wealth of \$110 billion**. RIL operates across various sectors including petrochemicals, oil and gas, telecom, retail, and financial services, making Ambani one of the wealthiest individuals globally.

**Gautam Adani's Comeback**

**Gautam Adani**, with a **wealth of \$100 billion**, is **ranked 14th**. Adani Group's business interests span ports, airports, power generation and transmission, green energy, edible oils, cement, and real estate. After a challenging year in 2023 due to accusations from Hindenburg Research and a subsequent sharp decline in his company's stock prices, Adani's fortunes rebounded. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Supreme Court cleared his name, leading to a resurgence in share prices driven by foreign investment.

**First Woman to Reach \$100 Billion**

**Bettencourt Meyers**, owner of the famous **L'Oreal** company, has become the **first woman to achieve a net worth of \$100 billion**. Her wealth reached \$101 billion, placing her **14th on the list**, due to L'Oreal's share price recording its best year since 1998. This milestone marks a significant achievement in gender representation among the world's wealthiest.

**Richest Person in South America**

**Carlos Slim of Mexico**, with a **net worth of \$106 billion**, has been included in the list for the first time, **ranking 13th**. Slim's wealth comes from his diverse business interests, including construction, telecommunications, and retail. He is the richest person in South America, highlighting the region's economic potential.

**World's Richest Man**

**Bernard Arnault**, the founder and CEO of LVMH, continues to lead the **world's richest list with a net worth of \$222 billion**. LVMH's luxury brands have maintained robust performance, securing Arnault's top position.

**Other notable rankings on the list of billionaires in the world:**

- **Jeff Bezos**: The founder of Amazon.com Inc. is the second richest person with a net worth of \$208 billion.
- **Elon Musk**: CEO of Tesla, ranks third with a net worth of \$187 billion. Despite a significant drop of over \$40 billion this year, Musk remains one of the wealthiest individuals globally.

**Buddha Purnima 2024**

**Buddha Purnima 2024**, also known as **Buddha Jayanti or Vesak**, is celebrated on Thursday, **23 May 2024**. This significant Buddhist festival commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Gautama Buddha. Observed with reverence across South, Southeast, and East Asia, the day is marked by prayer meetings, religious discussions, and cultural events, highlighting the profound teachings and enduring legacy of the Buddha.

**Buddha Purnima 2024 – Date**

Buddha Purnima, also known as **Buddha Jayanti or Vesak**, will be celebrated on Thursday, 23 May 2024. This day is a public holiday in several Indian states, including Haryana, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu Kashmir, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

**Buddha Purnima 2024: History**

Buddha Purnima commemorates the **birth, enlightenment, and death (Mahaparinirvana) of Prince Siddhartha Gautama**, who later became known as Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. Born around **563-483 BCE in Lumbini, Nepal**, Siddhartha Gautama was the son of **King Śuddhodana** and **Queen Maya Devi**. Raised in luxury, he was shielded from the sufferings of the world until he encountered old age, sickness, and death during excursions outside the palace. These encounters led him to renounce his royal life and seek enlightenment.

After years of ascetic practices and meditation under the Bodhi tree in Bodh Gaya, India, Siddhartha attained enlightenment and became the Buddha. He spent the rest of his life teaching the path to Nirvana until his **death at the age of 80**.

**Significance of Buddha Purnima**

Buddha Purnima is a significant festival in the Buddhist tradition, celebrated across **South, Southeast, and East Asia**. It marks the birth, enlightenment, and death of Gautama Buddha, making it a day of great reverence for Buddhists worldwide.

The festival is observed according to the lunisolar calendars used in Asian countries, and the date varies each year in the Gregorian calendar, typically falling in April or May. In some leap years, it may extend into June. The public holiday for Buddha Purnima in India was **first introduced by B. R. Ambedkar**, a key figure in Indian history and a convert to Buddhism.

**Celebrations of Buddha Purnima 2024**

- **Rituals and Observances**: On Buddha Purnima, Buddhists gather at viharas (monasteries) and engage in extended sessions of reading Buddhist sutras, resembling religious services. Idols of the Buddha are worshipped, prayer meetings are held, and devotees participate in religious discussions and group meditations.
- **Major Sites**: In Bodh Gaya, the Mahabodhi Temple is adorned with colorful decorations, and special prayers are conducted under the Bodhi tree, where Buddha attained enlightenment. The national museum in Delhi also displays holy relics of the Buddha on this day.
- **Food Traditions**: A popular dish prepared on Buddha Purnima is 'Kheer,' a sweet rice and milk pudding. This dish is symbolic and is shared among devotees as a part of the celebration.
- **International Celebrations**: While Buddha Purnima is a major festival in India, it is also celebrated with great enthusiasm in countries like Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Malaysia, and other parts of South, Southeast, and East Asia. Each region has its own unique traditions and rituals to honor the Buddha.
- **Community and Cultural Events**: Public talks, seminars, and cultural performances are often organized to spread the teachings of the Buddha and to reflect on his life and philosophy. These events aim to promote peace, compassion, and understanding among people.

**ICC Players of the Month for April 2024 Announced**

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has revealed the winners of the **ICC Player of the Month** awards for **April 2024**.

**Hayley Matthews: ICC Women's Player of the Month**

**Hayley Matthews**, the West Indies captain, has been named the **ICC Women's Player of the Month** for her exceptional all-round performances that spearheaded the West Indies' success in Pakistan across both ODI and T20I series.

**Dominant Displays Across Formats**

Matthews' third ICC Women's Player of the Month award comes after an array of eye-catching all-round displays in April, resulting in **451 runs** and **12 wickets** across both ODIs and T20Is.

The West Indies skipper set the tone early with an unbeaten 140 and three wickets in the opening ODI, followed by a 141-run knock and two wickets in the third ODI, sealing the series sweep.



In the subsequent T20I series, Matthews reinforced her position as the top-ranked Women's T20I all-rounder, scoring back-to-back half-centuries and taking six wickets, inspiring the tourists to a 4-1 series triumph.

#### Muhammad Waseem: ICC Men's Player of the Month

**Muhammad Waseem**, the UAE captain and opener, has been named the **ICC Men's Player of the Month** for his notable run-scoring feats as the UAE triumphed in the ACC Premier Cup.

#### Explosive Batting Displays

Waseem becomes the first UAE player to win the accolade, thanks to a string of powerful knocks that saw his side claim the ACC Premier Cup in Oman.

The opener struck **269 runs** during the month at an average of 44.83, including a sparkling 56-ball century in the final showdown against the hosts.

With an eye-catching strike rate of 182.99, Waseem's explosive strokeplay was evident throughout the UAE's campaign, with brisk knocks against Bahrain, Oman, and Cambodia.

## Banking and Financial Current Affairs

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued comprehensive guidelines outlining the voluntary transition path for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) seeking to become Universal Banks. These guidelines set specific eligibility criteria and procedural requirements for such a transition, aiming to ensure financial stability and operational effectiveness in the banking sector. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines for Small Finance Banks (SFBs) seeking to transition into Universal Banks, providing a pathway for conversion. This voluntary conversion is subject to specific criteria laid out by the RBI. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Ministry of Home Affairs has joined forces with SBI Cards and select telecom operators to address the rising issue of **one-time password (OTP)** frauds. In light of increasing phishing attacks targeting bank customers, a solution is being developed to alert individuals about potential OTP thefts. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India's decision to increase risk weights on bank loans to higher-rated **non-banking financial companies (NBFCs)** has led to a significant uptick in quarterly **commercial paper (CP)** issuances. This, coupled with investor confidence and diversified funding sources, has propelled CP issuances by NBFCs to a four-and-a-half-year high of **₹1.2-lakh crore in January-March 2024**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revoked the license of **Acemoney (India) Limited**, a Delhi-based **non-banking financial company (NBFC)**, citing irregular lending practices. This action stems from the company's violation of RBI guidelines regarding excessive interest charges and inadequate protection of customer information. Specifically, the RBI noted discrepancies in Acemoney's management of risks and code of conduct in its digital lending operations through third-party apps. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In April 2024, **Unified Payment Interface (UPI)** transactions witnessed a marginal dip of **1% in volume and 0.7% in value** compared to March. Despite this, year-on-year growth remains robust, with a 50% increase in volume and 40% in value. The dip in April is attributed to the typically higher transaction volumes in March. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Government of India has signed an agreement with the Government of **Bangladesh** to renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for training **1500 Bangladeshi officers from 2025 to 2030**. The agreement was signed between the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Government of India, and the Bangladeshi Ministry of Public Administration. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed monetary penalties on five co-operative banks for deficiencies in regulatory compliance. The co-operative banks that faced the central bank's action are Navsarjan Industrial Co-operative Bank Ltd, Mehsana Jilla Panchayat Karmachari Co-operative Bank Ltd, Halol Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd, Stambhadri Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd and Subramanianagar Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Government of India has introduced a **Floating Rate Bond (FRB)** maturing in 2034, with the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) declaring an 8% interest rate** for the **Floating Rate Savings Bond (FRSB) 2034**. This bond offers a variable interest rate that resets every six months, reflecting market conditions. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a remarkable achievement, **ICICI Bank** has etched its name among India's top five companies by market capitalization, surpassing the **Rs 8 trillion mark**. The private lender's shares surged over 5%, propelling its market value to new heights and cementing its position as a financial powerhouse. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Fi**, a neobanking startup, backed by investors such as **Peak XV and Temasek**, has obtained a **non-banking finance company (NBFC)** license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), enabling it to provide loans from its own books. This development aligns with the trend seen among fintech startups in recent years, where acquiring NBFC licenses facilitates direct lending and asset base establishment. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- **YES Bank has partnered with ANQ** to introduce two innovative credit cards, Pi and Phi, aiming to blend traditional banking with fintech solutions. The **Pi card offers digital-only credit on UPI** for domestic transactions, while the Phi card provides physical access for both domestic and international purchases. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **HDFC Life launches the “No Jhanjhat Life Insurance Fatafat”** campaign, aimed at simplifying and expediting life insurance purchases through its online platform. The campaign underscores the importance of addressing India’s low insurance penetration and vast protection gap. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has **disclosed that 97.76%** of the **Rs 2000 denomination banknotes** have been reabsorbed into the banking system, leaving only Rs 7,961 crore in circulation with the public. Since the announcement of their withdrawal from circulation on **May 19, 2023**, the total value of Rs 2000 banknotes has significantly decreased. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a groundbreaking move, **GetVantage, a start-up specializing in revenue-based finance (RBF)**, has achieved a significant milestone by obtaining a non-banking financial company (NBFC) license from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. This accomplishment marks a pivotal moment as GetVantage becomes the first RBF and alternative funding platform in India to receive such authorization. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In response to the introduction of the **T+1 settlement regime for stocks**, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has updated the guidelines for custodian banks regarding the issuance of **Irrevocable Payment Commitments (IPCs)**. Under these revised guidelines, custodian banks issuing IPCs will be subject to a maximum intraday risk, considered as **capital market exposure (CME)**, capped at **30 percent** of the settlement amount. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Following the reduction in trade settlement time from **T+2 to T+1 and T+0 for select equities by stock exchanges**, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decreased the maximum risk for custodian banks issuing irrevocable payment commitments (IPCs) from 50% to 30%. This decision is based on the assumption of potential downward price movements of equities purchased by foreign institutional investors/mutual funds over two successive days from the trade date. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **ICICI Bank has unveiled a groundbreaking feature** allowing **non-resident Indian (NRI)** customers to utilize **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** transactions in India through their international mobile numbers. This innovation aims to simplify daily payments for NRIs by eliminating the need to register an Indian mobile number with their **NRE/NRO accounts**, thereby enhancing convenience. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the **lifting of restrictions on Bank of Baroda’s BoB World mobile application**, permitting the bank to onboard customers immediately. This decision follows the RBI’s directive in October 2023 to suspend customer onboarding on the app due to supervisory concerns. Bank of Baroda, in response, has undertaken corrective measures to address these concerns. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **HDFC Bank and Atal Innovation Mission, under NITI Aayog**, have empowered social sector startups in India by providing grants totaling **Rs 19.6 crore in FY24**. This initiative, known as the **‘Parivartan Start-up Grants programme,’** supported 170 startups through 41 incubators, focusing on critical areas such as climate innovation, financial inclusion, agriculture, healthcare, education, livelihood enhancement, and gender diversity. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Investments through participatory notes (P-notes)** in the Indian capital markets reached a staggering **Rs 1.5 lakh crore** at the end of February 2024, marking the highest level in nearly six years. This surge in P-note investments, encompassing Indian equity, debt, and hybrid securities, has been driven by the strong performance of the domestic economy. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India recently conducted a buyback of **government securities (G-Secs)**, receiving offers totaling **₹17,384.552 crore**, but accepting only ₹10,513 crore, despite the notified amount being ₹40,000 crore. Market analysts speculate that banks may have offered **G-Secs at higher prices**, leading to rejection of offers out of sync with secondary market prices. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **YES BANK, a leading private sector bank in India**, is collaborating with **EBANX**, a global fintech firm specializing in payment solutions for emerging markets. Together, they aim to provide a comprehensive range of scalable payment solutions to merchants, facilitating seamless cross-border transactions and expanding global commerce opportunities for both merchants and customers in India. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In its latest quarterly report, **State Bank of India (SBI)** showcased remarkable financial performance, recording its highest standalone **quarterly net profit at ₹20,698 crore**. This exceptional result was primarily driven by a surge in non-interest income, effective cost management, and a favorable adjustment in asset provisions. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India’s fiscal deficit for the **fiscal year ending March 2024** is anticipated to outperform government projections, coming in slightly better than the estimated 17.35 trillion rupees (\$207.81 billion). This optimistic outlook is attributed to increased tax receipts and bolstered non-tax revenues, according to a government source speaking anonymously in New Delhi. The official announcement regarding the **2023/24 fiscal deficit is slated for May 31st**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted approval to **Quant Mutual Fund (MF)** to increase its stake in **RBL Bank to 9.98% by May 12, 2025**. This approval, subject to conditions and provisions under the **Banking Regulation Act, 1949**, was disclosed in a regulatory filing. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **HDFC Bank has rolled out Pixel Play**, the nation's inaugural virtual credit card partnered with Visa. Offering two distinct variants, **Pixel Play and Pixel Go**, this innovative card empowers users to craft personalized cards tailored to their lifestyle preferences and chosen merchants, all through the bank's PayZapp mobile app. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a move aimed at granting additional time to **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** of India to meet regulatory requirements, the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)** has extended LIC's deadline to achieve a minimum **10% public shareholding**. LIC, a state-owned insurance giant, now has until May 16, 2027, to fulfill this obligation. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **India's internet economy** is poised for significant growth, with industry experts predicting it will reach **\$1 trillion by 2030**. This surge is primarily driven by the e-commerce sector, which is expected to grow at an annual rate of 25%, from \$60 billion in FY2023 to \$325 billion, making it the third largest globally. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In an effort to combat tax evasion in the **pan masala and tobacco sectors**, the **GST portal** has introduced **new forms and procedures for manufacturers** to register their machinery and report monthly inputs and outputs. This initiative follows recommendations from the GST Council and aims to enhance compliance and reduce illicit trade. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) repurchased government bonds worth only **Rs 2,069 crore out of the notified Rs 60,000 crore**. Banks resisted selling at lower prices, resulting in limited acceptance. The bonds, purchased during the pandemic at higher rates, posed a challenge for the RBI, prompting smaller buyback amounts. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- SBI General Insurance, the non-life insurance arm of **State Bank of India (SBI)**, has launched **'Surety Bond Bima'** to support infrastructure development by providing a security arrangement for infrastructure projects. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** has made significant adjustments to the regulations governing surety bonds in response to feedback from insurance stakeholders. These changes aim to enhance the accessibility of surety insurance products and encourage more insurers to participate in servicing the growing demand across various sectors of the economy, particularly the infrastructure sector. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- SEBI has introduced significant amendments to its **Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements (LODR) regulations**, focusing on the computation of market capitalization for listed companies. The amendments aim to redefine the criteria for applicability and establish a defined period for calculating average **market capitalization**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Bank of Maharashtra** has emerged as a top performer among public sector banks, showcasing impressive growth in total business and deposit mobilization. **With a 15.94% rise** in total business and a **15.66% increase in deposits**, it outshines competitors like State Bank of India. The bank's focus on low-cost CASA deposits, coupled with robust loan growth and exemplary asset quality, positions it as a resilient and efficient player in the banking sector. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Public sector banks (PSBs)** are poised to deliver **approximately 30% higher dividends** to the government in FY24 compared to the previous fiscal year. The total dividends from PSBs are **estimated at ₹18,013 crore for FY24**, a significant uptick from ₹13,804 crore in FY23, reflecting their robust financial performance. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a strategic move to cater to the evolving needs of affluent and elite customers, YES Bank has introduced **'YES Grandeur'**, a premium banking service designed to provide tailored financial and lifestyle solutions. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Online food delivery platform **Swiggy** has partnered with **SHIELD**, a device-first risk AI platform, to bolster its **fraud prevention and detection capabilities**. This strategic move aims to address promo abuse and deter fraudulent practices within Swiggy's Delivery Partner ecosystem. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved the transfer of **Rs 2.11 lakh crore** as a dividend to the Government of India for the financial year 2023-24. This announcement was made after the **Central Board of Directors meeting on 22 May 2024 in Mumbai**. This is the highest-ever dividend despite the Contingent Buffer Risk being increased to 6.5% for 2023-24. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- HDFC Bank divested its entire **3.20% stake in Protean eGov Technologies**, amounting to 12,94,326 shares, for Rs 150 crore. The shares were sold at an average price of Rs 1,160.15 apiece through an open market transaction. Simultaneously, Nippon India Mutual Fund acquired a 3.16% stake in Protean eGov Technologies for Rs 148 crore. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of **Rs 3.1 lakh on Hero FinCorp Limited** due to non-compliance with certain provisions of the fair practices code. This penalty is based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and does not affect the validity of any transactions or agreements the company has with its customers. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das** has unveiled three major initiatives: the **Pravaah portal**, the **Retail Direct Mobile App**, and a **FinTech Repository**. These initiatives, previously announced in the RBI's bi-monthly Statement on Development and Regulatory Policies in April 2023, April 2024, and December 2023, aim to enhance regulatory processes, provide easier access to government securities for retail investors, and improve the understanding of the FinTech sector. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has penalized ICICI Bank and YES Bank for violations of regulatory norms pertaining to their financial positions as of March 31, 2022. Following supervisory inspections, the RBI issued notices to both banks, which subsequently failed to provide satisfactory explanations for the identified lapses, leading to the imposition of penalties. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has levied a penalty of **Rs 36.38 lakh on HSBC Limited** for breaching regulations outlined in the **Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA)**. Specifically, HSBC failed to adhere to reporting requirements under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme of FEMA, 1999. The central bank's action follows a thorough review of the case, including HSBC's response to a show cause notice issued earlier. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken stringent action against Edelweiss Group's lending and asset reconstruction arms due to concerns regarding the manipulation of loans and structured transactions. This move comes amidst the central bank's ongoing efforts to curb evergreening of loans and ensure regulatory compliance in the financial sector. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

### Economy Current Affairs

- Deloitte India has revised its GDP growth forecasts for FY24 and FY25, with a significant increase in projections. The consultancy anticipates a robust **GDP growth of 7.6-7.8% for FY24**, up from the previous estimate of **6.9-7.2%**. Looking ahead to FY25, Deloitte expects GDP to expand by **6.6%**, driven by strong economic activity fueled by rising consumption expenditure. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India has adjusted its **windfall tax on petroleum crude**, reducing it to **8,400 Indian rupees (\$100.66) per metric ton from 9,600 rupees**, effective May 1. This decision comes after a recent increase in the tax from 6,800 rupees to 9,600 rupees per metric ton on April 16. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In April 2024, India witnessed a historic milestone in its **Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue collection**, reaching an unprecedented **Rs 2.10 lakh crore**. This marked a substantial 12.4% increase from the previous year's collections. The surge was primarily driven by a robust 13.4% growth in domestic transactions and an 8.3% rise in imports. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In March, the growth of **India's core sectors slowed to 5.2% from February's 7.1%**, primarily due to the statistical effect of a high base. However, sequentially, there was a notable increase of 9.9%, marking the highest growth in a year. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** has revised **India's GDP growth projection upward to 6.6%** for the fiscal year 2024-25. This adjustment reflects the anticipation of robust growth driven primarily by increased public investment and improved business sentiment. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India Ratings and Research have revised upward their **GDP growth estimate for FY25 to 7.1%**, citing strong government expenditure, improved corporate and banking sector balance sheets, and a budding private corporate capex cycle. However, they caution that growth could be constrained by factors such as uneven consumption demand and export challenges due to global economic sluggishness. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India's industrial production growth rate decelerated to **4.9% in March 2024** compared to **5.7% in February**, as per data from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** for FY24 stood at 5.8%, up from 5.2% in the previous year. In March 2023, industrial output had grown by 1.9%. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Factory output in India saw a notable rise, **registering a growth of 4.9% in March**, a significant leap from the 1.9% recorded in the same period the previous year. However, this figure fell slightly short of **February 2024's 5.7%**. For the fiscal year 2023-24, the factory output grew by 5.8%, a marginal increase from the previous year. The uptick was particularly evident in manufacturing and construction goods output. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India's retail inflation has eased marginally to **touch an 11-month low of 4.83 per cent on an annual basis in April**, according to government data released on **Monday**. This slight dip from the previous month's **figure of 4.85 per cent aligns** closely with the projections of a **Reuters poll of 44 economists**, who estimated the number to **come down to 4.80 per cent**. Importantly, this figure falls within the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) tolerance band of 2-6 per cent. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- In the **financial year ending March 2024**, the cumulative profit of public sector banks (PSBs) **surged, reaching over ₹1.4 lakh crore**, marking a significant 35% increase from the previous year's earnings of ₹1.04 lakh crore. State Bank of India (SBI) emerged as a major contributor, accounting for over 40% of the total earnings. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In the fiscal year 2023-24, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) saw a significant increase in its gold reserves, adding **27.46 metric tonnes** and reaching a **total of 822.10 metric tonnes** by the end of **March 2024**. This brought the share of gold in the total foreign exchange reserves to about 8.15%, up from 7.81% in the previous year. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In April, wholesale inflation in **India soared to a 13-month high of 1.26%**, up from 0.53% in March. This surge was primarily fueled by rising prices of food articles, particularly vegetables, and a year-on-year increase of 1.4% in fuel and power costs after months of deflation. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Moody's Ratings predicts a 6.6%** expansion for the Indian economy in the fiscal year ending **March 2025 (FY25)**. This growth trajectory is anticipated to fuel strong credit demand, particularly benefiting the **Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)**, despite challenges posed by rising funding costs. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The United Nations has revised **India's economic growth forecast for 2024**, projecting a robust expansion driven by strong public investment and resilient private consumption. India's economy is now expected to grow by **6.9% in 2024, up from the 6.2% forecast in January**, with a 6.6% growth rate projected for 2025. This optimistic outlook highlights India's role in bolstering South Asia's overall economic performance. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India's foreign exchange reserves saw an increase of \$2.56 billion, reaching a total of \$644.15 billion for the week ended May 10, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This follows a previous increase of \$3.668 billion after three consecutive weeks of decline. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In response to rising credit demand and falling liquidity, State Bank of India (SBI) has increased short-term retail fixed deposit rates by **25-75 basis points (bps)**, marking its **first interest rate hike since December**. This move, likely to be emulated by other banks, reflects a strategic adjustment to offer better returns for depositors. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Indian economy showed robust growth in the first three quarters of the 2023-24 fiscal year, with GDP expanding by 8.2% in the June quarter, 8.1% in the September quarter, and 8.4% in the December quarter. India Ratings and Research (Ind-RA) expects the **GDP growth rate to be 6.7% for the March quarter and around 6.9-7% for the entire fiscal year**, according to their principal economist, Sunil Kumar Sinha. The official GDP

numbers for Q4 and provisional estimates for FY24 will be released on May 31. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- India's MSME sector, contributing over **30% to the GDP** and employing **approximately 12 crore people**, faces a significant credit gap of around **Rs. 28.2 lakh crores**. **RXIL's Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS)** platform has achieved a milestone by facilitating financing of over 50 lakh invoices worth ₹1,00,000 crore since its inception. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Net **foreign direct investment (FDI)** into India experienced a notable decrease of **62.17%** in the fiscal year 2023-24 (FY24), plummeting to **\$10.58 billion from the previous year's \$27.98 billion**. This decline is attributed primarily to increased repatriation of capital and Indian companies' investments abroad. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a move aimed at strengthening corporate governance in the insurance industry, the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** has issued new guidelines that reduce the **engagement period of statutory auditors** with insurance companies from **10 years to 4 years**. This strategic decision is poised to ensure regular rotation and independence of audit firms, thereby enhancing transparency and accountability in the sector. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- In a strategic move to improve liquidity in the commodity derivatives market, the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has **reduced the deliverable period for commodity derivatives** from the previous 5 days to **3 days**. This regulatory change is set to take effect from **July 1, 2024**, and will apply to contracts with staggered delivery scheduled after this date. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- In its latest report, CRISIL Ratings predicts a slowdown in bank credit growth for fiscal year **2025 to 14%**, marking a decline of 200 basis points from the estimated **16% growth in FY24**. This moderation is attributed to various factors including a high base effect, revision in risk weights, and a slightly slower pace of GDP growth. ([Click here to read the Article](#))



## Business Current Affairs

- The increasing reliance of **India on Chinese industrial goods presents significant economic and security concerns, with China's share in New Delhi's imports rising from 21% to 30% over the last 15 years.** This situation demands a strategic reassessment of import strategies to foster diversified and resilient supply chains. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Hitachi Payment Services** has unveiled **new upgradable ATMs in India**, allowing banks to adapt their machines into **Cash Recycling Machines (CRMs)** as per evolving needs. Manufactured under the 'Make in India' initiative, these ATMs offer flexibility and efficiency to banks, potentially revolutionizing the Indian ATM industry. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA), a public sector enterprise, has been granted the coveted '**Navratna**' status by the government, according to a recent filing with the stock exchanges. This prestigious designation takes the total number of **Navratna PSEs (Public Sector Enterprises)** in India to 17. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Cred has launched an innovative UPI-based '**Scan and Pay**' service, marking its entry into the offline payments sphere, challenging incumbents like PhonePe, Google Pay, and Paytm. This service allows users to make payments directly from their bank accounts using any QR code, extending convenience to large format stores such as supermarkets, fast-food joints, beauty salons, and fashion boutiques. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** has announced a significant investment of **Rs 5,215 crore to develop 1 gigawatt (GW)** of renewable energy capacity in India. This strategic move aligns with IOC's broader diversification strategy beyond traditional oil and gas ventures. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Worldline ePayments India** has announced its receipt of approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as a payment aggregator. This approval underscores the company's dedication to the Indian market and emphasizes its commitment to compliance within a well-regulated payments landscape. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India's manufacturing sector has continued its robust performance into the first quarter of the new fiscal year, maintaining its momentum from the previous year's stellar showing. In April, the **HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** revealed a buoyant picture, with manufacturing activity registering its second strongest expansion since early 2021. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In the dynamic landscape of Indian startups, **former BharatPe COO Dhruv Dhanraj Bahl** steps into the world of venture capital with the launch of his **maiden fund, Eternal Capital**, with a substantial corpus of **Rs 240 crore**, including a greenshoe option. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Micron India's Sanand unit** gears up to unveil its inaugural batch of domestically manufactured **semiconductor chips in 2025**, with a focus on global exportation. Anand Ramamoorthy, the managing director, underscores the burgeoning global demand, strategic partnerships, and the diverse applications spanning various sectors, notably emphasizing agility and the scarcity of talent in niche domains such as cybersecurity. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL)** has successfully secured **USD 400 million** financing from a consortium of five leading international banks for its **750 MW solar projects in Rajasthan and Gujarat**. The financing will support the construction of these projects, expected to come online from November 2024 onwards. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a significant development, REC Ltd., under the Ministry of Power, has obtained approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to establish a subsidiary in **Gujarat International Finance Tech-City (GIFT), Gandhinagar**. This move reflects REC's strategic initiative to diversify its portfolio and tap into new avenues for growth within the burgeoning hub of financial services in India. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India and Ghana are poised to integrate their payment systems, **UPI and GHIPSS**, to facilitate instant and cost-effective fund transfers between the two nations. Within **six months, NPCI's UPI is set to be operational on Ghana's GHIPSS platform**, marking a significant step in financial collaboration. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Bhavesh Gupta, the President and Chief Operating Officer** overseeing payments and lending businesses, will transition to an advisory role due to personal reasons. This move aims to ensure smooth continuity in Paytm's growth initiatives. Meanwhile, **Rakesh Singh** has been appointed as the new **CEO of Paytm Money Ltd**, signaling a renewed focus on scaling and innovation in wealth management products. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)** Mumbai has sanctioned Sapphire Media's acquisition plan for **Reliance Broadcast Network's Big 92.7 FM**. This approval follows a resolution process initiated in February 2023 under the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- IREDA, a state-owned entity under the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)**, has formed a subsidiary named **IREDA Global Green Energy Finance IFSC Limited** at the **International Financial Services Centre (IFSC)** within GIFT City, Gujarat. This move aims to leverage global financial markets to support the growth of the renewable energy sector in India. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Bharti Enterprises, led by Sunil Bharti Mittal**, divested 38.50 lakh shares of ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company for **₹663 crore through open market transactions**. This sale reduced Bharti Enterprises' stake in ICICI Lombard from 2.43% to 1.63%. Concurrently, ICICI Bank, the promoter, increased its stake in ICICI Lombard to 51.7% by purchasing 21 lakh shares. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Zeta, a global provider of cutting-edge banking technology, has unveiled its Digital Credit as a Service offering at Democratizing Credit 2024. Leveraging **NPCI's Credit Line on UPI scheme**, Zeta aims to tap into the burgeoning credit market in India, projecting transaction volumes to surpass \$1 trillion by 2030. With a goal to capture 50% of this market, Zeta's solution streamlines credit issuance processes for banks, facilitating the rapid deployment of diverse credit products. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Thomas Cook India** has revolutionized international money transfers with the **launch of TCPay**, a user-friendly digital service designed to simplify and enhance the remittance process. Traditionally, sending money abroad involved tedious paperwork and limited operating hours. With TCPay, customers can now enjoy 24x7 remittances with ease and efficiency. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Hinduja Group's IndusInd International Holdings (IIHL)** has obtained approval from the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** for the acquisition of Reliance Capital. This acquisition encompasses Reliance Capital's insurance subsidiaries, including Reliance General Insurance and Reliance Nippon Life Insurance. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Infosys, a global leader in digital services and consulting, has been awarded the **ISO 42001:2023 certification by TUV India**, for its **Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)**. This certification highlights Infosys' commitment to implementing responsible AI practices and adhering to regulatory standards. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a significant stride towards sustainable energy practices, the **Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP)**, a key unit of the **Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)** situated in **Chhattisgarh**, is set to inaugurate the state's premier floating solar project. This venture marks a pivotal moment in Chhattisgarh's journey towards renewable energy and underscores BSP's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint while promoting eco-friendly initiatives. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a groundbreaking move, **Hero MotoCorp, India's leading two-wheeler manufacturer**, has become the first in its sector to integrate with the **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)**. By leveraging ONDC's platform, Hero MotoCorp aims to enhance accessibility and convenience for its customers, offering a seamless digital experience for purchasing two-wheeler parts, accessories, and merchandise. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a significant move, **PhonePe has joined forces with LankaPay** to introduce **UPI payments in Sri Lanka**. This collaboration allows PhonePe users to seamlessly utilize UPI for transactions across LankaPay QR merchants, providing them with familiarity and security while traveling. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)** forecasts India's merchandise exports to reach **\$500-510 billion in FY25**, rebounding from a 3% contraction in the previous fiscal year. Services exports are estimated to contribute \$390-400 billion, culminating in total exports of approximately \$890-910 billion. Noteworthy sectors driving this growth include engineering, advertising services, and the expansion of global capability centers. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In anticipation of increased demand in the automotive sector, **Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd** has unveiled an ambitious plan to **invest ₹26,000 crore** in its automotive business over the **next three years**. This significant investment will span **from FY25 to FY27** and is aimed at developing new vehicles and enhancing production capacity. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Indian government has announced plans for public sector companies like **Coal India, NMDC, and ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL)** to actively seek critical mineral assets overseas. This strategic move aims to secure vital mineral resources essential for various industries, including clean energy technologies and electric vehicles. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Fusion Micro Finance** has obtained a **\$25 million loan** from the **United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)** to fuel its expansion plans, primarily focusing on empowering rural women entrepreneurs. The initial disbursement of \$20 million, part of an **eight-year loan**, aims to enhance business operations and advance financial inclusion efforts. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Tata Motors' subsidiaries, **Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles (TMPV)** and **Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM)**, have teamed up with Bajaj Finance to offer an innovative financing programme for their authorised passenger and electric vehicle dealers. This partnership aims to streamline financing options and support the business operations of these dealers. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- Tech mogul **Elon Musk** introduced **SpaceX's Starlink satellite** internet service in **Indonesia**, aiming to enhance connectivity in remote regions of the archipelago nation. The inauguration took place in Bali, where Musk, alongside Indonesian officials, emphasized the transformative potential of improved internet access. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a strategic move to expand its foothold within the **Gujarat International Finance Tec City (GIFT City)**, the State Bank of India (SBI) has finalized the acquisition of a **6.125% stake in CCIL IFSC Limited**. The transaction, valued at ₹6.125 crore, marks SBI's commitment to enhancing its role in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at GIFT City. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- AstraZeneca, a leading pharmaceutical company, announced plans to construct a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Singapore with a focus on producing **antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs)**, a promising class of **cancer-fighting medications**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) has marked a significant milestone by exporting its first-ever consignment of **100 octane premium fuel, XP100, to Sri Lanka**. The high-quality fuel, designed for premium high-end vehicles, was **shipped from the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust in Mumbai**. This event highlights IOCL's commitment to expanding its global reach and showcasing the quality of its products. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **SIDBI**, in collaboration with **Airbus Helicopters**, has entered the realm of helicopter financing in India through a recent **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**. This partnership aims to facilitate the financing of Airbus helicopters for potential civil operators in the country. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services, a prominent player in India's non-banking finance sector, has secured a corporate agency license from the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**. This license empowers Mahindra Finance to act as a 'corporate agent (composite)' under the Insurance Act, 1938, facilitating the distribution of insurance products. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Tech giant **Google is investing \$350 million** in Walmart-owned e-commerce firm Flipkart as part of a \$1 billion funding round. This investment aims to support Flipkart's growth as it targets a \$60 billion valuation at the time of its initial public offering (IPO), planned for 2025-26. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- Walt Disney Co. has struck a deal to **sell its 30% minority stake in Tata Play Ltd. to Tata Group, valuing the company at approximately \$1 billion**. This move allows Disney to focus on merging its Indian unit with **Mukesh Ambani's Viacom 18 Media Pvt**, forming an \$8.5 billion entertainment giant. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** has signed a deal to modernize the core banking technology of Burgan Bank, a leading **commercial bank in Kuwait**. Burgan Bank will deploy TCS BaNCS to consolidate multiple legacy applications into a contemporary universal banking solution, enhancing innovation and customer relationships. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The Prudential Authority of the South African Reserve Bank has imposed a **financial penalty of 10 million rand (₹4.5 crore)** on the State Bank of India's South Africa branch for non-compliance with certain provisions of the country's **Financial Intelligence Centre Act 38 of 2001 (FIC Act)**. The penalty comprises an immediately payable portion of 5.50 million rand, already paid, and a suspended amount of 4.50 million rand, contingent on compliance within 36 months. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The Government of India, being the largest shareholder in **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)**, will receive a **dividend of Rs 3,662 crore** following LIC's declaration of an interim dividend of Rs 6 per share. LIC reported a net profit of Rs 13,782 crore for the quarter ending March 31, 2024, marking a 4.5 percent increase compared to the same period last year. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **GAIL (India) Ltd.**, the nation's leading **natural gas transmission and distribution company**, has achieved a **significant milestone** with the commissioning of its **first green hydrogen plant**. Located in **Vijaipur, Madhya Pradesh**, this plant marks GAIL's foray into the realm of **new and alternative energy sources**. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- Reliance Industries is set to begin construction on **India's first Multimodal Logistics Park at Mappedu near Chennai in June**, a project conceptualized 12 years ago. Despite initial setbacks, the project, valued at Rs 1,424 crore and spanning 184.27 acres in Tiruvallur district, is now ready to proceed, with potential to revolutionize the southern region's logistics landscape. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
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- Reliance Industries, India's major refining company, has inked a significant agreement with **Russia's Rosneft**. Under this deal, Reliance will purchase at least 3 million barrels of oil per month from Rosneft, **paying in Russian roubles**. This move aligns with Russian President Vladimir Putin's call for alternative trading mechanisms amid Western sanctions. Additionally, the agreement enables Reliance to secure oil at discounted rates amidst expectations of extended OPEC+ supply cuts. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- European Union banks, including **Credit Agricole, Societe Generale, Deutsche Bank, and BNP Paribas**, are facing hurdles in trading Indian government bonds and derivatives due to a deadlock between their home authorities and Indian policymakers regarding audit oversight rights. The **European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)** de-recognized the **Clearing Corp of India (CCIL) in October 2022**, prompting the need for alternative clearing mechanisms. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and **Tata Group**, two of India's prominent business conglomerates, have been named among the **World's 100 'Most Influential Companies'** by the renowned TIME magazine. This recognition highlights their significant impact and influence on a global scale. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

### International Current Affairs

- The Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) has introduced a **new kamikaze drone resembling Russia's Lancet drone**. This drone, yet to be named publicly, is designed for targeted attacks, akin to those witnessed in the Ukraine conflict. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Iraq's parliament recently passed a stringent law criminalizing same-sex relationships**, imposing a **maximum 15-year prison sentence**. The legislation, titled the Law on Combating Prostitution and Homosexuality, reflects a concerning trend of increased scrutiny and persecution of LGBT individuals in Iraq. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Humza Yousaf, Scotland's first Muslim First Minister** and leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP), has announced his resignation amid political turmoil. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Sri Lanka, amidst a financial crisis stemming from a severe shortage of dollars, has taken a significant step by partially lifting import restrictions. This move aims to rejuvenate the economy, which has been struggling since March 2020. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Dubai is embarking on an ambitious endeavor to construct the **world's largest airport, Al Maktoum International Airport**, boasting an unprecedented capacity to accommodate 260 million passengers annually, with 400 terminal gates and five parallel runways. **Spearheaded by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**, the project signifies Dubai's commitment to innovation and global connectivity. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Paleontologists from Argentina** have revealed the unearthing of a novel medium-sized herbivorous dinosaur, **Chakisaurus nekul**, which thrived approximately 90 million years ago during the Late Cretaceous period in **present-day Patagonia**. The finding, detailed in the journal Cretaceous Research, sheds light on a remarkable creature known for its speed and unique tail anatomy. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a triumphant display of dominance, **Paris Saint-Germain** secured their record **12th Ligue-1 title in the 2023-24 season**. The club's relentless pursuit of excellence saw them claim victory for the third consecutive year, further solidifying their stature as a powerhouse in French football. Under the astute leadership of **coach Luis Enrique**, PSG showcased their prowess with a commanding performance throughout the season. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- Zimbabwe has launched a new currency called the **ZiG** (short for **Zimbabwe Gold**) in an attempt to address the country's long-running **currency crisis**. The ZiG, backed by Zimbabwe's **gold reserves**, was introduced electronically in early April and has now been released in **banknote** and **coin** form. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- China is set to launch the **Chang'e-6** lunar probe on a **round trip to the Moon**, marking a significant advancement in their space exploration. The mission aims to gather soil and rock samples from the far side of the Moon, providing crucial insights into its early evolution and the inner solar system. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a significant political development, the **Solomon Islands** has elected former Foreign Minister **Jeremiah Manele** as its new prime minister, indicating that the South Pacific island nation is likely to maintain close ties with China. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **American Express** is set to inaugurate its expansive new campus in **Gurugram**, spanning nearly **one million square feet**, showcasing the company's commitment to fostering a vibrant work environment. The move signifies a strategic step in leveraging global expertise and local talent to drive innovation and value for customers worldwide. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Japanese men's under-23 football team etched their name in history by clinching the **AFC U-23 Asian Cup** for the second time, defeating Uzbekistan in a nail-biting final at the **Jassim bin Hamad Stadium** in Doha, Qatar. The solitary goal scored by substitute Yamada in injury time secured Japan's victory and qualification for the **2024 Paris Olympics**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a groundbreaking endeavor, **China** has launched the **Chang'e-6** probe on an ambitious mission to collect samples from the **far side of the Moon**. If successful, China will etch its name in history as the first country to retrieve lunar samples from the enigmatic far side, a feat yet unaccomplished by any other nation. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a significant political development, **José Raúl Mulino** has emerged victorious in Panama's presidential election, securing nearly **35%** of the counted votes with over **92%** of the ballots tallied. The 64-year-old former security minister has gained an unassailable 9% lead over his nearest rival, prompting three of his closest opponents to concede defeat. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a groundbreaking move that combines cutting-edge technology with diplomacy, **Ukraine** has unveiled an **AI-generated spokesperson**, named **Victoria Shi**, to deliver official statements from its foreign ministry. This significant technological leap in diplomatic communication has captured global attention. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Nepal's population growth rate** has hit a historic low, **standing at 0.92% per annum** over the past decade, the slowest in the last eighty years, as reported by the **National Statistics Office (NSO)**. The current population stands at approximately 29.2 million, with a growth of **2.7 million** from mid-April 2011 to mid-April 2021. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **John Swinney**, a veteran of the **Scottish National Party (SNP)**, has been elected as the party's **new leader**, paving the way for him to succeed **Humza Yousaf** as Scotland's **First Minister**. Swinney emerged as the sole contender in the contest to pick a new premier, solidifying his position as a prominent figure in Scottish politics. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- As **Vladimir Putin** embarks on his **fifth term as President of Russia**, the nation finds itself at a critical juncture, with global attention keenly focused on the trajectory of **Putin's leadership and Russia's** evolving role on the world stage. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Sri Lankan government** has approved an agreement with **Adani Green Energy**, led by **Gautam Adani**, for the development of **wind power stations** in **Mannar** and **Poonerín**. The agreement was given the green light by the Sri Lankan cabinet on **May 7**. Under the **power purchase agreement**, which has a duration of **20 years**, Adani Green Energy will be paid **8.26 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh)** for the electricity generated from the wind power stations. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Mahamat Idris Deby Itno**, Chad's military dictator and interim president, has secured victory in the presidential election held on May 6, 2024. This provisional result, announced by the **National Election Management Agency** on May 10, 2024, is poised to extend Deby's rule for another six years. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a widely anticipated move, Russian President **Vladimir Putin** has reappointed **Mikhail Mishustin** as the **Prime Minister** of Russia, subject to approval by the lower house of parliament, the **State Duma**. This decision comes as part of the legal procedure following Putin's inauguration for his fifth presidential term. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **European Union** has passed its **first-ever legislation** aimed at combating violence against women. The law mandates all EU member states to criminalize practices such as female genital mutilation, forced marriage, and online harassment. Despite unanimous agreement on the necessity of the legislation, disagreements arose regarding a common definition of rape. Despite this, the law marks a significant step forward in protecting women's rights across the EU. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- Japanese men's hockey team etched its name in the history books by clinching its **maiden Sultan Azlan Shah Trophy** title. The match against **Pakistan** ended in a 2-2 deadlock after regulation time, leading to a penalty shootout. Japan emerged victorious, defeating Pakistan 4-1 in the nerve-wracking shootout at the **Azlan Shah Stadium in Ipoh, Malaysia**, on 11 May 2024. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Russia** has claimed to have discovered massive oil and gas reserves in the **British Antarctic Territory**, a region currently protected under the 1959 Antarctic Treaty. According to evidence submitted to the Commons Environment Audit Committee, the reserves uncovered by Russian research ships contain around **511 billion barrels worth of oil**, a staggering amount equivalent to approximately **10 times the North Sea's output over the last 50 years**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a strategic move aimed at positioning **Dubai** as a global gaming hub and bolstering its digital economy, **His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Crown Prince of Dubai**, has unveiled the '**Dubai Gaming Visa**' as part of the **Dubai Program for Gaming 2033**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- China's industrial output grew by **6.7% year-on-year in April**, a significant increase from the **4.5% growth recorded in March**. This robust growth, as reported by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on Friday, exceeded analysts' expectations of a 5.5% rise, indicating a strengthening recovery in the manufacturing sector. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Nepalese Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal, also known as Prachanda**, is set to seek his fourth vote of confidence on Monday amidst turmoil in parliament. The Janata Samajbadi Party Nepal has withdrawn its support within 18 months of Dahal taking office, prompting this latest confidence vote. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Hundreds of residents **near Mount Ibu**, an active volcano on **Halmahera island in eastern Indonesia**, have been evacuated following a significant increase in volcanic activity. Authorities raised the alert status to the highest level after two consecutive days of massive eruptions, prompting precautionary measures to ensure the safety of local communities. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India and the UAE recently concluded a significant meeting focused on the **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC)**. The meeting, held under the Intergovernmental Framework Agreement, aimed at enhancing cooperation for the development and operationalization of the corridor. This initiative is set to provide alternative supply routes, generating efficiencies and reducing costs. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In the latest move against perceived infringements on its territorial claims, China has sanctioned **Boeing and two other US defense companies** for their involvement in **arms sales to Taiwan**. The announcement came on the day of Taiwan's presidential inauguration, highlighting tensions in the region. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Venezuela** has recently witnessed a poignant environmental milestone, marking a grim reality of the climate crisis. The nation has likely become the **first in modern history to lose all its glaciers**, with the reclassification of the Humboldt glacier as an ice field, its final icy vestige, earlier this month. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Japanese consortium** has unveiled the prototype of what is touted to be the **world's first high-speed 6G device**, promising data transfer rates at lightning speed. This groundbreaking innovation opens the door to a realm of possibilities previously unimaginable. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a proud moment for Kannadigas and dairy farmers in Karnataka, the **Scotland cricket team** has unveiled its **new ICC T20 World Cup jersey** adorned with the **Karnataka Milk Federation's (KMF) Nandini logo**. This collaboration signifies a significant milestone, bridging the worlds of cricket and dairy in a unique partnership. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Iran** mourns its **President Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian**, and other officials who were killed in a **helicopter crash in northwest Iran**. This incident occurs amidst heightened tensions in West Asia, notably the ongoing conflict between **Israel and Gaza** and the broader geopolitical confrontations involving Iran, Israel, and the US. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Lai Ching-te was sworn in as Taiwan's new President** in a ceremony on Monday after winning the election earlier this year. He succeeds **Tsai Ing-wen**, who led Taiwan through eight years marked by economic and social progress despite the COVID-19 pandemic and China's increasing military threats. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **To Lam**, Vietnam's former minister of public security, has been confirmed as the nation's new president by the National Assembly. His rise comes amid an ongoing **anti-corruption campaign** that has shaken the country's political establishment and business elites, resulting in multiple high-level government changes. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Spain has officially become the **99th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)**. The Instrument of Ratification was handed over by Spain's Ambassador to India, José María Ridaio Domínguez, to Abhishek Singh, Joint Secretary in the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)**, during a meeting in New Delhi. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- The **European Union** has given the **final green light to the AI Act**, marking a historic step in regulating artificial intelligence. This groundbreaking legislation establishes comprehensive rules to ensure trust, transparency, and accountability in AI technologies while fostering innovation within Europe. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Amid the ongoing **Israel-Hamas conflict**, Ireland, Norway, and Spain have formally recognized Palestine as a state. In response, Israel has recalled its ambassadors to Ireland and Norway, with warnings directed at Spain. This move adds to the diplomatic tensions amidst the escalating **violence in Gaza**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Klaus Schwab**, founder and executive chairman of the **World Economic Forum (WEF)**, will transition from his current role to become chairman of the board of trustees by January next year, according to an emailed statement from the Geneva-based institution. This move is part of a planned **"governance evolution"** from a founder-managed organization to one where the president and the managing board assume full executive responsibility. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan** awarded the **First-Class Medal of Independence to Jose Aguero Avila**, Ambassador of the Republic of Paraguay to the UAE, on the occasion of the end of his tenure as ambassador to the country. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **University of Tokyo** has inaugurated the **Atacama Observatory (TAO)**, which has been awarded a Guinness World Record for being the **highest observatory in the world**. Situated at a staggering **5,640 meters above sea level** on the summit of Cerro Chajnantor in the Antofagasta Region of Chile, TAO stands as a testament to human ingenuity and determination. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a move that reflects the strengthening ties between India and the Maldives, the island nation has announced its intention to launch **India's RuPay service**. This decision underscores the growing economic and financial cooperation between the two countries. While the specific launch date for the RuPay service has not yet been disclosed, the upcoming integration holds promise for enhanced financial inclusivity and cost-saving measures. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **Saudi Arabia's** appointment of **Faisal bin Saud Al-Mejfel as its ambassador to Syria** signifies a significant shift in bilateral relations, marking the first such appointment in over a decade. This move comes amidst a period of thawing relations between the two nations following years of estrangement sparked by the Syrian civil war. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- In a resounding victory, **Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausėda** has clinched a second term, triumphing over **Prime Minister Ingrida Šimonytė**. With preliminary results indicating Nausėda's commanding lead with 74.5% of the votes, his reelection underscores broad support for his moderate conservative stance and unwavering advocacy for Ukraine. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **Ghana's Next-Gen Infrastructure Company (NGIC)** collaborates with Reliance Jio's subsidiary, Tech Mahindra, and Nokia to bolster its **4G and 5G capabilities**. With a focus on emulating India's telecom success, Ghana aims to enhance connectivity and digital services across various sectors. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **Nepalese climber Purnima Shrestha** has achieved the extraordinary accomplishment of **climbing Mount Everest three times** during the current season. Shrestha, who works as a photojournalist, successfully summited the world's highest peak on **May 12, May 19, and May 25**. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **Chad**, a north-central African nation, has witnessed a significant transition in leadership as **Mahamat Idriss Deby** was sworn in as the country's new president. Deby's ascension to power marks the end of three years of **military rule in the oil-rich but impoverished nation**. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- A devastating landslide in the remote village of **Yambali** in the **Enga Province of Papua New Guinea** has buried an entire village, resulting in a catastrophic loss of life. According to the United Nations agency International Organization for Migration (**IOM**), more than **670 people** have died, and over **2000** are feared trapped under the soil. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has forged a significant technology partnership with **Norway's Nel ASA** to expedite its foray into new energy investments. This alliance is poised to play a pivotal role in facilitating RIL's transition towards green energy, particularly through the production of green hydrogen. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- Russia is set to remove the **Taliban from its list of banned terrorist organizations**, three years after the group regained power in Afghanistan. This move, reported by state-run **RIA Novosti** news agency, comes after years of Russia fostering relations with the Taliban, including holding multiple rounds of talks and boosting trade despite international sanctions. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- In a significant move to fortify **Ukraine's defense capabilities against Russia**, Sweden has announced the donation of two Saab Airborne **Surveillance and Control (ASC) 890 aircraft**. These radar surveillance planes will play a crucial role in enhancing Ukraine's long-range target identification capabilities and supporting the integration of F-16 fighter jets provided by other Western nations. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

## National Current Affairs

- Invest India predicts that India's ecommerce sector will skyrocket to **\$325 billion by 2030**, with rural India driving much of the growth. This surge is fueled by factors such as increased internet penetration, affordable internet services, and a rising number of smartphone users. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- A report by the **Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI)** highlights India's escalating dependence on Chinese imports, with the import bill surging to over \$101 billion in 2023-24 from around \$70 billion in 2018-19. Over the past fifteen years, China's share of India's industrial goods imports has risen significantly, reaching 30%, while imports from China have outpaced **India's total imports by 2.3 times**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India emerged as the **global leader in remittances in 2022**, receiving over **\$111 billion**, surpassing the **\$100 billion mark for the first time**. The **International Organisation for Migration (IOM)** highlighted India, alongside Mexico, China, the Philippines, and France, as the top five remittance recipient countries. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India's toy exports experienced a slight decline to **USD 152.34 million** in the **fiscal year 2023-24**, with limited benefits from quality control measures. Despite efforts to bolster the domestic industry and ensure product safety, exports did not see significant improvement. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India's remarkable surge in solar energy deployment propelled it past Japan, securing its position as the **world's third-largest solar power generator in 2023**. Solar energy continued its unprecedented growth streak, outpacing coal in global electricity generation for the **19th consecutive year**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India has reaffirmed its dedication to the global fight against terrorism by contributing \$500,000 to the **UN Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund (CTTF)**. **Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj, India's Permanent Representative to the UN**, delivered the contribution to **Under Secretary General Vladimir Voronkov** on May 7. This financial support adds to India's ongoing commitment, totaling \$2.55 million, aimed at bolstering multilateral efforts against terrorism. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- According to data from the **Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI)**, an economic think tank, **China** has emerged as India's **largest trading partner** in the fiscal year 2023-24, surpassing the **United States**. The **two-way commerce** between India and China stood at a staggering **\$118.4 billion**, slightly edging out the **\$118.3 billion** traded with the US. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The grand commencement of **IndiaSkills 2024 took place at Yashobhoomi, Dwarka, New Delhi** on 15 May 2024. Over the span of four days, this esteemed competition will assess the proficiency of students across 61 diverse categories, providing a platform for showcasing talent at both national and international levels. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Inauguration of the **Bharat Pavilion**, formerly known as the **India Pavilion**, marked a significant moment at the **77th Cannes Film Festival**. The renaming reflects India's commitment to traditional storytelling while seeking global collaborations. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India has signed a 10-year agreement to develop and operate Iran's strategic Chabahar Port to strengthen trade ties with Central Asia and Afghanistan, bypassing Pakistan. However, this deal faces potential US sanctions, complicating New Delhi's strategic objectives. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In April, India's merchandise exports saw a **modest 1% increase, reaching \$34.99 billion**, driven by robust growth in sectors like electronics, chemicals, petroleum products, and pharmaceuticals, despite global economic uncertainties. However, the trade deficit widened to a five-month high of \$19.1 billion, with imports rising by 10.25% to \$54.09 billion. Notably, imports of gold and crude oil surged, contributing to the deficit. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Cabinet has greenlit an ambitious financial allocation of over **Rs 10,300 crore for the IndiaAI Mission**, aimed at fortifying India's AI innovation ecosystem. Spearheaded by a public-private partnership model, this significant investment over the next five years is poised to catalyze various strategic initiatives, including compute infrastructure expansion, startup empowerment, and ethical AI deployment. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Artara'24 Fine Arts Exhibition and Competition** has made its mark in Dubai as a prestigious platform for discovering and nurturing emerging artistic talents from India. The event aimed to uncover hidden artistic gems, with a particular focus on the Indian talent residing in Dubai. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW)** recently marked **International Women in Maritime Day**, recognizing the significant contributions of 27 women seafarers to the maritime industry. The event aimed to honor these professionals and promote gender equality within the maritime sector. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India is set to play a pivotal role in facilitating the first-ever focused discussions on regulating tourism in Antarctica at the **46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM)** and the 26th Meeting of the **Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP)**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- In a significant stride, India's market capitalization has surged to **\$5 trillion, marking a historic achievement**. This remarkable feat was accomplished in under six months since surpassing the \$4 trillion mark, showcasing the nation's robust economic resilience and investor confidence. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- As the **Doordarshan** channel **DD Kisan** marks its **9th anniversary** on **26 May 2024**, it is set to embark on a remarkable journey by introducing **Krish and Bhoomi**, the first **AI anchors** in India's government broadcasting history. This groundbreaking move underscores the channel's commitment to leveraging cutting-edge technology to better serve the nation's agricultural community. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India is the only country among the world's top five crude steel producers to record positive growth in April 2024, according to the **World Steel Association**. India, the second-largest crude steel producer globally, achieved a **growth rate of 3.9% compared to April 2023**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Smartphones have become a major export success story for India, now ranking as the fourth-largest export item **with a 42% growth, reaching \$15.6 billion in FY24**. This marks an improvement by one notch in the ranking from the preceding year. Data collection for smartphones as a separate category began in April 2022, highlighting the sector's rapid growth. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The **Food and Nutrition Board (FNB)**, a technical branch of the **Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD)** responsible for providing logistical support to community nutrition programs, has been **officially dissolved** as part of the government's plan to rationalize various bodies. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- India faced a trade deficit with nine out of its **top ten trading partners in the fiscal year 2023-24**, according to official data. Notably, China emerged as India's largest trading partner, surpassing the United States, with bilateral commerce totaling \$118.4 billion. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- India has achieved a significant milestone with the successful flight test of the indigenously developed **anti-radiation missile Rudram-II**. Fired from a **Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft off the coast of Odisha**, this missile is poised to become a vital asset for the Indian Armed Forces, serving as a force multiplier in suppression of enemy air defenses (SEAD) missions. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The Indian government has raised the maximum limit of retirement gratuity and death gratuity from Rs 20 lakh to Rs 25 lakh, effective from January 1, 2024. This revision, issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, aims to enhance benefits for Central government employees. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

### States Current Affairs

- The **government of Tamil Nadu** has launched a three-day survey of the **Nilgiri Tahr**, the state's iconic animal. This initiative aims to better understand and conserve this **endangered species** that faces numerous challenges, including **habitat loss** and **poaching**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Maharashtra Day**, also known as **Maharashtra Divas**, is celebrated every year on **May 1st** to commemorate the **formation of the state in 1960**. Maharashtra was carved out of the Bombay Presidency and declared a separate state on this historic day. Present-day Gujarat constitutes the other part of the former Bombay state. The division was a result of the States Reorganisation Act of 1956, which aimed to reorganize states based on linguistic boundaries, following massive protests for linguistic states. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Gujarat Day**, celebrated on **May 1st**, commemorates the formation of the **vibrant state of Gujarat on May 1st, 1960**. This annual occasion reflects Gujarat's rich cultural heritage, resilience, and contributions to India's cultural mosaic. With a history steeped in tradition and progress, Gujarat Day serves as a reminder of the state's journey towards independence and its ongoing pursuit of growth and prosperity. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Uttarakhand government** has **suspended the manufacturing licenses of 14 products from Patanjali Ayurved, founded by Baba Ramdev**, citing misleading advertisements about their efficacy. This move comes amid ongoing scrutiny and legal proceedings against Ramdev for non-compliance with directives to cease misleading advertising. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Union Ministry of Home Affairs** has granted approval to the Uttar Pradesh Government's proposal to **rename eight railway stations in Amethi district**. Spearheaded by BJP Amethi MP Smriti Irani, this decision aims to preserve the cultural identity and heritage of the region by honoring local temples, saints, idols, and freedom fighters through the new station names. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In response to a **public interest litigation (PIL)** on child marriage, the **Rajasthan High Court** has issued a directive aimed at curbing the practice in the state. With the approaching **Akshay Tritiya festival**, notorious for child marriages, the court has emphasized the responsibility of sarpanchs and panchayat members in preventing such unions. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- As the Lok Sabha elections in Gurugram, scheduled for May 25, draw near, the district administration has taken a unique approach to encourage voter participation. In a bid to attract the attention of the electorate, particularly the youth, the authorities have roped in **India cricketer Yuzvendra Chahal**, as well as popular singers **MD Desi Rockstar** and **Naveen Punia**, as brand ambassadors. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Amidst the aftermath of ethnic strife and severe hailstorms, **Manipur's government introduces** the **"School on Wheels"** program, aiming to provide education to students sheltered in relief camps across the state. The initiative, inaugurated by **Governor Anusuiya Uikey**, entails a mobile educational setup equipped with a library, computers, and sports items, accompanied by a teacher, to visit various camps. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Kerala's health authorities have reported West Nile fever cases in three districts: Kozhikode, Malappuram, and Thrissur. In response, the state government has directed all districts to be vigilant and implement mosquito control measures, including pre-monsoon cleaning drives and surveillance activities. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has been actively assisting the state in combating the forest fires. In response to the raging fires in the Pauri Garhwal sector, the IAF provided much-needed relief by undertaking **Bambi Bucket operations** using its **Mi17 V5 helicopters**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Uttarakhand** government has launched the **'Pirul Lao-Paise Pao'** campaign to contain the raging forest fires in the state. Chief Minister **Pushkar Singh Dhami** launched the campaign in the **Rudraprayag district** on **May 8, 2024**. He urged the people to actively participate in the campaign and stated that cooperatives, **Yuva Mangal Dal**, and **Van Panchayat** would also take part. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Meghalaya has made history by appointing **Idashisha Nongrang** as the state's first woman **Director General of Police (DGP)**. Nongrang, a 1992 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer, will succeed **Lajja Ram Bishnoi**, who is set to retire on May 19, 2024. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a remarkable achievement, **P Shyaamnikhil** from Tamil Nadu has etched his name in the annals of Indian chess history by becoming the country's **85th Grandmaster (GM)**. The **31-year-old chess prodigy**, who embarked on his journey at the tender age of eight, finally secured the coveted **third and final GM norm** at the prestigious **2024 Dubai Police Masters Chess Tournament**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Assam has taken a significant step towards enhancing its disaster management capabilities with the launch of the **Disaster Reporting and Information Management System (DRIMS)**. This state-of-the-art digital platform, an initiative of the **Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA)**, aims to streamline the reporting and assessment of damages caused by various disasters, enabling prompt disbursement of aid to those affected. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Karnataka government** has mandated a **33% reservation for women** in outsourced government jobs. This aligns with existing quotas for permanent positions and applies to jobs lasting more than 45 days and involving over 20 employees. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a heartening development, the annual waterhole census conducted in the **National Desert Park, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan**, has revealed a significant presence of the critically endangered Great Indian Bustard. The survey, which employs the waterhole technique during the scorching summer months, counted a staggering **64 Great Indian Bustards** within the park's boundaries. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- According to the **Central Electricity Authority's latest data**, **Uttar Pradesh** has emerged as the top state in terms of adding transmission lines by **state transmission companies in 2023-24**. This achievement follows its leading position in the previous fiscal year, 2022-23. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **Goa Statehood Day** is celebrated annually on **May 30** to commemorate the day when **Goa** attained statehood in **1987**. This occasion marks the recognition of Goa as a separate state within the Indian union, distinct from the Union Territory it was previously part of. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

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## Schemes and Committees

- **India is embarking on Mission ISHAN**, aimed at consolidating its fragmented airspace management into a single, unified system headquartered in Nagpur. This move promises to revolutionize air traffic management, benefitting both airlines and passengers. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a concerted effort to combat the rising threat of fraudulent SMS, the **Department of Telecommunication (DoT)**, in collaboration with the **Union Ministry of Home Affairs**, has launched the Sanchar Saathi Initiative. This initiative aims to tackle the proliferation of deceptive messages targeting unsuspecting mobile users. Notably, the government has identified and blocked eight SMS headers frequently exploited by cybercriminals. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The **Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS)** has launched the **Pharma Research in AyurGyan And Techno Innovation (PRAGATI-2024)** initiative to promote research and innovation in the field of ayurveda. This initiative aims to provide an opportunity for collaborative research between **CCRAS and the ayurveda drug industry**. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

## Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

- **India's Bharat 6G Alliance** is set to sign a cooperation agreement with Europe's Industry Alliance 6G, following a similar agreement with the US. This partnership aims to foster collaboration in **developing 6G technology**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a groundbreaking move, **NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL)** has joined hands with the **Bank of Namibia (BoN)** to introduce a real-time payment system akin to India's Unified Payment Interface (UPI) in Namibia. This partnership marks NPCI's first collaboration with a central bank for deploying the UPI stack in an international market, aiming to revolutionize digital payments in Namibia. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a significant development, **Girish Chandra Murmu, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)**, has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **Toyam Raya, Auditor General of Nepal**. This agreement aims to strengthen collaboration and facilitate the exchange of expertise in auditing practices between the **Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs)** of both countries. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **India and Nigeria** have agreed to finalize the **Local Currency Settlement System Agreement** to enhance bilateral trade. The agreement, to be settled in Indian rupees and Nigerian naira, was discussed during the **2nd session of the India-Nigeria Joint Trade Committee in Abuja**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Infibeam Avenues' **CCAvenue**, a leading payments platform, has entered into a strategic partnership with **Shivalik Small Finance Bank (SFB)** to enhance merchant access. Through this collaboration, merchants registered with CCAvenue will gain access to Shivalik SFB's extensive customer base. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Kohima Peace Memorial and Eco Park** in Nagaland hold profound significance, celebrating the collaborative effort between the **Government of Japan**, the **Japanese International Cooperation Agency**, and the **Government of Nagaland**. The inauguration of these projects represents not only historical importance but also serves as a symbol of **peace, reconciliation, and educational value**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and **Hindalco Industries**, a leading industry group, have joined forces to promote the manufacturing and supply of **indigenous marine-grade aluminium** for the construction of ships. The collaboration, formalized through a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**, aims to enhance India's self-reliance in the shipbuilding sector. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a significant move to bolster research and conservation efforts concerning sharks and rays in the **Arabian Sea**, **India and Oman are set to embark** on a joint initiative. This collaboration aims to enhance understanding, promote conservation, and facilitate capacity building in elasmobranch research, with a particular focus on the Arabian Sea region. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **India and Iran** have inked a significant **10-year bilateral contract** aimed at enhancing the operations of the **Chabahar Port**. This move underscores India's strategic interests in bolstering trade links with Central Asia and parts of Europe, leveraging the port's strategic location on Iran's southwestern coast. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a significant step towards empowering women in emerging technology sectors, the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd to conduct **two Pilot Projects under the Drone Didi Yojana**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))



- India and the UK have reaffirmed their commitment to concluding a mutually beneficial **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** during the annual UK-India Strategic Dialogue in London. This marks a significant step as the two nations have already conducted 13 rounds of talks, with the **14th round commencing in January 2024**. The discussions also reviewed progress on the 2030 Roadmap, established in 2021 to enhance cooperation in various sectors. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD)** under the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** India to digitalize vaccine cold chain management, enhance communication planning, and build capacity. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

### New Appointments: International

- The **Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** has welcomed a new addition to its leadership team. **Sunil Kumar Yadav**, an officer from the Indian Revenue Service (IRS), has been appointed as the **Director** of the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a significant development, the **Indian Vaccine Manufacturers Association (IVMA)** has announced the appointment of **Krishna Ella**, co-founder and executive chairman of **Bharat Biotech**, as its new **president** for the next two years, effective April 2024. Ella will take over the presidency from Adar C. Poonawala, who held the position from 2019 to March 2024. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Sarvadanand Barnwal**, an **Indian Statistical Service (ISS)** officer of the **2010 batch**, has been appointed as **Director** in the **Department of Land Resources**. The appointment was made on **Friday, April 26, 2024**, through an order issued by the **Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT)**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Justice (retired) Dinesh Kumar** took charge as the Presiding Officer of the **Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT)** on **29 April 2024**. The government of India appointed Justice Dinesh Kumar for a **four-year term**. Before taking over as the presiding officer of SAT, Justice Dinesh Kumar was the chief justice of the **Karnataka High Court**. He retired from the post in **February 2024**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has granted its approval for the **appointment of Hitesh Kumar Sethia** as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of **Jio Financial Services** for a three-year period, effective from **November 15, 2023**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) has announced the appointment of Pratima Singh, an officer of the **Indian Revenue Service (IRS)**, as the Director in the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Indian political landscape has lost a seasoned leader with the passing of **V. Srinivas Prasad**, a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Member of Parliament (MP) and former Union Minister. Prasad, who had an illustrious career spanning five decades, breathed his last at the age of 76 in Bengaluru, Karnataka. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Shashi Bhushan Singh**, a **2010-batch Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS) officer**, has been appointed as the **Secretary (at the Director level) of the National Jute Board in Kolkata** under the Ministry of Textiles. The appointment, approved by the Central Government, is effective for a five-year term or until further orders. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Atanu Chakraborty's re-appointment** as part-time **Chairman of HDFC Bank** for three years, effective from **May 5, 2024, to May 4, 2027**, has been approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The Board of Directors has also sanctioned his re-appointment as an Independent Director for the same tenure. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Retired Justice Sanjaya Kumar Mishra** has been appointed as the **President of the Goods & Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) by the Centre**. The move aims to streamline the resolution of disputes concerning businesses efficiently. The appointment, made by the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet based on the recommendation of the Search-cum-Selection Committee, comes with a salary of ₹2.50 lakh per month for a tenure of four years. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Subodh Kumar (IAS)**, a 2010-batch **Indian Administrative Service officer of Tamil Nadu cadre**, has been appointed as **Director in the Ministry of Ayush**. The appointment, effective from the date of assuming charge, is initially until October 8 or until further orders, whichever is earlier. Presently, Kumar is on 'Compulsory wait' in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Following **Deepak Parekh's** resignation from the post of Chairman, HDFC Life Insurance appointed Keki Mistry to fill the position. Subsequently, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) granted approval for Mistry's appointment. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- R Shankar Raman**, the current **Whole-time Director and CFO** of L&T, has been elevated to the position of **President**. Following this promotion, Raman will continue to hold his existing roles as the Whole-time Director and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the company. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- **SBI General Insurance** has announced the appointment of **Jaya Tripathi** as the **Head – Key Relations Group**. In her new role, Tripathi will lead the expansion of new business opportunities and partnerships, drive sales team growth, and deepen partner relationships to enhance profitability. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has appointed **R. Lakshmi Kanth Rao** as **Executive Director**, effective from May 10, 2024. Rao brings over 30 years of experience at the RBI, having previously served as Chief General Manager in charge of the Department of Regulation. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Tata Sons chairman **N Chandrasekaran** is set to assume the role of chairman at **Tata Electronics**, a significant move that underscores the Tata group's commitment to its **\$14 billion** investment in the semiconductor business. Chandrasekaran will succeed **Banmali Agrawala**, who has held the position for several years and has recently taken on an advisory role within the group. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) has successfully conducted its 15th **RGB elections** for its Board of Directors, marking a remarkable milestone in cooperative governance. The elections, held on **May 9, 2024**, at IFFCO's corporate office in New Delhi, saw the emergence of **Dileep Sanghani** as the **Chairman** and **Balvir Singh** as the **Vice Chairman** of IFFCO. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Wipro**, a leading IT major, has announced the appointment of **Vinay Firake** as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of its **Asia Pacific, India, Middle East, and Africa (APMEA) strategic market unit (SMU)**, effective immediately. Firake will report directly to **Srini Pallia**, Wipro's CEO and Managing Director, and will also join the company's executive board. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **NASA** has given a new role to **David Salvagnini** as the agency's **Chief Artificial Intelligence (AI) Officer**. This is an addition to his current job as **Chief Data Officer**. The appointment shows NASA's commitment to using AI technology responsibly. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Senior advocate Kapil Sibal** has been elected as the **president of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA)** in a recent election held on Thursday in New Delhi. This marks his fourth term serving as the president of the prestigious lawyers' body, succeeding senior advocate Adish C. Aggarwala. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a significant development, **senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officers A Y V Krishna and N Venu Gopal** have been appointed as **additional directors in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)**. Their appointments underscore the government's commitment to bolstering the investigative capabilities of the premier investigative agency. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has given its nod for the **appointment of Pradeep Natarajan** as **Whole Time Director on the Board of IDFC FIRST Bank**, marking a significant development for the private sector lender. The approval, granted for a tenure of three years, underscores the bank's commitment to strengthening its leadership team. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Sanjiv Puri**, the **Chairman and Managing Director of ITC Ltd.**, has been elected as the **President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** for the term 2024-25. Puri succeeds **R Dinesh**, Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions, in this prestigious role. Alongside Puri, **Rajiv Memani** assumes the position of **President-Designate**, while **R Mukundan** takes on the role of **Vice President** for the same term. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)** has reported significant increases in student enrollment under various categories from 2014-15 to 2021-22. According to data released on Saturday, enrollment of **Scheduled Caste (SC) students rose by 44%**, from 4.61 million to 6.62 million. SC female student enrollment increased by 51%. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) India**, the world's largest television audience measurement organization, has appointed **Dr. Bikramjit Chaudhuri** as its new **Chief of Measurement Science & Analytics**. He will succeed **Dr. Derrick Gray**, a veteran in the field of audience measurement and advanced analytics, who has been an esteemed member of the BARC India team for six years. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Vedanta Aluminium** has announced the appointment of its Chief Executive Officer (CEO), **John Slaven**, as the **Vice-Chairman of the International Aluminium Institute (IAI)**. In this prominent role, Slaven will spearhead global initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable transformation within the aluminium industry and highlighting aluminium's crucial role in advancing the energy transition towards a **Zero Carbon future**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Shri Ramesh Babu V.** has taken the **oath of office and secrecy** as a Member of the **Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC)** on May 21, 2024. The oath was administered by the Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, **Shri R. K. Singh**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The board of **IndiaFirst Life Insurance** has approved the promotion of **Rushabh Gandhi**, the current Deputy Chief Executive Officer, to the position of **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD and CEO)**. Gandhi's appointment marks a significant milestone for the company, aligning with its succession strategy. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- **L&T Technology Services Ltd (LTTS)** announced the inauguration of a **Simulation Centre of Excellence (CoE)** for Airbus at its Bengaluru campus. This state-of-the-art facility is set to bolster engineering support for Airbus's aircraft structural simulation activities across its European business units in France, Germany, the UK, and Spain. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Shehra BJP MLA Jetha Ahir**, who has previously served as the deputy speaker of the Gujarat Assembly, has been **elected uncontested** as the chairman of the **National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)**. Senior leaders revealed that Ahir secured the support of the sitting **Rajkot MP Mohan Kundariya** to become the NAFED chairman in the election held in Delhi. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The Indian economy showcased robust growth, with a **GDP increase of 7.4% in Q4 FY24** and an overall **8% growth for the fiscal year FY24**, according to an SBI Research report. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **Poonawalla Fincorp Limited**, in partnership with **IndusInd Bank**, has introduced the co-branded '**IndusInd Bank Poonawalla Fincorp eLITE RuPay Platinum Credit Card**'. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- In a strategic move to bolster its presence in the burgeoning Indian media landscape, Japan's electronics and entertainment conglomerate **Sony** has appointed **Gaurav Banerjee**, a seasoned executive from **Walt Disney**, as its new **Chief Executive Officer** for India operations. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The **National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL)**, India's state-owned **bad bank**, has appointed **P Santhosh** as its new **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer**. The decision was made by NARCL's board, which recommended Santhosh for a **three-year term** at the helm of the asset reconstruction company. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The **Muthoot Pappachan Group (MPG)**, popularly known as **Muthoot Blue**, has announced the appointment of **Shah Rukh Khan** as its new brand ambassador. This strategic collaboration marks a significant milestone for MPG, aimed at reinforcing its brand presence and establishing a **new connection** with a diverse audience across the country. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** has granted approval for the appointment of **Sandeep Batra** as the **Chairman of the Board of Directors of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company**. The company announced this development. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **Rakesh Ranjan**, a **1992 batch IAS officer from Manipur Cadre**, has been appointed as the **Chairman of the Staff Selection Commission (SSC)**. This appointment comes following a notification issued by the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- France applauds the election of **Dr. Emmanuelle Soubeyran** as **Director General of the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH)** for the 2024-2029 term. She was elected to this position on May 28 at the World Assembly of Delegates, which was held in Paris, and extends her thanks to all the member countries and territories for their show of confidence. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

## Sports Current Affairs

- The Indian athletes continued their impressive medal-winning spree at the **21st U-20 Asian Athletics Championship 2024**, with **Harshit Kumar** clinching a gold medal in the highly competitive Hammer throw event. His outstanding throw of 66.7 meters secured India's latest gold at the prestigious event. As the third day of the championship drew to a close, the Indian contingent had amassed a total of **18 medals**, including five from the latest round of events. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Chennai Super Kings (CSK)** secured a resounding **78-run** victory over the **Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH)** on Sunday, potentially shaping the trajectory of both teams' **2024 Indian Premier League (IPL)** campaigns. This emphatic win significantly boosted **CSK's net run rate**, propelling them to the **third position** in the league standings. Conversely, SRH suffered their second consecutive defeat, slipping to the **fourth spot**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **16th edition** of the **Tata Consultancy Services World 10K Bengaluru** witnessed Kenyan runners **Peter Mwaniki** (28:15) and **Lilian Kasait** (30:56) emerging victorious in the **international elite men's and women's categories**, respectively. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The renowned Indian dairy giant **Amul** has been named the **Lead Arm sponsor** for the USA and South Africa cricket teams during the highly anticipated **T20 World Cup** in June. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has taken strong action against West Indies player **Devon Thomas** by imposing a **five-year period of ineligibility** from all cricket after he admitted to breaching multiple anti-corruption codes. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Badminton World Federation (BWF)** has announced that India will host the prestigious **2025 BWF World Junior Championships** at the **National Centre of Excellence in Guwahati**. This marks a significant milestone as India will be hosting this premier badminton event for the first time since 2008, when it was held in Pune. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- The People's Republic of China has reclaimed its throne as the top badminton nation, clinching both the men's and women's titles at the prestigious **2024 BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals** in Chengdu. This remarkable feat marks the first time since 2012 that China has conquered both the men's and women's world team championships. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Lando Norris** of **McLaren** clinched his **first-ever Grand Prix victory** in a pulsating showdown at the **Miami Grand Prix**. The young Briton's triumph sent shockwaves through the motorsport world, igniting jubilant celebrations and a deluge of admiration across social media platforms. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The 2024 Madrid Open, held in the Spanish capital from April 22 to May 5, witnessed two remarkable champions in the singles events. **Iga Swiatek** of Poland claimed her first Madrid Open title, while **Andrey Rublev** of Russia secured his second triumph in this prestigious tournament. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Spanish football giants, **Real Madrid**, have etched another remarkable achievement in their illustrious history by securing the **La Liga 2023-24 season title**. Los Blancos, as they are affectionately called by their supporters, sealed the championship after defeating Cadiz 3-0, while their closest rivals Barcelona suffered a 4-2 loss against Girona. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has unveiled the fixtures for the highly anticipated **ninth ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024**, set to take place from **3 to 20 October** in Bangladesh. Cricket enthusiasts worldwide are eagerly awaiting this prestigious tournament, which promises to be an action-packed spectacle of skill and sportsmanship. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Yuzvendra Chahal**, the wily leg-spinner from Rajasthan Royals, continues to etch his name in the annals of T20 cricket history. In the ongoing edition of the **Indian Premier League (IPL)**, Chahal achieved a remarkable feat by becoming the **first Indian bowler to take 350 wickets** in the shortest format of the game. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **United World Wrestling (UWW)** has provisionally suspended Indian wrestler **Bajrang Punia** until **December 31, 2024**, following his suspension by the **National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)** for his 'refusal' to provide a urine sample. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Sri Lanka Cricket** has announced that the Indian milk producer **Amul** has been appointed as the 'Official Sponsor' of the **Sri Lanka Men's Team** for the duration of the **ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a surprising move, **Colin Munro**, the hard-hitting New Zealand top-order batsman, has announced his retirement from **international cricket** after being overlooked for the upcoming **T20 World Cup**. The decision marks the end of an era for the explosive left-hander, who etched his name as one of the most destructive T20 batters in the world. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Anandana**, The Coca-Cola India Foundation, has forged its maiden alliance with Hockey India for the **National Women's Hockey League 2024**. This collaboration aims to elevate women's hockey by providing essential resources and support to players, aligning with Coca-Cola India's commitment to sports and gender equality through its **#SheTheDifference** campaign. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Neeraj Chopra**, the reigning Olympic and world champion in javelin throw, started his 2024 season on a strong note, securing a **second-place finish** at the **Doha Diamond League 2024**. Chopra's impressive throw of **88.36m** on his final attempt fell just **2cm short** of Czechia's **Jakub Vadlejch**, the reigning Diamond League champion and Tokyo 2020 silver medalist. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a display of sheer dominance, **World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen** pulled off an incredible comeback to claim victory at the 2024 Superbet Rapid & Blitz Poland. Despite starting the day trailing by 2.5 points behind **GM Wei Yi**, Carlsen embarked on a remarkable 10-game winning streak, ultimately overtaking his rival and securing the championship title. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a showcase of electrifying motorcycle racing, **Jorge Martin** of Pramac Ducati emerged victorious in the nail-biting 2024 French MotoGP. The Spaniard fended off fierce challenges from **Marc Marquez** and **Francesco Bagnaia** to claim the top spot on the podium, extending his lead in the championship standings. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a historic move, the **United Nations General Assembly** has unanimously proclaimed **May 25** as the **World Football Day**, marking a significant milestone in the global celebration of the world's most popular sport. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a remarkable achievement, **P Shyaamnikhil** from Tamil Nadu has etched his name in the annals of Indian chess history by becoming the country's **85th Grandmaster (GM)**. The **31-year-old chess prodigy**, who embarked on his journey at the tender age of eight, finally secured the coveted **third and final GM norm** at the prestigious **2024 Dubai Police Masters Chess Tournament**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Sunil Chhetri**, India's **most decorated footballer**, has announced his retirement from **international football**. The **FIFA World Cup Qualifier** game against **Kuwait** in **Kolkata** on **June 6** will be his last appearance for the national team. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Cristiano Ronaldo**, despite nearing the twilight of his career, has secured the **top spot on Forbes' list of the world's highest-paid athletes**. His significant earnings in Saudi Arabia have propelled him to this position for the fourth time. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- Indian para-athlete **Deepthi Jeevanji** etched her name in history by winning the **gold medal** in the women's **T20 400m event** at the **World Para Athletics Championships 2024**. Her stunning performance on Monday not only secured India's first gold medal at the prestigious event but also set a new **world record** time of **55.07 seconds**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The world's third-ranked Indian badminton pair of **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** and **Chirag Shetty** etched their names in glory by winning the coveted **Thailand Open 2024** men's doubles title. In a thrilling final clash on **May 19, 2024**, the dynamic duo defeated the Chinese pair of **Chen Bo Yang** and **Liu Yi** with a scoreline of **21-15, 21-15**, in a match that lasted **46 minutes**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **German tennis star Alexander Zverev** etched his name in history by winning the **Italian Open** singles title for the second time. The 25-year-old defeated the first-time Masters finalist, **Nicolas Jarry of Chile**, in straight sets, **6-4, 7-5**, to claim his eighth overall Masters title. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Indian boxing contingent made a remarkable impact at the 3rd Elorda Cup 2024, held in the Kazakh capital city of **Astana**. The team returned with an impressive haul of **12 medals**, including **2 gold, 2 silver, and 8 bronze**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Max Verstappen**, the defending Formula 1 World Champion, showcased his prowess on the track by clinching a hard-fought victory at the **Emilia Romagna Grand Prix 2024**. The Dutchman held off a spirited challenge from McLaren's rising star, **Lando Norris**, to secure his third win of the season. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a historic moment for South American football, **Brazil** was declared the host of the **2027 Women's World Cup** at the **FIFA Congress**. The Brazilian bid triumphed over the joint bid from **Belgium, Netherlands, and Germany**, becoming the first South American country to secure the hosting rights for the prestigious tournament. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Asian Football Confederation (AFC)** has confirmed **Australia** as the hosts for the **AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026**. The continental football governing body made this announcement after the AFC Executive Committee ratified the recommendations of the AFC Women's Football Committee at its meeting in Bangkok, Thailand. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** has launched the **"Let's Move India"** campaign in collaboration with the **Reliance Foundation** and the **Abhinav Bindra Foundation**. The initiative aims to celebrate the Olympians heading to the upcoming **Paris Olympics** and encourage everyone to participate in physical activity. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The International Cricket Council (ICC), the **global governing body** of cricket, has appointed the legendary Pakistani cricketer **Shahid Afridi** as the brand ambassador for the upcoming 9th ICC Men's T20 World Cup. This highly anticipated tournament will be co-hosted by the **West Indies** and the **United States of America** from **1st to 29th June 2024**. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The Indian gymnast, **Dipa Karmakar**, has scripted history by becoming the first-ever Indian to secure a gold medal in any **Asian Championships**. Hailing from Tripura, Dipa achieved this remarkable feat in the women's vault individual final at the Asian Women's Artistic Gymnastics Championships 2024, held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on May 26, 2024. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **Charles Leclerc**, the **Ferrari driver**, has achieved a remarkable feat by becoming the first **Monegasque driver to win the Monaco Grand Prix** since **Louis Chiron** in 1931, ending a drought of 92 years. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

## Summits And Conferences

- India reaffirms its commitment to safeguarding Antarctica's delicate ecosystem and advancing scientific exploration in the region. The **Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)**, Government of India, in collaboration with the **National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)**, is set to host the **46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM 46)** and the **26th Meeting of the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP 26)** from **May 20 to 30, 2024**, in Kochi, Kerala. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **26th ASEAN-India Senior Officials' Meeting** took place in **New Delhi**, co-chaired by Secretary (East) **Jaideep Mazumdar** and Permanent Secretary **Albert Chua** of **Singapore**. Discussions encompassed the three pillars of engagement—political-security, economic, and socio-cultural—reviewing ASEAN-India relations as outlined in the **ASEAN-India Plan of Action (2021-2025)**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The 10th World Water Forum, themed **"Water for Shared Prosperity,"** officially commenced on May 21 in Bali, Indonesia. Attendees included numerous country leaders and United Nations representatives. The forum focused on four critical topics: water conservation, clean water and sanitation, food and energy security, and mitigation of natural disasters. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India has taken on the **chairmanship of the Colombo Process** for the first time since the forum's establishment in 2003. The Colombo Process is a regional consultative forum consisting of 12 member states from South and Southeast Asia focused on the management of overseas employment and the protection of migrant workers. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

## Ranks and Reports

- In a remarkable achievement, **Emeritus**, the Indian edtech startup, has secured the coveted **top spot** in **TIME Magazine's "World's Top EdTech Companies of 2024" ranking**. Founded in 2015 by Ashwin Damera and Chaitanya Kalipatnapu, Emeritus offers courses from prestigious global universities, including the University of Cambridge, Harvard Business School, and MIT Sloan, among others. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Ministry of Health and Population of Nepal has **urged residents to wear masks** due to the alarming increase in air pollution levels in the Kathmandu valley. According to IQAir, an organization that measures real-time pollution in 101 cities worldwide, **Kathmandu has been ranked as the most polluted city globally**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a testament to India's sustained economic growth, **Mumbai and Delhi** have debuted in the **top 50 wealthiest cities** worldwide according to the **Wealthiest Cities Report 2024 by Henley & Partners and New World Wealth**. **Mumbai** secured the **24th position** while **Delhi** claimed the **37th spot**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In 2023-24, India experienced positive export growth to **115 out of 238 countries/territories**, with major gains seen in key markets such as the USA, UAE, China, and the UK. However, import declined from **124 countries during this period**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **22nd Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)** conducted by the **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)** revealed that the unemployment rate among individuals aged 15 years and above in urban areas of India decreased to **6.7% in the January-March 2024 period**. The survey offers insights into various labor force indicators, including unemployment rate, worker population ratio (WPR), and labor force participation rate (LFPR) based on the Current Weekly Status (CWS) approach. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Center for World University Rankings (CWUR)** released its **2024 report**, revealing a mixed bag for Indian higher education institutions. While the **Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad improved its rank**, many others, including the prestigious Indian Institute of Science, experienced a decline. The report indicates that despite advancements in research output, this success isn't translating equally to higher education excellence. Furthermore, Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) witnessed varied performances, with IIT Bombay notably climbing in rankings. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)**, a digital infrastructure initiative **launched in 2021**, has witnessed remarkable growth, with transactions **crossing 70 lakh in April this year**. Led by the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)**, ONDC aims to democratize digital commerce and create a level playing field for businesses of all sizes. Let's explore the key highlights and significance of ONDC through subheadings. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India has ascended to the **39th spot in the World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024**, marking a significant improvement from its 54th position in 2021. Despite challenges posed by the pandemic, India showcases resilience and competitiveness in various aspects of its travel and tourism industry. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- According to a recent report by the **Wildlife Institute of India**, there are more than **4000 Gangetic dolphins in the Gangetic River basin**. **Over 2000** of these dolphins are found in **Uttar Pradesh**, primarily in the Chambal River. This increase suggests that the river's pollution levels are declining, and the government's conservation efforts are proving effective. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In the latest **Oxford Economics' Global Cities Index**, **Delhi** emerges as the **highest-ranked Indian city**, securing the **350th position** among the **world's 1000 largest cities**. However, no Indian city managed to break into the top 300. The index, encompassing cities from 163 countries, evaluates cities across five key categories: **Economics, Human Capital, Quality of Life, Environment, and Governance**. New York clinches the top spot, with London, San Jose, Tokyo, and Paris following suit. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The World Bank's report, **'Water For Shared Prosperity'**, unveiled at the **10th World Water Forum**, delineates the critical role of water in fostering equitable societies amidst global water access disparities exacerbated by population growth, urbanization, and climate change. It highlights the urgency of comprehensive strategies to ensure inclusive water security worldwide. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- In its latest notification, the Income Tax department has established the **Cost Inflation Index (CII) for the financial year 2024-25 at 363**. This index is crucial for taxpayers as it aids in computing long-term capital gains arising from the sale of various capital assets, including immovable property, securities, and jewellery. The CII serves as a tool to adjust for inflation, allowing taxpayers to determine gains accurately by considering the real appreciation of assets rather than gains attributed solely to inflation. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

**Important Days**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Important Days</b>
May 01, 2024	<a href="#">International Labor Day</a>
May 01, 2024	<a href="#">Maharashtra Foundation Day 2024</a>
May 01, 2024	<a href="#">Gujarat Foundation Day 2024</a>
May 02, 2024	<a href="#">World Tuna Day</a>
May 03, 2024	<a href="#">World Press Freedom Day</a>
May 04, 2024	<a href="#">International Day for Mine Awareness</a>
May 05, 2024	<a href="#">World Portugal Language Day</a>
May 07, 2024	<a href="#">World Asthma Day 2024</a>
May 08, 2024	<a href="#">World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day</a>
May 08, 2024	<a href="#">World Thalassaemia Day 2024</a>
May 08, 2024	<a href="#">Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti 2024</a>
May 09, 2024	<a href="#">Maharana Pratap Jayanti 2024</a>
May 10, 2024	<a href="#">International Day of Argania</a>
May 11, 2024	<a href="#">National Technology Day 2024</a>
May 11, 2024	<a href="#">World Migratory Bird Day</a>
May 12, 2024	<a href="#">International Day of Plant Health</a>
May 12, 2024	<a href="#">Mother's Day 2024</a>
May 12, 2024	<a href="#">International Nurses Day 2024</a>
May 15, 2024	<a href="#">International Day of Families</a>
May 16, 2024	<a href="#">International Day of Living Together in Peace</a>
May 16, 2024	<a href="#">International Day of Light</a>
May 17, 2024	<a href="#">World Telecommunication and Information Society Day</a>
May 18, 2024	<a href="#">World's AIDS Vaccine Day 2024</a>
May 20, 2024	<a href="#">World Bee Day</a>
May 21, 2024	<a href="#">International Tea Day 2024</a>
May 21, 2024	<a href="#">World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development</a>
May 21, 2024	<a href="#">Anti-Terrorism Day 2024</a>
May 22, 2024	<a href="#">International Day for Biological Diversity</a>
May 23, 2024	<a href="#">Vesak, the Day of the Full Moon</a>
May 23, 2024	<a href="#">World Turtle Day 2024</a>
May 25-31, 2024	<a href="#">Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories</a>
May 28, 2024	<a href="#">World Hunger Day 2024</a>
May 28, 2024	<a href="#">International Everest Day 2024</a>
May 29, 2024	<a href="#">International Day of Action for Women's Health 2024</a>
May 29, 2024	<a href="#">International Day of UN Peacekeepers</a>
May 30, 2024	<a href="#">International Day of Potato</a>
May 30, 2024	<a href="#">Hindi Journalism Day 2024</a>
May 31, 2024	<a href="#">World No-Tobacco Day</a>

## Defence Current Affairs

- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** and Indian Navy have bolstered their combat capabilities with the induction of the Rampage long-range supersonic air-to-ground missile, previously utilized by the Israeli Air Force in operations against Iranian targets. The missile, known as the **High-Speed Low Drag-Mark 2** within the Indian Air Force, offers a striking range of up to 250 kilometers. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has achieved a significant milestone in enhancing India's anti-submarine warfare capabilities with the successful flight-test of the Supersonic Missile-Assisted Release of Torpedo (**SMART**) system. This next-generation **torpedo delivery system** was successfully flight-tested on **May 01, 2024**, at around 8:30 AM from Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Indian Army and the Punit Balan Group joined hands to inaugurate the nation's **first Constitution Park in Pune**. The ceremony, **led by Lt. Gen. Ajai Kumar Singh**, emphasized the importance of citizens honoring their duties outlined in the Constitution to drive India towards development by 2047. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Flying Wedge Defence**, a Bengaluru-based defense and aerospace technology firm, recently revealed the **FWD-200B**, India's inaugural indigenous bomber unmanned aircraft. With a focus on cost-effectiveness and self-reliance, the firm aims to position India as a leader in innovative defense solutions. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Air Marshal **Nagesh Kapoor** has taken charge as the **Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C) of the Training Command (TC) in the Indian Air Force**. With over 34 hundred hours of flying experience, he was commissioned into the Fighter stream in December 1986. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank has announced the appointment of **Sanjeev Nautiyal** as its **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO)** for a tenure of three years, effective from July 1, 2024. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Visa**, the global digital payments platform, announced on Tuesday that it has appointed **Sujai Raina** as the new **Country Manager for India**. In this role, Raina will be responsible for leading and executing Visa's strategic initiatives in the Indian market, partnering with clients and the broader payments ecosystem. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Indian Army's **Kharga Corps**, under the aegis of the Army's Western Command, successfully conducted a three-day joint exercise with the Indian Air Force (IAF) at multiple locations in Punjab. The exercise aimed to refine processes and validate the employment of **attack helicopters** in support of mechanized operations in developed terrain. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bhubaneswar have initiated a partnership aimed at advancing research in **electronics warfare, AI-driven surveillance, power systems, and radar systems**. DRDO has sanctioned nine projects from the **Electronics and Communication Systems (ECS) Cluster** to IIT Bhubaneswar, with an additional seven projects awaiting approval, backed by ₹18 crore in funding. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Vice Admiral Sanjay Bhalla, AVSM, NM**, a seasoned naval officer with over 35 years of distinguished service, has assumed the pivotal role of **Chief of Personnel of the Indian Navy** on **10 May 2024**. His extensive career has been marked by a series of challenging and fulfilling appointments, both at sea and ashore. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a strategic move to bolster its surveillance capabilities along the Pakistan border, the Indian Army is set to induct advanced drones, including the **Drishti-10 (Hermes-900)**. Scheduled for an induction ceremony in **Hyderabad on May 18**, these drones mark a significant addition to the Army's existing fleet, aligning with the **'Make in India'** initiative in Defence. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Indian Air Force recently conducted a test in Agra for the **BHISHM** portable hospital, a crucial component of **"Project BHISHM"** aimed at providing rapid and comprehensive medical assistance during emergencies. These portable cubes, part of a broader initiative, can cater to up to 200 casualties, emphasizing swift response and extensive care. ([Click to Read the Article](#))





- Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane unveiled a commemorative Rs 250 coin during the celebration of the 250th anniversary of Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL) in New Delhi on May 14, 2024. The event, hosted by MDL, commemorated its evolution from a dry dock in 1774 to a premier naval shipyard under the Ministry of Defence. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Anil Chauhan attended the 'Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024' on May 22, 2024, emphasizing the critical importance of enhancing India's cyber defence capabilities. Conducted by the Defence Cyber Agency from May 20 to May 24, 2024, this comprehensive cyber defence exercise aims to bolster collaboration and integration among military and national agencies, advancing the nation's cyber defence readiness. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Indian Army has joined hands with the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) for demonstration trials of

**Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus technology.** This collaboration underscores the Army's commitment to innovation and environmental stewardship. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

- **Chennai-based startup Agnikul Cosmos** has achieved a remarkable feat by successfully launching the **world's first space rocket with a single-piece three-dimensional (3D) printed engine.** After four failed attempts, Agnikul triumphed on its fifth try, launching its own rocket, named **Agnibaan**, into space. This launch marks **India's first semi-cryogenic engine-powered rocket**, which was completely designed and manufactured indigenously. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has joined a **16-day multi-nation mega military exercise in Alaska, United States**, designed to provide **realistic training** to participating forces in a **simulated combat environment.** The exercise, known as **'Red Flag 24'**, commenced on **May 30** and will continue until **June 14.** ([Click here to read the Article](#))

## Awards and Recognitions

- **Gina Justus**, an English High School teacher at the Sharjah Girls Branch in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), has been named the regional winner for the **Middle East and North Africa (MENA)** region at the prestigious **2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards.** This achievement celebrates her outstanding mentorship and dedication to charity work. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Sana**, the **AI-powered news anchor** developed by the **India Today Group**, has achieved remarkable success at the prestigious **International News Media Association (INMA) Global Media Awards** held in London. This groundbreaking **AI innovation** has captured two coveted awards, solidifying its position as a **trailblazer** in the field of **AI-driven journalism.** ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE)** honored **K.V. Kamath**, Chairman of National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development and Chairman of Jio Financial Services Ltd., with an honorary doctorate at a special convocation on April 29, 2024. The ceremony celebrated Kamath's exceptional leadership in banking, finance, and sustainable development, recognizing his significant contributions to India's financial sector and global impact. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Dr. Bina Modi**, Chairperson and Managing Director of Modi Enterprises – KK Modi Group, was honoured by the esteemed Vice President of India, Jagdeep Dhankar, for her 'Outstanding Contribution to the cause of **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**'. The felicitation took place during the inauguration of the new building for the Society of Indian Law Firms (SILF), where the Vice President graced the occasion as the chief guest. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- **Dr. Purnima Devi Barman**, a wildlife biologist from **Assam**, has been recognized with the prestigious **Whitley Gold Award** for her exemplary conservation efforts aimed at protecting the endangered Greater Adjutant Stork and its wetland habitat. This accolade, often referred to as the 'Green Oscar', highlights her remarkable contributions to wildlife conservation and underscores the importance of grassroots efforts in safeguarding biodiversity. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a gesture of solidarity and recognition, **Palestinian journalists covering the crisis in Gaza** have been named laureates of the **2024 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize.** The announcement comes from the recommendation of an International Jury of media professionals, emphasizing the courage and commitment of these journalists amidst challenging circumstances. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Bollywood actress **Kareena Kapoor Khan** has been appointed as the **National Ambassador for UNICEF India.** This prestigious role comes as a recognition of her long-standing association with the organization since 2014, where she has served as a **Celebrity Advocate.** ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a remarkable feat, **The Hindu** secured three prestigious awards at the **6th International Newspaper Design Competition organized by newspaperdesign.in.** The accolades were garnered for their exceptional explainer page titled **"The science behind Neeraj's skills,"** shedding light on Neeraj Chopra's remarkable journey and success in athletics. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- Oxford Bookstores announced **Bhavi Mehta** as the winner of the **9th edition of the Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize**. Mehta's winning entry was the book jacket for "**The Book Beautiful**" published by Hachette India and authored by Pradeep Sebastian. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Pawan Sindhi** was bestowed with the prestigious **Global Pride of Sindhi Award 2024** at an event attended by esteemed **saints, Mahatmas, and sadhus**. The occasion celebrated Mr. Sindhi's remarkable contributions to society and his dedication to serving humanity. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Dr. Soumya Swaminathan**, a globally renowned leader in public health and infectious diseases, has been named among the 10 exceptional individuals to receive an honorary degree from Canada's prestigious **McGill University** during the Spring 2024 Convocation ceremonies. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a prestigious ceremony held in New Delhi, **Cmdr Hemant Khatri**, the Chairman and Managing Director (C&MD) of **Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)**, was bestowed with the esteemed '**PSU Samarpan Award**' by Gov Connect. The award recognizes Khatri's outstanding leadership and his pivotal role in driving the transformation of the shipyard, inspiring countless individuals within the industry. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a prestigious ceremony held at the Sahara Star Hotel in Mumbai on May 12th, **Chandrakant Satija**, the renowned educationist and Founder/CEO of **Chandra Admission Consultants**, was honored with the **Global Excellence Award 2024**. The award, presented by the famous Bollywood actress **Shilpa Shetty Kundra**, recognized Satija as the **Most Trusted Admissions Consultant in the Vidarbha Region**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a momentous occasion, the **eminent author Ruskin Bond** has been bestowed with the **Sahitya Akademi Fellowship**, the highest honour conferred by India's premier literary organization, the Sahitya Akademi. Due to Bond's **ill health**, the prestigious award was presented to him at his **Mussoorie home** by Sahitya Akademi President Madhav Kaushik and Secretary K. Sreenivasarao, in the presence of his son. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Indian spiritual guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar received the first stamp released to commemorate the completion of 200 years of **Indian Origin Tamils (IOT) in Sri Lanka**. The stamp was presented by the Governor of the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka, Senthil Thondaman. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The public sector company **NTPC** has secured the **third rank in the world for the Talent Development category** at the prestigious **ATD BEST Awards 2024**. The award ceremony was held in New Orleans, United States of America, on 21 May 2024. Ms. Rachana Singh Bhal, NTPC's chief general manager strategic HR & talent management, accepted the award on behalf of the company. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Srinivas R. Kulkarni**, an Indian-origin U.S. scientist and brother of renowned author Sudha Murty, has been awarded the **prestigious Shaw Prize in Astronomy** for 2024. This prestigious recognition celebrates Kulkarni's **groundbreaking discoveries** in the field of astronomy, including his pioneering work on **millisecond pulsars, gamma-ray bursts, supernovae, and other transient astronomical phenomena**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Arti**, an 18-year-old woman from the Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh, has been honored with the prestigious **Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award** by King Charles III of the United Kingdom. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **NHPC**, India's premier hydropower company, has been bestowed with the prestigious 'The Economic Times HR World Future Ready Organization Award 2024-25'. This coveted recognition highlights NHPC's unwavering commitment to fostering a future-ready workforce and its strategic approach to human resource management. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The 77th Cannes Film Festival witnessed a remarkable achievement for Indian cinema as **Payal Kapadia's** film 'All We Imagine as Light' won the prestigious **Grand Prix** award, the second-highest honour at the festival. This triumph marks a historic moment, as Kapadia becomes the first Indian filmmaker to receive this prestigious accolade. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- The Indian gymnast, **Dipa Karmakar**, has scripted history by becoming the first-ever Indian to secure a gold medal in any **Asian Championships**. Hailing from Tripura, Dipa achieved this remarkable feat in the women's vault individual final at the Asian Women's Artistic Gymnastics Championships 2024, held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on May 26, 2024. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- **Major Radhika Sen**, an **Indian military peacekeeper** serving with the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (**MONUSCO**), has been awarded the prestigious **2023 United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award**. This award recognizes her dedication and efforts in promoting the principles of **UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security**. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

## Science and Technology

- In a collaborative effort between the **Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation Cell (SVEEP)** of Kamrup Election District and the **Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati**, a groundbreaking 3D-printed dummy ballot unit has been unveiled. The initiative aims to enhance voter awareness and engagement, particularly among new voters and senior citizens, by providing a practical experience of the voting process. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Indian-origin astronaut **Sunita Williams**, alongside colleague **Butch Wilmore**, is embarking on her third space mission to the **International Space Station (ISS)**. This mission marks the inaugural crewed flight of the Starliner spacecraft, designed to test its systems from launch to landing. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a groundbreaking discovery detailed in Frontiers in Marine Science, researchers have revealed the **Taam Ja' Blue Hole in Mexico's Chetumal Bay** as the deepest known blue hole on Earth, descending to a staggering depth of 1,380 feet. Surpassing the previous record-holder, the **Sansha Yongle Blue Hole, by 480 feet**, this abyss presents a tantalizing opportunity for scientific exploration and the potential discovery of new marine life. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Setu**, a leading Indian **fintech** company and part of the **Pine Labs Group**, has unveiled **Sesame**, India's first **Large Language Model (LLM)** specifically designed for the **banking, financial services, and insurance (BFSI)** sector. Developed in collaboration with indigenous AI research firm **Sarvam AI**, this groundbreaking initiative marks a significant milestone in the adoption of advanced AI technologies in the financial services industry. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- ISRO, through the **Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC)** with support from other launch vehicle centers, is advancing the development of a semi-cryogenic propulsion system. This system aims to enhance the payload capacity of **Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3)** and future launch vehicles by utilizing a 2,000 kN thrust semi-cryogenic engine powered by a combination of **liquid oxygen (LOX)** and kerosene. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- NASA has unveiled its ambitious plan to construct the **first lunar railway system, known as FLOAT (Flexible Levitation on a Track)**, designed to revolutionize payload transport on the Moon. This innovative system aims to provide reliable, autonomous, and efficient transportation essential for the daily operations of a sustainable lunar base, aligning with NASA's Moon to Mars initiative and mission concepts like the **Robotic Lunar Surface Operations 2 (RLSO2)**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **NASA and the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)** have decided to operate an instrument on the **X-ray Imaging and Spectroscopy Mission (XRISM)** satellite as-is for at least the next year and a half, despite encountering an issue affecting one of its instruments. This decision showcases the agencies' determination to push forward with this groundbreaking X-ray astronomy mission. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Highlighting the historical importance and modern relevance of millets, **Google Arts & Culture**, in collaboration with **India's Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**, presents an engaging digital exhibition titled **"Millets: Seeds of Change."** This exhibition delves into the journey of millets, showcasing their evolution from ancient staples to contemporary superfoods, and emphasizes their nutritional value, role in climate resilience, and potential to address global food security challenges. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a move that underscores its commitment to **artificial intelligence (AI)** and cloud computing, tech giant **Microsoft Corp.** has announced plans to invest a staggering **€4 billion** (approximately **\$4.3 billion**) in building **cloud and AI infrastructure in France**. This latest investment highlights the company's continued focus on advancing its AI capabilities and expanding its cloud services globally. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** is gearing up for a landmark mission that aims to land a **rover and helicopter on Mars**. This historic endeavor, named **Mangalyaan-2**, seeks to place India alongside the US and China as a significant player in interplanetary exploration. The project was unveiled during a presentation at the Space Application Centre on National Technology Day. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Indian expatriate **Gopi Thotakura** joined the ranks of space explorers as the first **Indian to embark on a journey beyond Earth's atmosphere**. The NS-25 mission, part of **Jeff Bezos's Blue Origin program**, saw **Thotakura** and five other crew members lift off aboard the New Shepard spacecraft from a private ranch in West Texas. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Leading smartwatch and connected lifestyle brand, **Noise**, has announced the acquisition of the **AI-powered women's wellness platform SocialBoat**. This strategic move is part of Noise's broader strategy to **advance innovation in smart rings**, particularly its flagship wearable, the **Luna Ring**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- Microsoft has introduced a new category of personal computers, **'Copilot+ PCs,'** featuring advanced AI capabilities to compete with Alphabet and Apple. These devices, developed in collaboration with **Acer and ASUSTeK Computer**, aim to perform AI tasks locally without relying on cloud data centers. The launch event took place at Microsoft's Redmond, Washington campus on May 20, with sales starting on June 18 at a base price of \$1,000. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- Direct geological evidence of recent volcanic activity on Venus has been confirmed for the second time, thanks to archival data from NASA's Magellan mission. Scientists in Italy have detected surface changes indicating new rock formations from lava flows linked to volcanic eruptions that occurred while the spacecraft was in orbit. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

### Books & Authors

- A Book Titled "The Winner's Mindset," Authored by Shane Watson. In his book, **"The Winner's Mindset,"** Watson shares the insights and strategies that enabled him to conquer his fears and reach new heights in his cricketing career. While the book is not an autobiography in the traditional sense, it serves as a powerful **self-help guide**, offering readers a glimpse into the mindset that propels individuals to success. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **German author Jenny Erpenbeck** and **translator Michael Hofmann** have won the prestigious **International Booker Prize** for their novel "Kairos." The book, which tells the story of a **tangled love affair** during the final years of East Germany's existence, beat out five other finalists from a pool of 149 submitted novels. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

### Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- Bajaj Auto, led by **Managing Director Rajiv Bajaj**, is all set to introduce a groundbreaking innovation in the world of motorcycles. Amidst soaring petrol prices, the company is gearing up to launch the **world's first CNG-powered motorcycle on June 18, 2024**. This move aims to provide consumers with a cost-effective alternative for daily commuting, promising lower running costs compared to traditional petrol-powered bikes. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti 2024**, also known as **Rabindra Jayanti**, falls on **May 8th** to commemorate the **birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore**. Born on May 7, 1861, in Kolkata to Debendranath Tagore and Sarada Devi, Tagore's influence extends far beyond his birthplace, resonating across literature, music, and art worldwide. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Maharana Pratap was born on May 9, 1540**, according to the Julian calendar, the transition to the Gregorian calendar shifted his birthdate to May 19, 1540. However, the modern celebration aligns with the Hindu calendar. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **National Archives of India (NAI)** has acquired a **priceless collection** of private papers and original correspondences belonging to the late **Shri Rafi Ahmad Kidwai**, a prominent figure in India's freedom struggle and nation-building efforts. This acquisition ensures the preservation of a significant part of our nation's history and the legacy of a remarkable leader. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Renowned **Nepali mountaineer Kami Rita Sherpa** has achieved a historic feat by conquering Mount Everest for the 29th time. At 54 years old, Kami reached the 8,849-meter summit at 7:25 am local time on Sunday, leading a group of climbers organized by Seven Summit Treks. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Thiruvananthapuram International Airport has made history as the first airport in India to achieve the prestigious recognition of **zero waste to landfill (ZWL)**. This commendation comes from the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII-ITC) Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development**, confirming the airport's commitment to environmentally responsible practices. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- A low-pressure system over the Bay of Bengal is set to intensify into **Cyclone Remal**, reaching **Bangladesh and adjoining West Bengal** coasts as a severe cyclonic storm. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecasts the cyclone's progression, predicting it to become a severe cyclonic storm by **May 25 morning** and **make landfall between Sagar island in West Bengal and Khepupara in Bangladesh by May 26 evening**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Jyoti Ratre**, an entrepreneur and fitness enthusiast from Madhya Pradesh, has etched her name in history by becoming the **oldest Indian woman to conquer Mount Everest**. Ratre's triumphant ascent to the summit of the world's highest peak comes precisely six years after **Sangeeta Bahl**, at the age of 53, earned the title of 'India's oldest woman to climb Mount Everest' on May 19, 2018. ([Click here to read the Article](#))
- In a remarkable feat, Indian mountaineer **Satyadeep Gupta** has etched his name in history by becoming the **first person to scale Mt. Everest and Mt. Lhotse** twice in a single season. Additionally, he is the **first Indian** to traverse the two peaks in an astonishing **11 hours and 15 minutes**. ([Click here to read the Article](#))

## Obituaries Current Affairs

- Vinay Vir, a **renowned journalist**, publisher, and editor of the Daily Hindi Milap, passed away on Saturday, April 27th, 2024, at the age of 72. He was a champion for the **Hindi language** in South India and a respected figure in the journalism community. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Renowned playback singer **Uma Ramanan**, who predominantly sang in Tamil, passed away at the age of 72 in Chennai. The veteran singer, known for her melodious voice and extensive repertoire, has left an indelible mark on the Indian music industry. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Paul Auster**, the renowned American novelist and filmmaker, has passed away at the age of 77. The prolific writer, best known for his acclaimed work "The New York Trilogy," died on Tuesday at his home in Brooklyn, New York, due to complications from lung cancer. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The entertainment industry mourns the loss of **Bernard Hill**, the esteemed British actor whose remarkable talent graced the silver screen in some of the most iconic films of our time. At the age of 79, the **Manchester-born** thespian has taken his final bow, leaving behind a **legacy** that will continue to inspire generations of actors. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Frank Shrontz**, who led Boeing as its **Chief Executive Officer** for a decade from 1986 to 1996, has passed away at the age of 92. Shrontz died on May 3, according to the Seattle Mariners baseball team where he was an ownership partner. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a significant recognition of Gujarat's rich cultural heritage, the traditional artisans of '**Kutch Ajrakh**' have been bestowed with the prestigious **Geographical Indication (GI)** certificate by the Controller General of Patents, Designs, and Trademarks (CGPDTM). This remarkable achievement celebrates the intricate textile craft that has been deeply rooted in the vibrant region of Kutch for centuries. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Shaikh Abdussalam Abdurrazzaq, the renowned **Urdu litterateur** and **academician**, popularly known by his pseudonym **Salam Bin Razzaq**, passed away on Tuesday at his residence in Navi Mumbai after a prolonged illness, as informed by a family friend. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Renowned filmmaker from Kerala **Sangeeth Sivan** passed away at the age of 61. He had films like 'Vyooham,' 'Daddy,' 'Gandharvam,' and the 'Yodha'. Apart from this, he also made 10 Hindi movies like 'Kya Kool Hai Hum' and 'Apna Sapna Money Money'. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The literary world mourns the loss of **Surjit Patar**, a renowned Punjabi poet, writer, and **Padma Shri** recipient, who passed away in Ludhiana, Punjab, at the age of 79. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The literary world mourns the loss of **Alice Munro**, the **Nobel Prize-winning author** renowned for her masterful crafting of **short stories**. Munro, who passed away on **May 13** at the age of 92, left an indelible mark with her **taut and acutely observed** narratives, which captured the essence of human nature with remarkable clarity. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Indian political landscape mourns the loss of a **pioneering figure**, Kamla Beniwal, who breathed her last on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at the age of 97. Beniwal, a **veteran Congress leader** and former governor of Gujarat, Tripura, and Mizoram, left an indelible mark on the nation's political arena with her **unwavering commitment** and **decades-long service**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Malti Joshi**, a revered figure in the literary world and recipient of the prestigious **Padma Shri award**, passed away at the **age of 90 after a battle with cancer**. Her legacy as a prolific writer and storyteller leaves an indelible mark on Hindi and Marathi literature. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The ongoing conflict in Gaza has claimed the life of **Colonel (Retd.) Waibhav Anil Kale**, a former Indian Army officer who was serving as a staff member of the **United Nations Department of Safety and Security (DSS)** in the region. The tragic incident occurred on May 13, 2024, when Kale's vehicle came under attack in **Rafah, Gaza**, marking the first international casualty since the latest escalation of hostilities between Israel and Hamas. ([Click Here to Read Article](#))
- The Indian banking industry mourns the loss of a legendary figure, **N Vaghul**, who passed away on Saturday in Chennai at the age of 88. Vaghul, a **former chairman of ICICI Bank**, left an indelible mark on the financial sector with his visionary leadership and commitment to excellence. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Mohammad Mokhber**, born on June 26, 1955, in Dezful, Iran, is a prominent figure in Iranian politics. He holds two doctoral degrees, one in international law and another in management, along with a master's degree in management. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Richard M. Sherman**, one half of the renowned Sherman Brothers duo, who crafted some of Disney's most **iconic** and **memorable songs**, has passed away at the age of 95. Sherman, along with his late brother Robert, left an indelible mark on millions of childhoods through their award-winning compositions for films like "Mary Poppins," "The Jungle Book," and "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang." ([Click here to read the Article](#))

Static Current Affairs

- Sri Lanka Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte;
- Sri Lanka Currency: Sri Lankan Rupee;
- Sri Lanka Official languages: Sinhala, Tamil;
- Sri Lanka President: Ranil Wickremesinghe;
- Sri Lanka Prime minister: Dinesh Gunawardena.
- Chairman & Managing director of Power Finance Corporation: Ravinder Singh Dhillon
- Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court: Augustine George Masih
- Chief Minister of Rajasthan: Ashok Gehlot
- Delhi Water Minister : Saurabh Bharadwaj
- Chief Scientist at CSIR-IIIM Jammu: Dr Zabeer Ahmed
- World Animal Health Organization Founded: 1924;
- World Animal Health Organization Founder: Emmanuel Leclainche;
- World Animal Health Organization Headquarters: Paris;
- Director General of the World Animal Health Organization: Dr Monique Eloit.
- Founder of Tata Group: Jamsetji Tata
- Chief minister of Madhya pradesh: Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- Asian Cricket Council(ACC) President: Jay Shah;
- Asian Cricket Council(ACC) Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia;
- Asian Cricket Council(ACC) Established: 1983.
- Director General of Railway Protection Force (RPF): Sanjay Chander
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland; Director general: Tedros Adhanom.
- CRPF Founded: 27 July 1939;
- CRPF Headquarters: New Delhi;
- CRPF Founder: Parliament of India;
- Director General of CRPF: Dr. Sujoy Lal Thakur, IPS.
- 50th and current Chief Justice of India: Dhananjaya Yeshwant Chandrachud
- Minister of Law and Justice in India: Arjun Ram Meghwal
- Current Chairman of Asian Paints Ltd: Deepak Satwalekar
- Central Bank of Israel Establishment: 1954
- Central Bank of Israel Headquarter: Kiryat HaMemshala in Jerusalem with a branch in Tel Aviv.
- Central Bank of Israel Current Governor: Amir Yaron
- Central Bank of Israel Director General: Shulamit Geri
- Central Bank of Israel Establishment: 1954
- Central Bank of Israel Headquarter: Kiryat HaMemshala in Jerusalem with a branch in Tel Aviv.
- Central Bank of Israel Current Governor: Amir Yaron
- Central Bank of Israel Director General: Shulamit Geri
- 2023 FIDE World Champion: Ding Liren
- President of Handball Association India (HAI): Digvijay Chautala
- World Wildlife Fund Headquarters: Gland, Switzerland;
- World Wildlife Fund Founded: 29 April 1961;
- World Wildlife Fund Director General: Marco Lambertini.
- CEO of India AI: Shri Abhishek Singh
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland; Director general: Tedros Adhanom.
- CEO of India AI: Shri Abhishek Singh
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Founded: 1988;
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Founder: Bert Bolin;
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Chief Minister of Assam: Himanta Biswa Sarma
- Mongolia Capital: Ulaanbaatar
- Mongolia Currency: Mongolian Tugrik
- Minister of Finance of Indonesia: Sri Mulyani
- Director of Indian Council of Agricultural Research: Himashu Pathak
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research establishment year: 16 July 1929
- CEO and Co-founder of Razorpay: Harshil Mathur
- CEO and Co-founder of Curlec: Zac Liew
- Razorpay Founded: 2013
- Union Minister of Textiles: Piyush Goyal
- India's first PM MITRA Park in: Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu
- CEO of Food Safety Standard Authority of India (FSSAI): G. Kamala Vardhana Rao
- Current chairperson of FSSAI : Rajesh Bhushan
- Indian Oil Corporation Limited Chairman: Shrikant Madhav Vaidya
- World Federation of Neurology Headquarters location: London, United Kingdom;
- World Federation of Neurology Founded: July 1957;
- World Federation of Neurology President: Prof. Wolfgang Grisold.
- Indian Coast Guard Founded: 1 February 1977;

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- Indian Coast Guard Headquarters: Indian Coast Guard Headquarters, New Delhi.
- Chairman of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation: Dr M.D. Patra
- Headquarters of Life Insurance Corporation of India: Mumbai
- MD and CEO of Ashok Leyland: Shenu Agarwal
- Chairperson & MD of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited: CB Ananthkrishnan
- Headquarters of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited: Bangalore, Karnataka
- Minister of Defense of Argentina: Jorge Taiana
- National Startup Day: January 16
- CEO of HCL Tech: C Vijayakumar
- The current/25th Navy Chief: Admiral R. Hari Kumar
- Bank of India Founder: Ramnarain Ruia;
- Bank of India Founded: 7 September 1906, Mumbai;
- Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai.
- Bank of Baroda Founder: Sayajirao Gaekwad III;
- Bank of Baroda Founded: 20 July 1908, Vadodara;
- Bank of Baroda Headquarters: Alkapuri, Vadodara.
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- WHO Founded: 7 April 1948;
- WHO Director-General: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.
- Google Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin;
- Google Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States;
- Google Founded: 4 September 1998, Menlo Park, California, United States;
- Google CEO: Sundar Pichai (2 Oct 2015–).
- Coal India Headquarters: Kolkata;
- Coal India Founded: November 1975.
- Defence Minister of India: Rajnath Singh
- Defence Minister of Maldives: Mariya Didi
- Capital of Maldives: Malé
- Currency of Maldives: Maldivian rufiyaa.
- Basketball Federation of India Founded: 1950;
- Basketball Federation of India Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Andhra Pradesh's Chief Minister: Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy
- Managing Director of Adani Group: Rajesh Adani
- CEO and Whole Time Director of Adani Ports & SEZ (APSEZ) Limited: Karan Adani.
- International Amateur Athletic Federation was founded in 1912;
- President of the International Association of Athletics Federations: Sebastian Coe.
- Accenture CEO: Julie Sweet (1 Sept 2019–);
- Accenture Founded: 1989, Hamilton, Bermuda.
- ICC Founded: 15 June 1909;
- ICC Chairman: Greg Barclay;
- ICC CEO: Geoff Allardice;
- ICC Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- Google Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin;
- Google Parent organization: Alphabet Inc.;
- Google Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States;
- Google CEO: Sundar Pichai (2 Oct 2015–).
- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Mastercard: Michael Miebach
- Group President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of BharatPe: Suhail Sameer
- Headquarters of Mastercard: New York, United States
- Headquarters of BharatPe: Gurugram, Haryana, India
- MD & CEO of AU Small Finance Bank: Sanjay Agarwal
- Headquarters of AU Small Finance Bank: Jaipur, Rajasthan, India
- CEO of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI): Dilip Asbe
- Larsen & Toubro (L&T) CEO: S N Subrahmanyam (Jul 2017–);
- Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Twitter Parent organization: X Corp;
- Twitter Founders: Jack Dorsey, Evan Williams, Biz Stone, Noah Glass;
- Twitter Founded: 21 March 2006, San Francisco, California, United States;
- Twitter Headquarters: San Francisco, California, United States.
- President: Kalyan Chaubey;
- AIFF has its headquarters at the Football House in Dwarka, New Delhi;
- The All India Football Federation (AIFF) was formed in 1937.
- International Council of Nurses President: Pamela Cipriano;
- International Council of Nurses Established Year:1899;
- International Council of Nurses Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- United Nations Secretary-General:António Guterres.
- United Nations Established Year: October 24, 1945.
- United Nations Headquarters: New York City, USA.
- Wipro Founded : 29 December 1945
- Wipro Headquarters: Bangalore, Karnataka
- Wipro Executive Chairman: Rishad Premji
- UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France;
- UNESCO Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom;
- UNESCO Head: Audrey Azoulay; (Director-General).
- Press Council of India Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Press Council of India Founder: Parliament of India;
- Press Council of India Founded: 4 July 1966, India.
- Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai is chairman of the council.

- All India Football Federation President: Kalyan Chaubey;
- All India Football Federation Founded: 23 June 1937;
- All India Football Federation HQ: Dwarka, New Delhi.
- Adobe CEO: Shantanu Narayen (1 Dec 2007–);
- Adobe Headquarters: San Jose, California, United States;
- Adobe Founders: Charles Geschke, John Warnock;
- Adobe Founded: December 1982, Mountain View, California, United States.
- Assam’s Industries & Commerce Minister: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- The Chairman and Managing Director of VA Tech Wabag: Rajiv Mittal
- Singapore’s Minister for Education: Mr Chan Chun Sing
- State Bank of India(SBI) Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- State Bank of India(SBI) Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- State Bank of India(SBI) Established in – 1955
- State Bank of India(SBI) Tagline – The Banker to Every Indian
- Managing Director & CEO of YES BANK: Mr. Prashant Kumar
- Chief executive officer (CEO) of Jio Financial Services: Hitesh Sethia
- Official currency of Thailand: Thai baht
- Khelo India Programme was launched in the year: 2018
- Chief Marketing and Communications Officer at Mastercard: Raja Rajamannar
- Chief Executive Officer of ICC: Geoff Allardice
- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL): Shri Mihir Kanti Mishra
- Wrestling Federation of India President: Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh;
- Wrestling Federation of India Founded: 27 January 1967;
- Wrestling Federation of India Headquartered in New Delhi, India.
- Minister of Assam for Environment and Forest: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) was formed on: October 14, 2003.
- Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI): Ravneet Kaur.
- Minister of Assam for Environment and Forest: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) was formed on: October 14, 2003.
- Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI): Ravneet Kaur.
- Chairman of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE): T G Sitharam
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Founded: 1 October 2003;
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Headquarters: Chōfu, Tokyo, Japan.
- United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Secretary-General: Zurab Pololikashvili;
- United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Headquarters: Madrid, Spain;
- United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Establishment: 1975.
- Mozambique Capital: Maputo;
- Mozambique Official language: Portuguese;
- Mozambique Currency: Mozambican metical;
- Mozambique Government: Republic, Semi-presidential system, Unitary state, Constitutional republic;
- Mozambique Population: 3.21 crores (2021) World Bank;
- Mozambique President: Filipe Jacinto Nyusi;
- Prime Minister of Mozambique: Adriano Afonso Maleiane.
- SEBI Formed: April 12, 1988;
- SEBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- SEBI Chairperson: Madhabi Puri Buch.
- Survey of India (Sol) Surveyor General of India– Hitesh Kumar S. Makwana;
- Survey of India (Sol) Headquarters– Dehradun, Uttarakhand;
- Survey of India (Sol) Established in– 1767.
- World Customs Organisation Founded: 26 January 1953;
- World Customs Organisation Secretary General: Kunio Mikuriya (January 2009 - present).
- Toyota Motor Corp Founded: 28 August 1937, Japan;
- Toyota Motor Corp Founder: Kiichiro Toyoda.
- Central Railway Founded: 5 November 1951, Mumbai;
- Central Railway Headquarters: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai.
- Indian Air Force Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Indian Air Force Founded: 8 October 1932, India;
- Indian Air Force Air chief Marshall: Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria;
- Japan Air Self-Defence Force Founded: 1 July 1954, Japan.
- Japan Air Self-Defence Force Headquarters: Tokyo, Japan.
- Central Provident Fund Commissioner in. Employees’ Provident Fund Organization (EPFO): Neelam Shami Rao;
- Employees’ Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Employees’ Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) Founded: 4 March 1952.
- PepsiCo Foundation CEO: Ramon Laguarta (3 Oct 2018–);
- PepsiCo Foundation Headquarters: Purchase, Harrison, New York, United States;
- PepsiCo Foundation Founded: 1965;
- PepsiCo Foundation President: Ramon Laguarta.
- Director General Border Roads Organization: Lt. Gen. Rajeev Chowdhary.



- OECD Headquarters: Paris, France;
- OECD Founded: 30 September 1961.
- ISRO Chairman: S. Somanath;
- ISRO's foundation Date: 15th August, 1969;
- ISRO's Founder: Dr. Vikram Sarabhai.
- BCCI President: Roger Binny;
- BCCI Headquarters: Mumbai;
- BCCI Founded: December 1928.
- France Capital: Paris;
- France President: Emmanuel Macron;
- France Prime minister: Élisabeth Borne.
- 5th and current National Security Advisor (NSA): Ajit Kumar Doval;
- Federal Bank Headquarters: Aluva;
- Federal Bank CEO: Shyam Srinivasan (23 Sept 2010–);
- Federal Bank Founder: K.P Hormis;
- Federal Bank Founded: 23 April 1931, Nedumpuram.
- Cuba Capital: Havana;
- Cuba Currency: Cuban Peso;
- Cuba President: Miguel Díaz-Canel;
- Cuba Continent: North America.
- Canara Bank Headquarters: Bengaluru;
- Canara Bank Founder: Ammembal Subba Rao Pai;
- Canara Bank MD and CEO: L V Prabhakar;
- Canara Bank Founded: 1 July 1906.
- Director Generals of NDRF: Atul Karwal;
- HQ of NDRF: New Delhi;
- NDRF Formed: 2006.
- Google Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States.
- SBI Chairperson: Dinesh Kumar Khara
- SBI Founded: 1 July 1955
- SBI Headquarters: Mumbai.
- WEF Founder: Klaus Schwab
- WEF Headquarters: Cologny, Switzerland
- WEF President: Borge Brende.
- NCRA Founded:- Early 1960's
- NCRA Director:- Yashwant Gupta
- IISc Founded:- 1909
- IISc Founders:- Jamsetji Tata & Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV
- IISc Director:- Govindan Rangrajan.
- NHPC Founded: 7 November 1975
- NHPC Headquarters: Faridabad, India
- NHPC Chairman & Managing Director – Shri Rajeev Kumar Vishnoi
- CEA Founded: 1951
- CEA Headquarters: New Delhi, India
- CEA Chairperson – Shri Ghanshyam Prasad.
- New Zealand Capital: Wellington;
- New Zealand Currency : New Zealand dollar.

- NASA Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States;
- NASA Founded: 29 July 1958, United States;
- NASA Founder: Dwight D. Eisenhower;
- NASA Administrator Bill Nelson;
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Head: Hiroshi Yamakawa;
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Founded: 1 October 2003;
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Headquarters: Tokyo, Japan.
- Spain Government: Unitary parliamentary constitutional monarchy
- Spain Capital: Madrid
- Spain King: Felipe VI of Spain
- Spain Prime Minister : Pedro Sánchez.
- Bangladesh Currency: Bangladeshi Taka
- Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka
- Vietnam Capital: Hanoi
- Vietnam Currency: Vietnamese Dong.
- EY Headquarter:- London, England
- Chairman & CEO – Carmine Di Sibio.
- King of Bahrain: Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.
- Bahrain Capital: Manama.
- Bahrain Currency: Bahraini dinar.
- Chief Of Naval Staff:- Admiral R. Hari Kumar.
- Egypt Capital: Cairo;
- Egypt President: Abdel Fattah el-Sisi;
- Egypt Currency: Egyptian pound.
- National AIDS Control Organization Director General: V Hekali Zhimomi;
- National AIDS Control Organization Headquarters: New Delhi;
- National AIDS Control Organization Founded: 1992.
- ESAF Small Finance Bank Headquarters : Thrissur
- ESAF Small Finance Bank Founded : 10 March 2017
- ESAF Small Finance Bank Chairperson :- P. R. Ravi Mohan
- ESAF Small Finance Bank MD & CEO :- K. Paul Thomas.



- Maldives President: Mohamed Muizzu
- Maldives Capital: Malé
- Maldives Currency : Maldivian rufiyaa
- Chad Capital: N’Djamena
- Chad Currency: Central African CFA franc
- United Nations Truce Supervision Organization Headquarters: Jerusalem;
- United Nations Truce Supervision Organization Founded: 29 May 1948.
- ICC Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates;
- ICC Founded: 15 June 1909;
- ICC CEO: Geoff Allardice;
- ICC Chairman: Greg Barclay.
- Papua New Guinea Head of State: King Charles III of Britain
- Papua New Guinea Prime Minister: James Marape
- Papua New Guinea Capital: Port Moresby
- Papua New Guinea Currency: Kina

**List of Elephant Reserves in India 2024**

State	Elephant Reserves
Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mysore Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wayanad Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Nilambur Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Anamudi Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Periyar Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Nagaland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intanki Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Meghalaya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garo Hills Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Khasi-hills Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Uttarakhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shivalik Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Uttarpradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uttar Pradesh Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Terai Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayurbhanj Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Eastern Dooars Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Jharkhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Singhbhum Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Orissa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayurbhanj Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Mahanadi Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Sambalpur Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Baitami Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• South Orissa Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sonitpur Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Dihing-Patkai Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Dhansiri-Lungding Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Chirang- Ripu Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Chhattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lemru Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Badalkhol – Tamor Pingla Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Arunachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kameng Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• South Arunachal Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
TamilNadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coimbatore Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Nilgiri Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Annamalai Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Srivilliputhur Elephant Reserve</li> <li>• Agasthyamalai Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>
Andhra Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rayala Elephant Reserve</li> </ul>