

THE
**HINDU
REVIEW**

JULY 2024



- **CURRENT AFFAIRS**
- **MONTHLY CAPSULE**



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The Most Important Current Affairs July 2024

Budget 2024-25

The Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget 2024-25 in Parliament. The highlights of the budget are as follows:

Part-A

Budget Estimates 2024-25:

- Total receipts other than borrowings: Rs. 32.07 lakh crore.
- Total expenditure: Rs. 48.21 lakh crore.
- Net tax receipt: Rs. 25.83 lakh crore.
- Fiscal deficit: 4.9 per cent of GDP.
- The government aims to reach a deficit below 4.5 per cent next year.
- Inflation continues to be low, stable and moving towards the 4% target; Core inflation (non-food, non-fuel) at 3.1%.
- The budget focuses on **EMPLOYMENT, SKILLING, MSMEs, and the MIDDLE CLASS.**

Package of PM’s five schemes for Employment and Skilling

- Prime Minister’s Package of 5 Schemes and Initiatives for employment, skilling and other opportunities for 4.1 crore youth over a 5-year period.
 1. **Scheme A - First Timers:** One-month salary of up to Rs. 15,000 to be provided in 3 installments to first-time employees, as registered in the EPFO.
 2. **Scheme B - Job Creation in manufacturing:** Incentive to be provided at specified scale directly, both employee and employer, with respect to their EPFO contribution in the first 4 years of employment.
 3. **Scheme C - Support to employers:** Government to reimburse up to Rs. 3,000 per month for 2 years towards EPFO contribution of employers, for each additional employee.
 4. **New centrally sponsored scheme for Skilling-** 20 lakh youth to be skilled over a 5-year period and 1,000 Industrial Training Institutes to be upgraded in hub and spoke arrangements.
 5. **New Scheme for Internship in 500 Top Companies** to 1 crore youth in 5 years

Nine Budget Priorities in Pursuit of ‘Viksit Bharat’:

1. Productivity and Resilience in Agriculture
2. Employment & Skilling
3. Inclusive Human Resource Development and Social Justice
4. Manufacturing & Services
5. Urban Development
6. Energy Security
7. Infrastructure
8. Innovation, Research & Development and
9. Next Generation Reforms

Priority 1: Productivity and resilience in Agriculture

- Allocation of Rs. 1.52 lakh crore for agriculture and allied sectors.
- New 109 high-yielding and climate-resilient varieties of 32 field and horticulture crops to be released for cultivation by farmers.
- 1 crore farmers across the country to be initiated into natural farming, with certification and branding in next 2 years.
- 10,000 need-based bio-input resource centres to be established for natural farming.
- Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for Agriculture to be implemented for coverage of farmers and their lands in 3 years.

Priority 2: Employment & Skilling

- As part of the Prime Minister’s package, 3 schemes for ‘Employment Linked Incentive’ to be implemented - Scheme A - First Timers; Scheme B - Job Creation in manufacturing; Scheme C - Support to employers.
- To facilitate higher participation of women in the workforce,
 1. working women hostels and crèches to be established with industrial collaboration
 2. women-specific skilling programmes to be organized
 3. market access for women SHG enterprises to be promoted

Skill Development

- New centrally sponsored scheme for Skilling under Prime Minister’s Package for 20 lakh youth over a 5-year period.
- Model Skill Loan Scheme to be revised to facilitate loans up to Rs. 7.5 lakh.
- Financial support for loans upto Rs. 10 lakh for higher education in domestic institutions to be provided to youth who have not been eligible for any benefit under government schemes and policies.



Priority 3: Inclusive Human Resource Development and Social Justice

Purvodaya

- Industrial node at Gaya to be developed along the Amritsar-Kolkata Industrial Corridor.
- Power projects, including new 2400 MW power plant at Pimpainti, to be taken up at a cost of Rs. 21,400 crore.

Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act

- Special financial support through multilateral development agencies of Rs. 15,000 crore in the current financial year.
- Industrial node at Koppaathy along Vishakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor and at Orvakal along Hyderabad-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor.

Women-led development

- Total allocation of more than Rs. 3 lakh crore for schemes benefitting women and girls.

Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan

- Socio-economic development of tribal families in tribal-majority villages and aspirational districts, covering 63,000 villages benefitting 5 crore tribal people.

Bank branches in North-Eastern Region

- 100 branches of India Post Payment Bank to be set up in the North East region.

Priority 4: Manufacturing & Services

Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs in the Manufacturing Sector

- A credit guarantee scheme without collateral or third-party guarantee in term loans to MSMEs for purchase of machinery and equipment.

Credit Support to MSMEs during Stress Period

- New mechanism to facilitate continuation of bank credit to MSMEs during their stress period.

Mudra Loans

- The limit of Mudra loans under 'Tarun' category to be enhanced to Rs. 20 lakh from Rs. 10 lakh for those who have successfully repaid previous loans.

Enhanced scope for mandatory onboarding in TReDS

- Turnover threshold of buyers for mandatory onboarding on the TReDS platform to be reduced from Rs. 500 crore to Rs. 250 crore..

MSME Units for Food Irradiation, Quality & Safety Testing

- Financial support to set up 50 multi-product food irradiation units in the MSME sector .

E-Commerce Export Hubs

- E-Commerce Export Hubs to be set up under public-private-partnership (PPP) mode for MSMEs and traditional artisans to sell their products in international markets.

Critical Mineral Mission

- Critical Mineral Mission to be set up for domestic production, recycling of critical minerals, and overseas acquisition of critical mineral assets.

Offshore mining of minerals

- Auction of the first tranche of offshore blocks for mining, building on the exploration already carried out.

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) Applications

- Development of DPI applications in the areas of credit, e-commerce, education, health, law and justice, logistics, MSME, services delivery, and urban governance.

Priority 5: Urban Development

Transit Oriented Development

- Formulation of Transit Oriented Development plans and strategies to implement and finance 14 large cities above 30 lakh population.

Urban Housing

- Investment of Rs. 10 lakh crore, including the central assistance of Rs. 2.2 lakh crore in next 5 years, under PM Awas Yojana Urban 2.0 proposed to address the , housing needs of 1 crore urban poor and middle-class families.

Street Markets

- New scheme to support the development of 100 weekly 'haats' or street food hubs every year for the next 5 years in select cities.

Priority 6: Energy Security

Energy Transition

- Policy document on 'Energy Transition Pathways' to balance the imperatives of employment, growth and environmental sustainability to be brought out.

Pumped Storage Policy

- Policy for promoting pumped storage projects for electricity storage to be brought out.

Research and development of small and modular nuclear reactors

- Government to partner with private sector for R&D of Bharat Small Modular Reactor and newer technologies for nuclear energy, and to set up Bharat Small Reactors.

Advanced Ultra Super Critical Thermal Power Plants

- Joint venture proposed between NTPC and BHEL to set up a full scale 800 MW commercial plant using Advanced Ultra Super Critical (AUSC) technology.

Roadmap for 'hard to abate' industries

- Appropriate regulations for transition of 'hard to abate' industries from the current 'Perform, Achieve and Trade' mode to 'Indian Carbon Market' mode to be put in place.

Priority 7: Infrastructure

Infrastructure investment by Central Government

- Rs. 11,11,111 crore (3.4 % of GDP) to be provided for capital expenditure.

Infrastructure investment by state governments

- Provision of Rs. 1.5 lakh crore for long-term interest free loans to support states in infrastructure investment.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

- Launch of phase IV of PMGSY to provide all-weather connectivity to 25,000 rural habitations.

Irrigation and Flood Mitigation

- Financial support of Rs. 11,500 crore to projects such as the Kosi-Mechi intra-state link and other schemes in Bihar.
- Government to provide assistance to Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim for floods, landslides and other related projects.

Tourism

- Comprehensive development of Vishnupad Temple Corridor, Mahabodhi Temple Corridor and Rajgir.
- Assistance for development of temples, monuments, craftsmanship, wildlife sanctuaries, natural landscapes and pristine beaches of Odisha.

Priority 8: Innovation, Research & Development

- Anusandhan National Research Fund for basic research and prototype development to be operationalised.
- Financing pool of Rs. 1 lakh crore for spurring private sector-driven research and innovation at commercial scale.

Space Economy

- Venture capital fund of Rs. 1,000 crore to be set up for expanding the space economy by 5 times in the next 10 years.

Priority 9: Next Generation Reforms

Rural Land-Related Actions

- Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) or Bhu-Aadhaar for all lands
- Digitization of cadastral maps
- Survey of map sub-divisions as per current ownership
- Establishment of land registry
- Linking to the farmers registry

Urban Land-Related Actions

- Land records in urban areas to be digitized with GIS mapping.

Services to Labour

- Integration of e-shram portal with other portals to facilitate such one-stop solution.
- Open architecture databases for the rapidly changing labour market, skill requirements and available job roles.
- Mechanism to connect job-aspirants with potential employers and skill providers.

NPS Vatsalya

- NPS-Vatsalya as a plan for contribution by parents and guardians for minors.

PART B

Indirect Taxes

GST

- Buoyed by GST's success, tax structure to be simplified and rationalised to expand GST to remaining sectors.

Sector specific customs duty proposals

Medicines and Medical Equipment

- Three cancer drugs namely Trastuzumab, Deruxtecan, Osimertinib and Durvalumab fully exempted from custom duty.
- Changes in Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on x-ray tubes & flat panel detectors for use in medical x-ray machines under the Phased Manufacturing Programme.

Mobile Phone and Related Parts

- BCD on mobile phone, mobile Printed Circuit Board Assembly (PCBA) and mobile charger reduced to 15 per cent.

Precious Metals

- Customs duties on gold and silver reduced to 6 per cent and that on platinum to 6.4 per cent.

Other Metals

- BCD removed on ferro nickel and blister copper.
- BCD removed on ferrous scrap and nickel cathode.
- Concessional BCD of 2.5 per cent on copper scrap.

Electronics

- BCD removed, subject to conditions, on oxygen free copper for manufacture of resistors.

Chemicals and Petrochemicals

- BCD on ammonium nitrate increased from 7.5 to 10 per cent.

Plastics

- BCD on PVC flex banners increased from 10 to 25 per cent.

Telecommunication Equipment

- BCD increased from 10 to 15 per cent on PCBA of specified telecom equipment.

Trade facilitation

- For promotion of domestic aviation and boat & ship MRO, time period for export of goods imported for repairs extended from six months to one year.
- Time-limit for re-import of goods for repairs under warranty extended from three to five years.

Critical Minerals

- 25 critical minerals fully exempted from customs duties.
- BCD on two critical minerals reduced.

Solar Energy

- Capital goods for use in manufacture of solar cells and panels exempted from customs duty.

Marine products

- BCD on certain broodstock, polychaete worms, shrimp and fish feed reduced to 5 per cent.
- Various inputs for manufacture of shrimp and fish feed exempted from customs duty.

Leather and Textile

- BCD reduced on real down filling material from duck or goose.
- BCD reduced, subject to conditions, on methylene diphenyl diisocyanate (MDI) for manufacture of spandex yarn from 7.5 to 5 per cent.

Direct Taxes

- Efforts to simplify taxes, improve tax payer services, provide tax certainty and reduce litigation to be continued.
- Enhance revenues for funding development and welfare schemes of government.
- 58 per cent of corporate tax from simplified tax regime in FY23, more than two-thirds taxpayers availed simplified tax regime for personal income tax in FY 24.

Simplification for Charities and of TDS

- Two tax exemption regimes for charities to be merged into one.
- 5 per cent TDS rate on many payments merged into 2 per cent TDS rate.
- 20 per cent TDS rate on repurchase of units by mutual funds or UTI withdrawn.
- TDS rate on e-commerce operators reduced from one to 0.1 per cent.
- Delay for payment of TDS up to due date of filing statement decriminalized.

Simplification of Reassessment

- Assessment can be reopened beyond three years upto five years from the end of Assessment Year only if the escaped income is ₹ 50 lakh or more.
- In search cases, time limit reduced from ten to six years before the year of search.

Simplification and Rationalisation of Capital Gains

- Short term gains on certain financial assets to attract a tax rate of 20 per cent.
- Long term gains on all financial and non-financial assets to attract a tax rate of 12.5 per cent.
- Exemption limit of capital gains on certain financial assets increased to ₹ 1.25 lakh per year.

Tax Payer Services

- All remaining services of Customs and Income Tax including rectification and order giving effect to appellate orders to be digitalized over the next two years.

Litigation and Appeals

- 'Vivad Se Vishwas Scheme, 2024' for resolution of income tax disputes pending in appeal.
- Monetary limits for filing direct taxes, excise and service tax related appeals in Tax Tribunals, High Courts and Supreme Court increased to ₹60 lakh, ₹2 crore and ₹5 crore respectively.
- Safe harbour rules expanded to reduce litigation and provide certainty in international taxation.

Employment and Investment

- Angel tax for all classes of investors abolished to bolster start-up eco-system,.
- Simpler tax regime for foreign shipping companies operating domestic cruises to promote cruise tourism in India.
- Safe harbour rates for foreign mining companies selling raw diamonds in the country.
- Corporate tax rate on foreign companies reduced from 40 to 35 per cent.

Deepening tax base

- Security Transactions Tax on futures and options of securities increased to 0.02 per cent and 0.1 per cent respectively.
- Income received on buy back of shares in the hands of recipient to be taxed.

Social Security Benefits.

- Deduction of expenditure by employers towards NPS to be increased from 10 to 14 per cent of the employee's salary.
- Non-reporting of small movable foreign assets up to ₹20 lakh de-penalised.

Other major proposal in Finance Bill

- Equalization levy of 2 per cent withdrawn.

Changes in Personal Income Tax under new tax regime

- Standard deduction for salaried employees increased from ₹50,000 to ₹75,000.
- Deduction on family pension for pensioners enhanced from ₹15,000/- to ₹25,000/-

Revised tax rate structure:

0-3 lakh rupees	Nil
3-7 lakh rupees	5 per cent
7-10 lakh rupees	10 per cent
10-12 lakh rupees	15 per cent
12-15 lakh rupees	20 per cent
Above 15 lakh rupees	30 per cent

- Salaried employee in the new tax regime stands to save up to ₹ 17,500/- in income tax.

Economic Survey 2023-24: Key Highlights and Analysis

The **Economic Survey 2023-24**, presented by Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, provides a detailed overview of India's economic performance and future outlook. Here are the key highlights and analysis, organized by thematic chapters:

Chapter 1: State of the Economy – Steady as She Goes

- **GDP Growth Projection:** The Economic Survey conservatively projects a **real GDP growth of 6.5–7%**, with balanced risks, despite higher market expectations.

- **Momentum Maintenance:** India's economy continued its momentum from FY23 into FY24, facing minimal impact from external challenges due to macroeconomic stability.
- **Real GDP Growth:** Real GDP grew by **8.2% in FY24**, exceeding 8% in three out of four quarters.
- **Gross Value Added (GVA):** GVA grew by **7.2% in FY24** (at 2011-12 prices) and net taxes at constant prices grew by **19.1%**.
- **Inflation Management:** Retail inflation reduced from **6.7% in FY23 to 5.4% in FY24** due to effective administrative and monetary policies.
- **Current Account Deficit (CAD):** CAD improved to **0.7% of GDP in FY24** from 2.0% in FY23.
- **Post-Pandemic Recovery:** Real GDP in FY24 was **20% higher than FY20**, a notable recovery achieved by few major economies.
- **Tax Collection:** **55%** of tax collected from direct taxes, and **45%** from indirect taxes.
- **Welfare Programs:** Government ensured free food grains to **81.4 crore people** and progressively increased capital expenditure.

Chapter 2: Monetary Management and Financial Intermediation - Stability is the Watchword

- **Banking Sector Performance:** India's banking and financial sectors performed exceptionally well in FY24.
- **Policy Rate:** RBI maintained a steady policy rate, keeping the **policy repo rate at 6.5%**.
- **Credit Growth:** Credit disbursement by Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) reached **₹164.3 lakh crore**, growing by **20.2%** by March 2024.
- **Broad Money (M3) Growth:** Excluding HDFC merger, M3 grew by **11.2% YoY** as of 22 March 2024.
- **Non-Performing Assets (NPA):** Gross and net NPAs at multi-year lows, indicating improved bank asset quality.
- **Agriculture Credit:** Agriculture and allied activities saw double-digit credit growth in FY24.
- **Industrial Credit:** Industrial credit growth was **8.5%**, up from 5.2% the previous year.
- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC):** **31,394 corporate debtors** involving **₹13.9 lakh crore** disposed off by March 2024.
- **Capital Markets:** Primary capital markets facilitated capital formation of **₹10.9 lakh crore** in FY24.
- **Market Capitalisation:** Indian stock market's market capitalisation to GDP ratio is the fifth largest in the world.
- **Financial Inclusion:** Digital Financial Inclusion (DFI) is the next big challenge for sustainable economic growth.

Chapter 3: Prices and Inflation - Under Control

- **Retail Inflation:** Maintained at **5.4%** in FY24, the lowest since the pandemic, due to timely policy interventions.
- **Fuel Prices:** Central Government announced price cuts for LPG, petrol, and diesel, keeping retail fuel inflation low.

- **LPG and Fuel Inflation:** LPG cylinder prices reduced by **₹200** in August 2023; petrol and diesel prices lowered by **₹2 per litre**.
- **Core Inflation:** Core services inflation eased to a nine-year low; core goods inflation declined to a four-year low.
- **Food Inflation:** Increased from **6.6% in FY23 to 7.5% in FY24** due to extreme weather events impacting farm output.
- **Inflation Management:** Dynamic stock management, open market operations, and subsidised food items helped mitigate food inflation.
- **State Inflation:** **29 States and UTs** recorded inflation below 6% in FY24.

Chapter 4: External Sector - Stability Amid Plenty

- **Geopolitical Challenges:** Despite geopolitical headwinds, India's external sector remained strong.
- **Logistics Performance Index:** Improved rank from **44th in 2018 to 38th in 2023** out of 139 countries.
- **Current Account Deficit:** Improved to **0.7% of GDP in FY24** due to moderation in imports and rising services exports.
- **Global Export Share:** India's share in global goods exports was **1.8% in FY24**.
- **Services Exports:** Grew by **4.9% to USD 341.1 billion**, driven by IT/software services and other business services.
- **Remittances:** India is the top remittance recipient globally with **USD 120 billion** in 2023.
- **External Debt:** External debt to GDP ratio was **18.7%** at the end of March 2024.

Chapter 5: Medium-Term Outlook – A Growth Strategy for New India

- **Policy Focus Areas:** Job and skill creation, agricultural potential, MSME bottlenecks, green transition, managing relations with China, deepening the corporate bond market, tackling inequality, and improving youth health.
- **Amrit Kaal Strategy:** Based on six key areas: boosting private investment, expanding MSMEs, agriculture as a growth engine, financing green transition, bridging education-employment gap, and building state capacity.
- **Growth Compact:** For 7%+ growth, a tripartite compact between the Union Government, State Governments, and the private sector is essential.

Chapter 6: Climate Change and Energy Transition: Dealing with Trade-Offs

- **Climate Action Recognition:** India is the only G20 nation aligned with a 2-degree centigrade warming target.
- **Renewable Energy:** Non-fossil sources reached **45.4%** of installed electricity generation capacity by 31 May 2024.
- **Emission Reduction:** Reduced emission intensity of GDP by **33% from 2005 levels** by 2019.
- **Energy Savings:** Total annual energy savings of **51 million tonnes of oil equivalent**, translating to annual cost savings of **₹1,94,320 Crore**.
- **Green Bonds:** Issued **₹16,000 Crore** in January-February 2023 and **₹20,000 Crore** in October-December 2023.

Chapter 7: Social Sector - Benefits that Empower

- **Welfare Impact:** Digitisation of healthcare, education, and governance has increased the impact per rupee spent.
- **Welfare Expenditure Growth:** Nominal GDP grew at **9.5% CAGR** while welfare expenditure grew at **12.8% CAGR** between FY18 and FY24.
- **Inequality Reduction:** Gini coefficient declined in both rural (from **0.283 to 0.266**) and urban (from **0.363 to 0.314**) sectors.
- **Ayushman Bharat:** **34.7 crore cards** generated, covering **7.37 crore hospital admissions**.
- **Mental Health Coverage:** **22 mental disorders** covered under Ayushman Bharat – PMJAY.
- **Early Childhood Education:** 'Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi' programme aims to develop the world's largest, universal, high-quality preschool network at Anganwadi Centres.
- **Vidyanjali Initiative:** Enhanced educational experiences for **1.44 crore students** through community engagement.
- **Higher Education Enrolment:** Faster growth in enrolment from underprivileged sections (SC, ST, OBC) with a **31.6% increase** since FY15.
- **R&D Progress:** Nearly **one lakh patents** granted in FY24, up from less than 25,000 in FY20.
- **Housing and Roads:** Under PM-AWAS-Gramin, **2.63 crore houses** constructed; **15.14 lakh km** roads completed under Gram Sadak Yojana since 2014-15.

Chapter 8: Employment and Skill Development: Towards Quality

- **Labour Market Improvement:** Unemployment rate declined to **3.2% in 2022-23**.
- **Urban Unemployment:** Declined to **6.7%** in the quarter ending March 2024.
- **Workforce Distribution:** **45%** in agriculture, **11.4%** in manufacturing, **28.9%** in services, and **13%** in construction.
- **Youth Unemployment:** Declined from **17.8% in 2017-18 to 10% in 2022-23**.
- **EPFO Payroll:** Significant growth in new subscribers, especially in the **18-28 years band**.
- **Female Labour Force Participation:** Rising steadily for six years.
- **Manufacturing Sector Recovery:** Employment in organised manufacturing sector above pre-pandemic levels.
- **Wages Growth:** Rural wages grew at **6.9% CAGR**, urban at **6.1% CAGR**.
- **Factories Growth:** Number of factories employing over 100 workers grew by **11.8%** over FY18 to FY22.
- **EPFO Membership:** Grew at **8.4% CAGR** between FY15 and FY24.
- **Job Generation Requirement:** **78.5 lakh jobs** annually needed in the non-farm sector until 2030.

Chapter 9: Agriculture and Food Management – Plenty of Upside Left if We Get It Right

- **Agriculture Growth:** Registered an average annual growth rate of **4.18%** over the last five years.
- **Agricultural Credit:** Total credit disbursed to agriculture amounted to **₹22.84 lakh crore** as of January 31, 2024.
- **Kisan Credit Cards:** **7.5 crore KCCs** issued with a limit of **₹9.4 lakh crore**.
- **Micro Irrigation:** **90.0 lakh hectares** covered under 'Per drop more crop' from 2015-16 to 2023-24.

Chapter 10: Industry - Small and Medium Matters

- **Industrial Growth:** **9.5%** growth rate supporting overall economic growth of **8.2%** in FY24.
- **Manufacturing Sector:** Achieved an average annual growth rate of **5.2%** over the last decade.
- **Coal Production:** Accelerated coal production reduced import dependence.
- **Pharmaceutical Market:** India is the world's third largest by volume with a valuation of **USD 50 billion**.
- **Clothing Manufacturing:** India is the second-largest globally and among the top five exporters.
- **Electronics Manufacturing:** Accounts for **3.7%** of the global market share in FY22.
- **PLI Schemes:** Attracted over **₹1.28 lakh crore** of investment until May 2024, leading to production/sales of **₹10.8 lakh crore** and employment generation of **over 8.5 lakh**.

Chapter 11: Services - Fuelling Growth Opportunities

- **Services Sector Contribution:** **55%** of overall GVA, back to pre-pandemic levels.
- **Active Companies:** **65%** of the highest number of active companies are in the services sector.
- **Global Services Exports:** Constituted **4.4%** of the world's commercial services exports in 2022.
- **Computer and Business Services Exports:** Accounted for **73%** of India's services exports, with a **9.6% YoY** growth.
- **Aviation Sector Growth:** **15% YoY** increase in total air passengers handled.
- **Services Sector Credit:** **₹45.9 lakh crore** in March 2024, with a **22.9% YoY** growth.

Chapter 12: Infrastructure – Lifting Potential Growth

- **Public Sector Investment:** Significant role in funding large-scale infrastructure projects.
- **National Highway Construction:** Pace increased to around **34 km per day** by FY24.
- **Railway Capital Expenditure:** Increased by **77%** in the past five years.
- **Airport Infrastructure:** New terminal buildings operationalised at **21 airports**, increasing passenger handling capacity by **62 million** per annum.
- **Clean Energy Investment:** **₹8.5 lakh crore** (USD 102.4 billion) between 2014 and 2023.

Chapter 13: Climate Change and India

- **Global Climate Strategies:** Flawed and not universally applicable, overconsumption not addressed.
- **India’s Ethos:** Emphasizes a harmonious relationship with nature, contrasting with overconsumption cultures.
- **Sustainable Housing:** Shift towards 'traditional multi-generational households'.
- **Mission LIFE:** Focuses on human-nature harmony, promoting mindful consumption to address global climate change.

The Economic Survey 2023-24 provides a detailed analysis of India's economic landscape, highlighting its resilience and strategic initiatives aimed at sustainable and inclusive growth. With focused efforts on macroeconomic stability, financial inclusion, climate action, and social welfare, India is well-positioned to navigate future challenges and capitalize on growth opportunities.

Wimbledon 2024 Final, Check Complete Winners List

Carlos Alcaraz defended his Wimbledon title as he defeated **Novak Djokovic** 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 in the **Wimbledon 2024 final**. At 21, Alcaraz is the youngest player in open era to win men’s singles at Wimbledon and Roland Garros in the same year. On Women’s Category, **Barbora Krejčíková** defeated **Jasmine Paolini** in their Wimbledon 2024 singles showdown, at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in London.

[Here is the winner’s list of Wimbledon 2024](#)

Category	Winner(s)	Runner(s)-up	Score
Men’s Singles	Carlos Alcaraz	Novak Djokovic	6-2, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4)
Women’s Singles	Barbora Krejčíková	Jasmine Paolini	6-2, 2-6, 6-4
Mixed Doubles	Hsieh Su-Wei & Jan Zielinski	Santiago Gonzalez & Giuliana Olmos	6-4, 6-2
Women’s Doubles	Taylor Townsend & Katerina Siniakova	Gabriela Dabrowski & Erin Routliffe	Not provided
Men’s Doubles	Patten & Heliovaara	Max Purcell & Jordan Thompson	6-7 (7-9), 7-6 (10-8), 7-6 (11-9)

Centre Reconstitutes NITI Aayog

The Centre has reconstituted the NITI Aayog, the **apex public policy think tank of the Union government**, following changes in the council of ministers. Prime Minister Narendra Modi remains the chairperson, with **economist Suman K Bery** continuing as the vice-chairperson. The reconstituted NITI Aayog includes **four full-time members** and **15 Union Ministers**, including those from BJP allies, serving as either ex-officio members or special invitees.

Leadership and Full-Time Members

- **Chairperson:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- **Vice-Chairperson:** Economist Suman K Bery
- **Full-Time Members**
 - VK Saraswat (Former ISRO DG and Scientist)
 - Ramesh Chand (Agricultural Economist)
 - Dr. VK Paul (Paediatrician)
 - Arvind Virmani (Noted Economist)

Ex-Officio Members from the Cabinet

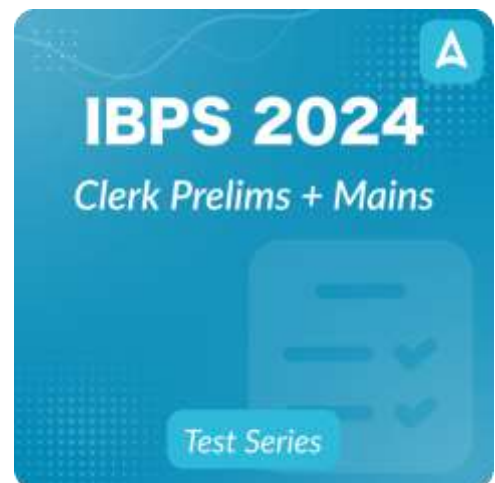
- **Rajnath Singh** (Defence)
- **Amit Shah** (Home)
- **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** (Agriculture)
- **Nirmala Sitharaman** (Finance)

Special Invitees

- **Nitin Gadkari** (Road Transport and Highways)
- **JP Nadda** (Health)
- **HD Kumaraswamy** (Heavy Industries and Steel, from JD(S))
- **Jitan Ram Manjhi** (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, from HAM)
- **Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh** (Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, from JD(U))
- **Virendra Kumar** (Social Justice and Empowerment)
- **Rammohan Naidu** (Civil Aviation, from TDP)
- **Jual Oram** (Tribal Affairs)
- **Annpurna Devi** (Women and Child Development)
- **Chirag Paswan** (Food Processing Industries, from LJP(RV))
- **Rao Inderjit Singh** (Statistics and Programme Implementation)

Background

NITI Aayog, established in 2015, replaced the 65-year-old Planning Commission. This restructuring aims to incorporate a broader range of expertise and representation, including significant input from NDA allies.



AIFF awards 2024 Announced

The **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** recently held its annual awards ceremony, recognizing outstanding achievements in Indian football for the 2023-24 season. The top honours went to **Lallianzuala Chhangte** and **Indumathi Kathiresan**, who were named the male and female Players of the Year respectively.

Men’s Player of the Year: Lallianzuala Chhangte

Lallianzuala Chhangte, the 27-year-old winger from **Mumbai City FC**, secured the AIFF Men’s Player of the Year award for the second consecutive time. This achievement makes him only the fifth player to win the award multiple times. Chhangte’s exceptional performance included:

- Scoring 11 goals and providing 7 assists in all competitions for Mumbai City FC
- Being the highest-scoring Indian in the Indian Super League (ISL)
- Scoring against Qatar in Doha during the FIFA World Cup Qualifiers in June 2024

Women’s Player of the Year: Indumathi Kathiresan

Indumathi Kathiresan, the 30-year-old midfielder, became the first player from Tamil Nadu to win the AIFF Women’s Player of the Year award. Her accomplishments include:

- Winning the 2023-24 Indian Women’s League (IWL) title with Odisha FC
- Scoring 5 goals in the IWL and winning the Best Midfielder award
- Scoring against Estonia in the Turkish Women’s Cup in February 2024

Promising Players of the Year

Men’s Category: David Lalhlansanga

David Lalhlansanga, the 22-year-old striker from Mohammedan Sporting, was named the AIFF Promising Men’s Player of the Year. His impressive record includes:

- Scoring 34 goals across various competitions (I-League, Calcutta Football League, and Durand Cup)
- Helping Mohammedan Sporting win the I-League and Calcutta Football League titles
- Earning his first national team call-up in May 2024 for the FIFA World Cup Qualifiers

Women’s Category: Neha

18-year-old winger **Neha** received the AIFF Promising Women’s Player of the Year award for her outstanding performances, including:

- Scoring 2 goals in India’s SAFF U19 Women’s Championship triumph
- Contributing 3 goals in Haryana’s run to the Senior Women’s National Football Championship final
- Scoring for HOPS FC in the IWL and being part of the senior India squad for international friendlies

Coaching Excellence

- **Men’s Coach of the Year:** Khalid Jamil (Jamshedpur FC)
- **Women’s Coach of the Year:** Sukla Dutta (India U-19 team and Sreebhumi FC)

Other Notable Awards

- **Referee of the Year:** Ramachandran Venkatesh
- **Assistant Referee of the Year:** Ujjal Halder

Table of AIFF Award Winners for 2023-24

Category	Winner
Men’s Player of the Year	Lallianzuala Chhangte
Women’s Player of the Year	Indumathi Kathiresan
Promising Men’s Player of the Year	David Lalhlansanga
Promising Women’s Player of the Year	Neha
Men’s Coach of the Year	Khalid Jamil
Women’s Coach of the Year	Sukla Dutta
Referee of the Year	Ramachandran Venkatesh
Assistant Referee of the Year	Ujjal Halder

State Association Awards

The AIFF also recognized various state football associations for their contributions to the sport:

- **Most Successful MA (Club Competitions):** Indian Football Association (West Bengal)
- **Most Successful MA (NFC Competitions):** All Manipur Football Association
- **Best MA – Supporting Women’s Football:** Punjab Football Association
- **MA with most player registrations (men’s):** Kerala Football Association
- **MA with most player registrations (women’s):** Western India Football Association (Maharashtra)

Special Recognition

Special awards were given to state governments and associations for their support in hosting various AIFF events:

- Government of Arunachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh Football Association
- Government of Odisha and Football Association of Odisha
- Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council

Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023

Three new criminal laws –**Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita**, **Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita** and the **Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam** -came into effect across the country on **July 1, 2024**. These laws will replace the **colonial-era Indian Penal Code**, **Code of Criminal Procedure** and the **Indian Evidence Act**, respectively.

What is Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita?

- The **Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS)** was introduced on **August 11, 2023** to replace the **CrPC**. It amends provisions on bail, expands the scope of property seizure, and alters powers of police and Magistrates. The Bill has been examined by the Standing Committee on Home Affairs.
- **Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita** has **531** sections (in place of 484 sections of CrPC). A total of **177 provisions** have been changed in the Sanhita and nine new sections as well as **39** new sub-sections have been added to it. The act has added 44 new provisions and clarifications.

Highlights of the Bill

- The **Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS)** seeks to replace the **Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 (CrPC)**. The **CrPC** provides for the procedure for arrest, prosecution, and bail.
- **BNSS** mandates forensic investigation for offences punishable with **seven years** of imprisonment or more. Forensic experts will visit crime scenes to collect forensic evidence and record the process.
- All trials, inquiries, and proceedings may be held in electronic mode. Production of electronic communication devices, likely to contain digital evidence, will be allowed for investigation, inquiry, or trial.
- If a proclaimed offender has absconded to evade trial and there is no immediate prospect of arresting him, the trial can be conducted and judgement pronounced in his absence.

- Along with specimen signatures or handwriting, finger impressions and voice samples may be collected for investigation or proceedings. Samples may be taken from a person who has not been arrested.

Key Issues and Analysis

- The **BNSS** allows up to **15 days of police custody**, which can be authorised in parts during the initial 40 or 60 days of the **60 or 90 days period** of judicial custody. This may lead to denial of bail for the entire period if the police has not exhausted the 15 days custody.
- The powers to attach **property** from proceeds of crime does not have safeguards provided in the **Prevention of Money Laundering Act**.
- The **CrPC** provides for bail for an accused who has been detained for half the maximum imprisonment for the offence. The **BNSS** denies this facility for anyone facing multiple charges. As many cases involve charges under multiple sections, this may limit such bail.
- The use of handcuffs is permitted in a range of cases including economic offences, contradicting Supreme Court directions.
- The **BNSS** allows evidence collected by retired or transferred investigating officers to be presented by their successors. This violates normal rules of evidence when the author of the document can be cross examined.
- Recommendations of **high level committees** on changes to the **CrPC** such as reforms in sentencing guidelines and codifying rights of the accused have not been incorporated in the **BNSS**.

Difference between New Law (Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita 2023) and Old Law

Aspect	Old Law (Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973)	New Law (Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023)
Introduction Date	1973	2023
Colonial Influence	Retained elements from British colonial rule	Drafted to reflect post-independence and modern Indian values
Language and Terminology	Archaic legal language	Simplified and modernized language
Structure	Detailed procedural code with 484 sections	Revised structure, updated sections
Arrests	Procedures for arrests detailed in Sections 41-60	New provisions for digital warrants, use of technology in arrests
Investigation	Traditional methods of investigation	Emphasis on forensic evidence, cyber investigations
Bail and Bonds	Detailed provisions in Sections 436-450	Streamlined process, emphasis on bail reform
Trial Procedures	Detailed trial procedures	Simplified and expedited trial processes
Witness Protection	Limited provisions	Comprehensive witness protection programs
Victim Rights	Basic recognition of victim rights	Enhanced victim compensation and support mechanisms
Speedy Trial	Emphasis on speedy trial, often delayed	Stronger provisions for ensuring speedy trial
Digital Evidence	Limited recognition	Comprehensive recognition and procedures for digital evidence

Aspect	Old Law (Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973)	New Law (Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023)
Police Reforms	Basic guidelines	Detailed guidelines on police reforms, accountability mechanisms
Appeals and Revisions	Detailed in Sections 372-394	Updated to include digital submission of appeals, faster processes
Juvenile Procedures	Governed by Juvenile Justice Act, 2015	Integrated approach with special provisions for juveniles
Technology Use	Limited use	Extensive use of technology in legal processes
Alternative Dispute Resolution	Basic provisions	Expanded focus on ADR mechanisms
Preventive Measures	Sections on preventive actions like Section 107, 144	Strengthened preventive measures, modern context considerations
Community Policing	Limited provisions	Emphasis on community policing and involvement
Special Courts	Provisions for special courts	Expansion and more specific guidelines for special courts
Inter-State Coordination	Basic guidelines	Enhanced inter-state coordination mechanisms
Legal Aid	Basic provisions for free legal aid	Strengthened and expanded legal aid provisions
Electronic Monitoring	Not covered	Provisions for electronic monitoring of offenders
Public Participation	Limited mechanisms	Increased focus on public participation in criminal justice

Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, Check Complete Details

The three New Criminal Laws– **Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023**, **Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023** and **Bhartiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023**, will come into force **July 1, 2024**. The government of India has held regular meetings with **States and Union Territories** and they are fully geared up in terms of **technology, capacity building and awareness generation** to implement the **new Criminal Laws**.

What is Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023?

- The **Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)** is the official criminal code in the **Republic of India**. It came into **effect on 1 July, 2024** after being passed by the parliament in December 2023 to replace the **Indian Penal Code (IPC)**, which dated back to the period of **British India**.
- Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita** has 358 sections (instead of 511 sections of IPC). A total of 20 new crimes have been added to the Sanhita, and the imprisonment sentence has been increased for 33 crimes. The amount of fine has been increased in 83 crimes and mandatory minimum punishment has been introduced in 23 crimes.

Offences included in Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023

In the **Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita**, **20 new offences** have been added to and **19 provisions** in the repealed IPC have been dropped. The punishment of imprisonment has been increased for **33 offences**, and fines have been increased for 83 offences. A mandatory minimum punishment has been introduced for **23 offences**. A sentence of community service has been introduced for six offences.

- Offences against the body:** The BNS retains the provisions of the IPC on murder, abetment of suicide, assault and causing grievous hurt. It adds new offences such as organised crime, terrorism, and murder or grievous hurt by a group on certain grounds.
- Sexual offences against women:** The BNS retains the provisions of the IPC on rape, voyeurism, stalking and insulting the modesty of a woman. It increases the threshold for the victim to be classified as a major, in the case of gang rape, from 16 to 18 years of age.
- Offences against property:** The BNS retains the provisions of the IPC on theft, robbery, burglary and cheating. It adds new offences such as cybercrime and financial fraud.
- Offences against the state:** The BNS removes sedition as an offence. Instead, there is a new offence for acts endangering India’s sovereignty, unity and integrity.
- Offences against the public:** The BNS adds new offences such as environmental pollution and human trafficking.

Highlight of The New Criminal Law

- Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023** will replace the IPC. It will have **358 sections** instead of the earlier 511 sections, 175 sections have been changed, 8 new sections have been added and 22 sections have been repealed.
- State-of-the-art technologies** have been incorporated into this law. The definition of documents has been expanded to include **electronic or digital records**, e-mails, server logs, computers, smartphones, **laptops**, **SMS**, **websites**, **locational evidence**, **mail and messages** available on devices, which can be used in courts, which will give freedom from the pile of papers.

3. A provision has been made in this law to digitise the entire process from **FIR** to **case diary**, case diary to charge sheet and from charge sheet to judgment. At present, only the appearance of the accused in court can be done through video conferencing.
4. The new laws make **videography compulsory** at the time of search and seizure, which will be part of the case and this will save the innocent citizens from being implicated. No charge sheet will be valid without such recording by the police.
5. The Government will set up the **National Forensic Science University** which after three years will produce **33,000 forensic science experts and scientists** every year. The government aims to take the conviction ratio **above 90%** with these laws. For this, an important provision has been provided which will make the visit of the forensic team to the crime scene compulsory for offences **punishable for 7 years or more**.
6. The new laws also allow **'Zero FIR' (e-FIR)** to ensure the convenience of the citizens. Wherever the crime may have happened, the citizens will be able **to lodge complaints** even outside of their police station area. Within **15 days** of the registration of the crime, it will have to be forwarded to the concerned police station.
7. The **statement of the victim** has been made compulsory in the case of **sexual violence and video recording** of the statement has also been made compulsory in the case of sexual harassment. It will be compulsory for the police to give the status of the complaint to the complainant in **90 days** and thereafter **every 15 days**. No government will be able to withdraw a case of imprisonment of 7 years or more without hearing the victim, which will protect the rights of the citizens.
8. For the first time, the government is bringing community service as a punishment. The scope of summary trials in small cases has also been increased. Now offenses punishable up to **3 years** will be included in summary trial. A time limit of 90 days has been fixed for filing the charge sheet and depending on the situation, the court will be able to give permission for a further 90 days.
9. The government will have to decide on the **permission for trial against a civil servant or police officer in 120 days**, otherwise, it will be treated as deemed.
10. For the first time, a provision has been made to **criminalise sexual intercourse** on the basis of false promises of marriage, employment and promotion and on the basis of false identity. In all cases of gang rape, a provision of **20 years of punishment or life imprisonment** has been made, which is not being implemented today. In the case of **girls below 18 years of age**, a provision of the death penalty has also been kept. For mob lynching, all three provisions of **7 years, life imprisonment and the death penalty** have been kept. There was **no provision for mobile phones or chain snatching from women**, but now provision has been kept for the same.

Difference between The New Criminal Law and Old Law

Aspect	Old Law (Indian Penal Code, 1860)	New Law (Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023)
Introduction Date	1860	2023
Colonial Influence	Drafted during British colonial rule	Drafted in post-independence India, reflecting modern values
Language and Terminology	Archaic English	Simplified and modernized language
Structure	511 sections	Revised structure, includes new sections
Offenses against the State	Sections on sedition, less emphasis on national security	Stronger focus on national security, cybercrimes, terrorism
Sexual Offenses	Outdated definitions, limited recognition of modern crimes	Expanded definitions, includes cyberstalking, digital harassment
Gender Neutrality	Certain sections gender-specific	More gender-neutral provisions
Cybercrimes	Minimal references	Comprehensive sections on cybercrimes
Punishments	Traditional forms of punishment	Updated punishments, includes alternative sentencing
Restorative Justice	Limited provisions	Emphasis on restorative justice and victim compensation
Corruption and Bribery	General provisions	Detailed provisions to address modern forms of corruption
Economic Offenses	Basic definitions	Expanded to include financial frauds, money laundering

Aspect	Old Law (Indian Penal Code, 1860)	New Law (Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023)
Defamation	Criminal defamation included	Modified to align with freedom of speech considerations
Adultery	Criminal offense	Decriminalized
Homosexuality	Criminalized under Section 377	Decriminalized following the Supreme Court judgment
Blasphemy	Strict provisions	More balanced approach respecting freedom of religion
Marital Rape	Not recognized	Recognized and criminalized
Implementation Mechanism	Traditional methods	Modernized with emphasis on technology and forensic science
Juvenile Justice	Separate act (Juvenile Justice Act, 2015)	Integrated approach with special provisions
Reform Focus	Punitive	Emphasis on rehabilitation and reform

Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA), 2023, Check Details

The new criminal laws, the **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)**, the **Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)** and the **Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam(BSA)** are taking effect from **July 1, 2024**. These laws repeal and replace the **Indian Penal Code**, the **Code of Criminal Procedure** and the **Indian Evidence Act** respectively.

New law passed

The new law was passed by **Parliament** last **December**, with Home Minister Amit Shah, who had piloted the change, saying that the legislations would give priority to providing justice, unlike the British-era laws that gave primacy to penal action. "These laws are made by Indians, for Indians and by an Indian Parliament and marks the end of colonial criminal justice laws," he said.

All about Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam

The **Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA)** replaces the **Indian Evidence Act** and introduces changes in the way evidence is

processed. The BSA allows for **"electronic and digital records"**. This covers a wide range of electronic records, which includes emails, server logs, files stored on computers, laptops, or smartphones, website content, location data, and text messages, among others. The BSA also allows for **oral evidence** to be taken electronically. Additionally, to provide more protection to the victim and enforce transparency in investigation related to an **offence of rape**, the statement of the victim shall be recorded through audio-video means.

Expanded secondary evidence

The BSA has also expanded **"secondary evidence"** to include oral and written admissions. It states that secondary evidence will include "evidence of a person who has examined a document, the original of which consists of numerous accounts or other documents which cannot conveniently be examined in Court, and who is skilled in the examination of such documents".

Difference between Old Law and New Law

Aspect	Old Law (Indian Evidence Act, 1872)	New Law (Bhartiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023)
Introduction Date	1872	2023
Colonial Influence	Drafted during British colonial rule	Drafted to reflect post-independence and modern Indian values
Language and Terminology	Archaic English	Simplified and modernized language
Structure	Structured with 167 sections	Revised structure, includes new sections
Admissibility of Evidence	Detailed rules on admissibility	Updated rules considering technological advancements
Electronic Evidence	Basic recognition in amendments	Comprehensive provisions for electronic and digital evidence
Hearsay Rule	Strict adherence to hearsay rule	Modified to accommodate modern communication methods
Witness Testimony	Traditional procedures	Enhanced procedures including video conferencing for testimony

Aspect	Old Law (Indian Evidence Act, 1872)	New Law (Bhartiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023)
Relevance of Evidence	Defined under Sections 5-55	Expanded to include modern types of evidence
Documentary Evidence	Sections 61-90	Updated to include electronic documents
Presumption	Various presumptions detailed	New presumptions reflecting modern societal norms
Confessions	Sections 24-30 cover confessions	Revised provisions on confessions, especially digital confessions
Privileged Communication	Detailed in Sections 122-132	Expanded to cover modern professional communications
Expert Testimony	Sections 45-51	Broadened scope to include digital forensic experts
Burden of Proof	Sections 101-114 cover burden of proof	Updated rules considering new types of evidence
Character Evidence	Sections 52-55	Revised to reflect current societal values
Presumption of Innocence	Strongly upheld	Continued emphasis with additional safeguards
Alibi	Specific provisions	More detailed provisions on proving alibi
Sexual Offenses Evidence	Limited recognition of victims' rights	Enhanced protections and considerations for victims
Corroboration	Requirement for corroboration in certain cases	Updated requirements, especially in cases of digital evidence
Chain of Custody	Basic principles	Detailed procedures for maintaining chain of custody for digital evidence
In-camera Proceedings	Limited provisions	Expanded scope for in-camera proceedings, especially in sensitive cases
Forensic Evidence	Basic inclusion	Extensive provisions for forensic evidence, including DNA
Hostile Witnesses	Provisions for dealing with hostile witnesses	Updated rules considering the impact of digital threats
Adverse Inference	Sections on adverse inference from silence or non-production of evidence	Updated to reflect modern legal standards
Reforms Focus	Admissibility and relevance primarily	Emphasis on efficiency, technology, and victim rights

RBI's 29th Financial Stability Report (FSR) July 2024: An Overview

The **Financial Stability Report (FSR)** is a comprehensive, half-yearly publication that involves contributions from all financial sector regulators in India. It reflects the collective assessment of the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council on current and emerging risks to the stability of the Indian financial system. The July 2024 edition of the FSR highlights various aspects of global and domestic macro financial risks, the soundness and resilience of financial institutions, regulatory initiatives, and an assessment of systemic risk.

Global Macrofinancial Risks

The global economy and financial system demonstrate resilience amidst significant risks and uncertainties. Despite the improvement in near-term prospects, several factors pose downside risks:

- **Disinflation Pitstops:** Challenges in achieving the last mile of disinflation.
 - **High Public Debt:** The rising levels of public debt across nations.
 - **Stretched Asset Valuations:** Overvaluation of assets in financial markets.
 - **Economic Fragmentation:** Growing economic divisions among countries.
 - **Geopolitical Tensions:** Persistent geopolitical conflicts and their economic impacts.
 - **Climate Disasters:** Increasing frequency and severity of climate-related disasters.
 - **Cyber Threats:** Rising threats from cyber-attacks and security breaches.
- Emerging market economies (EMEs) remain particularly vulnerable to these external shocks and spillovers.

Domestic Macrofinancial Risks

India's strong macroeconomic fundamentals and a stable financial system have underpinned the sustained expansion of its economy. Key factors supporting this growth include:

- **Moderating Inflation:** A trend of decreasing inflation rates.
- **Strong External Position:** Robust foreign exchange reserves and favorable trade balances.
- **Fiscal Consolidation:** Ongoing efforts to reduce fiscal deficits and manage public debt.

These factors have bolstered business and consumer confidence, with domestic financial conditions further strengthened by the healthy balance sheets of financial institutions.

Financial Institutions: Soundness and Resilience

Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs)

SCBs have shown remarkable improvement in profitability and asset quality:

- **Profitability:** Return on assets (RoA) and return on equity (RoE) are at 1.3% and 13.8%, respectively.
- **Non-Performing Assets (NPAs):** Gross NPAs and net NPAs are at multi-year lows of 2.8% and 0.6%, respectively.
- **Capital Buffers:** The capital to risk-weighted assets ratio (CRAR) and the common equity tier 1 (CET1) ratio stand at 16.8% and 13.9%, respectively, well above the regulatory minimum.

Macro stress tests for credit risk indicate that SCBs have adequate capital buffers to withstand adverse stress scenarios.

Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) and Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)

- **UCBs:** The CRAR for UCBs increased to 17.5% in March 2024.
- **NBFCs:** The CRAR for NBFCs slightly declined to 26.6%, still significantly above the regulatory minimum.

The insurance sector's consolidated solvency ratio remains above the minimum threshold limit of 150%, and stress tests on mutual funds and clearing corporations indicate robust resilience.

Regulatory Initiatives and Other Developments in the Financial Sector

Global Initiatives

Regulatory efforts globally continue to focus on:

- Promoting financial stability.
- Consistent implementation and refinement of global standards.
- Safeguarding the banking system from interconnectedness with non-banking financial institutions.
- Addressing risks from the digitalization of finance.
- Improving climate-related risk assessments.
- Strengthening resilience to cyber risks.

Domestic Initiatives

In India, regulatory initiatives aim to enhance the safety and resilience of the financial system by:

- Implementing proportionate regulations.
- Leveraging technology to improve customer service, governance, and risk management.
- Limiting procyclical activities while fostering efficiency.

Assessment of Systemic Risk

The most recent systemic risk survey (SRS) conducted in May 2024 categorized all major risk groups to domestic financial stability as 'medium.' Key findings include:

- **Optimism in Domestic Financial System:** Respondents showed optimism regarding the soundness of India's financial system.
- **Global Spillover Risks:** Risks from global spillovers have diminished, with increased confidence in the Indian financial system.
- **Near-term Risks:** The main near-term risks identified were geopolitical risks, tightening of global financial conditions, and capital outflows.

Highlights of the Reports

- The global economy is facing heightened risks from prolonged geopolitical tensions, elevated public debt, and the slow progress in the last mile of disinflation. Despite these challenges, the global financial system has remained resilient, and financial conditions stable.
- The Indian economy and the financial system remain robust and resilient, anchored by macroeconomic and financial stability. With improved balance sheets, banks and financial institutions are supporting economic activity through sustained credit expansion.
- The capital to risk-weighted assets ratio (CRAR) and the common equity tier 1 (CET1) ratio of scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) stood at 16.8 per cent and 13.9 per cent, respectively, at end-March 2024.
- SCBs' gross non-performing assets (GNPA) ratio fell to a multi-year low of 2.8 per cent and the net non-performing assets (NNPA) ratio to 0.6 per cent at end-March 2024.
- Macro stress tests for credit risk reveal that SCBs would be able to comply with minimum capital requirements, with the system-level CRAR in March 2025 projected at 16.1 per cent, 14.4 per cent and 13.0 per cent, respectively, under baseline, medium and severe stress scenarios. These scenarios are stringent conservative assessments under hypothetical shocks and the results should not be interpreted as forecasts.
- Non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) remain healthy, with CRAR at 26.6 per cent, GNPA ratio at 4.0 per cent and return on assets (RoA) at 3.3 per cent, respectively, at end-March 2024.

Indian Government Reshuffles Cabinet Committees in July 2024

On July 3, 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government reorganized eight important groups within the Union Cabinet. This happened after Modi was sworn in as Prime Minister for the third time in a row, which is a record.

What are Cabinet Committees?

Cabinet Committees are small groups of ministers who work on specific areas of government. They help make decisions and manage different parts of the government's work.

Key Points About the New Cabinet Committees

- There are 72 members in the Union Council of Ministers, including Prime Minister Modi.
- 31 of these members are Cabinet-rank ministers.
- These Cabinet ministers are part of the newly formed committees.
- Prime Minister Modi leads most of the committees, but not all.

The Eight Cabinet Committees

1. Appointments Committee of the Cabinet

- Members: Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah
- Purpose: Makes decisions about important government appointments

2. Cabinet Committee on Security

- Key members: Prime Minister Modi, Defence Minister, Home Minister, Finance Minister, and External Affairs Minister
- Purpose: Deals with matters related to national security

3. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs

- Led by: Prime Minister Modi
- Includes: Ministers of Defence, Home Affairs, Finance, Agriculture, and others
- Purpose: Handles important economic matters

4. Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs

- Headed by: Prime Minister Modi
- Members: Several key ministers including Defence, Home Affairs, and Finance
- Purpose: Manages political issues and strategies

5. Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth

- Led by: Prime Minister Modi
- Includes: Ministers of Finance, Road Transport, Railways, and others
- Purpose: Focuses on boosting investment and economic growth

6. Cabinet Committee on Skill, Employment and Livelihood

- Notable absence: Prime Minister Modi is not a member
- Key members: Ministers of Defence, Home Affairs, Education, and Labour
- Purpose: Works on improving skills, creating jobs, and enhancing livelihoods

7. Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs

- Notable absence: Prime Minister Modi is not a member
- Led by: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh
- Purpose: Manages government business in Parliament

8. Cabinet Committee on Accommodation

- Headed by: Home Minister Amit Shah
- Includes: Ministers of Finance, Housing, and Urban Affairs
- Purpose: Deals with housing and accommodation for government officials

24th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit: Key Highlights

The 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) took place on July 4, 2024, in Astana, Kazakhstan. This important gathering brought together leaders from various countries to discuss regional cooperation and security issues.

Host and Venue

- **Host:** Kazakhstan President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev
- **Location:** Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan

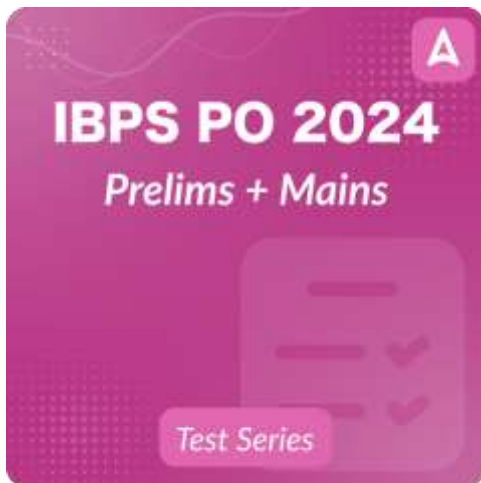
Notable Attendees

Several world leaders participated in the summit, including:

- Russian President Vladimir Putin
- Chinese President Xi Jinping
- Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif
- UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

India's Representation

- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi did not attend the summit



- India was represented by External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar

Key Developments

1. Belarus Joins SCO

- Belarus was admitted as the 10th full member of the SCO
- Previously, Belarus held observer status in the organization

2. Focus on Combating Terrorism

- Dr. Jaishankar read Prime Minister Modi’s address at the summit
- Modi emphasized that terrorism in any form cannot be justified
- He called for decisive action against cross-border terrorism
- The Prime Minister stressed the need to counter terrorism financing and recruitment

3. SCO Expansion

- The SCO was originally established in 2001 with five members
- India and Pakistan joined in 2017
- Iran became the 9th member in 2023
- Belarus is now the 10th member as of 2024

Looking Ahead: 25th SCO Summit

- The next SCO Council of Heads of State Meeting will be held in China
- China has taken over the rotating presidency of the SCO from Kazakhstan
- The Chinese city of Qingdao has been named the SCO’s tourism and cultural capital for 2024-2025

About the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

Purpose

- The SCO is an intergovernmental organization focused on regional security and cooperation

Concerns

- Some analysts worry that the SCO is becoming an anti-Western alliance led by China and Russia
- This may be one reason why Prime Minister Modi chose not to attend the summit

Structure

- The Council of Heads of States is the SCO’s highest decision-making body
- It meets once a year

Key Facts

- Headquarters: Beijing, China
- Permanent Members: 10 countries (including the latest addition, Belarus)
- Observer Members: Afghanistan and Mongolia

Sixteenth Finance Commission Constitutes Five-Member Advisory Council

The **Sixteenth Finance Commission** has constituted an advisory council with **five members to advise** the Commission on any of the **Terms of Reference (ToR)** or related subjects. The Finance Commission, as per the ToR, will also suggest measures to augment the Consolidated Fund of a State to supplement the resources of panchayats and municipalities.

Advisory Council Members

Poonam Gupta, Director General of the National Council of Applied Economic Research, has been appointed as the convener of the Advisory Council. The other members are:

- D.K. Srivastava, Chief Policy Advisor at EY
- Neelkanth Mishra, Chief Economist at Axis Bank
- Pranjul Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC Securities & Capital Markets
- Rahul Bajoria, MD & Head of EM Asia (ex-China) Economics at Barclays

Role and Functions of the Advisory Council

The advisory council will assist the Commission in

- Preparing papers or research studies
- Monitoring or assessing studies commissioned by the Finance Commission
- Enhancing the Commission’s understanding of issues in its ToR
- Broadening the Commission’s ambit and understanding by seeking the best national and international practices on fiscal devolution

Terms of Reference (ToR)

The ToR approved by the Cabinet include

- Distribution of net proceeds of taxes between the Union and states under Chapter I, Part XII of the Constitution
- Allocation of respective shares of such proceeds between states
- Principles governing the grants-in-aid of the revenues of states out of the Consolidated Fund of India
- Sums to be paid to states by way of grants-in-aid of their revenues

Constitutional Mandate

The Finance Commission is a constitutionally mandated body established every five years to devise a formula for distributing net tax proceeds between the Centre and the states as well as among states and local bodies. Currently, India shares 41% of federal taxes with states as recommended by the 15th panel.

UNESCO Expands World Network of Biosphere Reserves

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has recently made a significant announcement, approving the designation of **11 new Biosphere Reserves** across 11 countries. This expansion brings the total number of sites in the **World Network of Biosphere Reserves** to an impressive **759**, spanning **136 countries** worldwide. This development marks a crucial step forward in global efforts to protect biodiversity and promote sustainable development.

Newly Designated Biosphere Reserves

The latest additions to the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve list showcase a diverse range of ecosystems and cultural landscapes across the globe. These new sites include:

1. **Kempen-Broek Transboundary Biosphere Reserve** (Belgium, Kingdom of the Netherlands)
2. **Darién Norte Chocoano Biosphere Reserve** (Colombia)
3. **Madre de las Aguas Biosphere Reserve** (Dominican Republic)
4. **Niumi Biosphere Reserve** (Gambia)
5. **Colli Euganei Biosphere Reserve** (Italy)
6. **Julian Alps Transboundary Biosphere Reserve** (Italy, Slovenia)
7. **Khar Us Lake Biosphere Reserve** (Mongolia)
8. **Apayaos Biosphere Reserve** (Philippines)
9. **Changnyeong Biosphere Reserve** (Republic of Korea)
10. **Val d'Aran Biosphere Reserve** (Spain)
11. **Irati Biosphere Reserve** (Spain)

Understanding Biosphere Reserves: Balancing Nature and Human Activity

Definition and Purpose

A **Biosphere Reserve** is an international designation granted by UNESCO for areas that represent significant natural and cultural landscapes. These reserves can encompass large terrestrial, coastal, or marine ecosystems, or a combination thereof. The fundamental goal of Biosphere Reserves is to achieve a delicate balance between **economic and social development**, the **preservation of cultural values**, and the **conservation of nature**.

Criteria for Designation

To be designated as a Biosphere Reserve, a site must meet several key criteria:

1. Contain a **protected core area** of high nature conservation value
2. Be a **biogeographically significant unit** large enough to sustain viable populations across all trophic levels
3. Involve **local communities** and utilize their knowledge in biodiversity preservation
4. Demonstrate potential for preserving **traditional tribal or rural modes of living** that harmonize with the environment

The Three-Zone Approach

Biosphere Reserves are typically divided into three interconnected zones:

1. **Core Zone:** The most protected area, often a national park or sanctuary, kept free from human interference
2. **Buffer Zone:** Surrounds the core zone, allowing activities that protect and support the core zone's integrity
3. **Transition Zone:** The outermost part, where human activities and conservation efforts coexist harmoniously

India's Commitment to Biosphere Reserves

The Biosphere Reserve Project

In 1986, the Government of India launched the **Biosphere Reserve scheme**, aligning with UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) programme. This initiative provides financial assistance to states for the maintenance and development of biosphere reserves, with varying ratios of central to state funding depending on the region.

India's Biosphere Reserve Network

As of 2024, India boasts **18 notified biosphere reserves**, of which **12 are recognized** by UNESCO's MAB programme. These reserves span diverse ecosystems across the country, from the Nilgiri mountains to the Sundarbans delta, showcasing India's rich biodiversity and commitment to conservation.

Global Impact and Future Prospects

The expansion of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves represents a significant stride in global conservation efforts. With **759 sites** covering a total area of **7,442,000 square kilometers** and impacting the lives of approximately **275 million people**, these reserves play a crucial role in:

- Conserving biodiversity
- Promoting sustainable development
- Preserving cultural heritage
- Facilitating scientific research and environmental education

As the network continues to grow, it strengthens the global community's capacity to address pressing environmental challenges while fostering sustainable economic growth and cultural preservation.

India to Observe 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas' on June 25

The Government of India, under the leadership of Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi**, has made a significant decision to observe **June 25** annually as '**Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas**' (Constitution Murder Day). This observance is intended to commemorate the immense sacrifices and contributions of those who endured the harsh realities of the **1975 Emergency**.

Purpose and Significance

The Union Home Minister emphasized that this decision serves a dual purpose:

1. To honor the spirit of millions who struggled to revive democracy
2. To acknowledge the inexplicable persecution faced by citizens at the hands of an oppressive government during the Emergency period

The observance of Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas is expected to play a crucial role in keeping the eternal flame of **individual freedom** and the defense of **democracy** alive in every Indian citizen. By doing so, it aims to prevent any dictatorial force from repeating the horrors of the past.

The Emergency: A Dark Chapter in Indian Democracy

Historical Context

The Emergency refers to a 21-month period from **June 25, 1975, to March 21, 1977**. During this time, the government led by Prime Minister **Indira Gandhi** invoked special provisions in the Constitution to impose sweeping executive and legislative measures on the country.

Key Events and Consequences

- Suspension of Civil Liberties:** The government curtailed fundamental rights, including the freedom of speech and expression guaranteed under **Article 19(1)(a)** of the Indian Constitution.
- Press Censorship:** The Emergency saw the implementation of pre-censorship of the press, severely limiting the free flow of information.
- Mass Arrests:** Almost all opposition leaders were imprisoned, effectively silencing dissent.
- Electoral Disruption:** The government cancelled scheduled elections, undermining the democratic process.
- Rule by Decree:** The normal functioning of democracy was replaced by authoritarian rule through executive orders.

Impact on Fundamental Rights

The Emergency period witnessed a severe curtailment of fundamental rights. The freedom of speech and expression, a cornerstone of any democratic society, was particularly targeted. This led to:

- Pre-censorship of the press
- Restrictions on public gatherings and protests
- Limitations on personal freedoms

Significance of June 25, 2024

This year marks a significant milestone as India enters the **fiftieth year** since the imposition of the Emergency. The decision to observe Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas annually from this year onwards carries special weight in light of this anniversary.

Looking Forward: Preserving Democratic Values

Educational Importance

By instituting this annual observance, the government aims to educate younger generations about this critical period in Indian history. It serves as a reminder of the fragility of democratic institutions and the importance of safeguarding constitutional rights.

Strengthening Democratic Foundations

The observance of Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas is expected to:

1. Reinforce the importance of constitutional values
2. Encourage civic engagement and political awareness
3. Foster a deeper appreciation for democratic freedoms

National Reflection

This annual event provides an opportunity for national reflection on the importance of:

- Upholding the rule of law
- Protecting individual freedoms
- Maintaining a vibrant and free press
- Ensuring the independence of democratic institutions

NITI Aayog Releases SDG India Index 2023-24

The SDG India Index 2023-24 reveals significant **national and subnational progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. India's composite score improved to 71, reflecting advancements across key sectors like **poverty eradication, economic growth, climate action, and biodiversity conservation**.

State-wise Progress

- **Front Runner States:** 32 States and UTs achieved scores between 65 and 99, with notable improvements seen in Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, and West Bengal.
- **New Entrants:** Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, and others join the Front Runner category due to substantial score increases.

Goal-wise Achievements

- **Goal 13 (Climate Action):** Score increased from 54 to 67, showcasing enhanced disaster preparedness and renewable energy adoption.
- **Goal 1 (No Poverty):** Improved from 60 to 72, driven by social welfare schemes like PMAY and Ayushman Bharat.

Key Interventions

- Initiatives such as PM Awas Yojana and Ujjwala Yojana contributed significantly to housing, sanitation, and clean energy goals.
- Increased financial inclusion and digital infrastructure development further supported economic growth and societal welfare.

Institutional Framework

NITI Aayog's role in localizing SDGs and fostering competitive federalism has been pivotal, promoting sustainable development as integral to national and subnational policies.

Future Directions

The SDG India Index serves as a crucial tool for evaluating progress and guiding policy decisions towards achieving the 2030 Agenda. The focus remains on inclusive growth and environmental sustainability.

(Sustainable Development Goals) SDG's Goal : Key points

Number of Goals

There are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations.

Members Involved

All 193 member states of the United Nations have committed to achieving these goals by 2030.

Purpose

The SDGs aim to address global challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice.

Targets

Each goal has specific targets, totaling 169 targets across all SDGs, to guide national and global efforts towards sustainable development.

Adoption

The SDGs were adopted by all UN member states in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Implementation

Countries are encouraged to localize and integrate the SDGs into national policies and programs, with regular monitoring and reporting on progress.

Global Impact

The SDGs provide a framework for global cooperation, encouraging collaboration among governments, businesses, civil society, and citizens to achieve a more sustainable and equitable world by 2030.

Banking and Financial Current Affairs

- Union Bank of India has launched “**Union Premier**” branches tailored for high-value customers in rural and **semi-urban (RUSU) markets**. These branches are designed to offer personalized banking services and a comprehensive range of products under one roof. ([Click to read article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased the aggregate **Ways and Means Advances (WMA)** limit for State governments and **Union Territories (UTs) by 28%**, from ₹47,010 crore to ₹60,118 crore, effective from July 1, 2024. This revision, based on recommendations by a Group of select State Finance Secretaries and considering recent expenditure data, aims to help States and UTs manage temporary mismatches in their cash flow. ([Click to read article](#))
- The World Bank has approved a **second round of \$1.5 billion** in financing to help India accelerate its development of **low-carbon energy**. This funding aims to promote the market for green hydrogen, electrolysers, and increased renewable energy penetration. The initiative aligns with **India’s National Green Hydrogen Mission** and **energy transition targets**, including **achieving 500 GW** of installed renewable energy capacity by 2030 and reaching net zero by 2070. ([Click to read article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), along with the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) and central banks of **four ASEAN countries**, is collaborating on Project Nexus, a multilateral initiative aimed at enabling efficient, faster, and cost-effective retail cross-border payments. The platform is expected to go live by 2026 and will interlink domestic **fast payment systems (FPS)** of Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and India. ([Click to read article](#))
- State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced “**MSME Sahaj**,” a revolutionary online business loan solution tailored for MSMEs. This web-based platform allows MSMEs to obtain credit against their GST registered sales invoices **swiftly and seamlessly**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **ICICI Bank** announced the launch of its ‘**Student Sapphire Forex Card**’, a premium **forex prepaid card** crafted specifically for students who are going abroad for higher education. The card, powered by **Visa**, provides exclusive benefits and convenience to students as well as their parents to manage education related expenses abroad such as **admission fees, course-related fees** and other day-to-day expenses including **travel, dining and groceries**, among others. ([Click to read article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on July 5 imposed a **monetary penalty of ₹1.32 crore** on Punjab National Bank (PNB) for violations related to loans and advances and Know Your Customer (KYC) norms. ([Click to read article](#))
- The **National Pension System (NPS)** witnessed a robust **40.1% year-on-year growth**, reaching **₹2.47-lakh crore** by June 29, fueled largely by buoyant equity markets and expanding private sector subscriptions. Overall NPS assets, including **Atal Pension Yojana (APY)**, approached **₹12.5-lakh crore**, marking a 28.64% increase, as per **PFRDA data**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Bank of Baroda (BoB)** plans to raise up to **₹7,500 crore** through **Additional Tier-I (AT1)** and **Tier-II bonds** to meet regulatory requirements and support business growth. This capital will be raised in multiple tranches up to March 31, 2025, and beyond, depending on market conditions. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced its quarterly “**Order Books, Inventories and Capacity Utilisation Survey**” (**OBI-CUS**) for the manufacturing sector, aimed at **informing monetary policy decisions**. Since 2008, this survey has provided crucial insights into key metrics such as new orders, inventory levels, and capacity utilisation across manufacturing companies. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Markets regulator SEBI** has issued **new guidelines to streamline operations** and enhance the ease of doing business for credit rating agencies. The circular introduces specific timelines for dealing with appeals made by companies regarding rating actions carried out during periodic surveillance of ratings. ([Click to read the article](#))

- Four public sector banks, including Canara Bank, Indian Bank, Bank of India, and EXIM Bank, have collectively paid a **dividend of ₹6,481 crore** to the government for the financial year **2023-24**. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman received dividend cheques from each bank's managing directors and CEOs. ([Click to read the article](#))
- ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has made a significant move in the Indian investment landscape by launching the **ICICI Prudential Nifty Oil & Gas ETF**. ([Click to read the article](#))
- Kotak Mahindra AMC has introduced the **Kotak BSE PSU Index Fund**, a passive equity scheme mirroring the **BSE PSU Index comprising 56 PSU stocks**. This fund aims to capitalize on the strong momentum in public sector undertaking (PSU) stocks, which have shown significant growth recently. Investors can participate in India's economic trajectory through a cost-effective investment vehicle managed systematically by the fund. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In response to rising cyber fraud incidents, Punjab National Bank (PNB) has introduced the **'Safety Ring' security feature**. This optional mechanism provides an additional layer of protection against unauthorized access, aimed at minimizing potential financial losses for users of its internet and mobile banking services. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The **World Bank's Board of Executive Directors** June 28, approved **\$1.5 billion** in financing for a second operation to help India accelerate the **development of low-carbon energy**. The operation will seek to promote the development of a vibrant market for green hydrogen, continue to scale up renewable energy, and stimulate finance for low-carbon energy investments. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- In June 2024, **India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI)** showed a provisional annual inflation rate of **3.36% compared to June 2023**, driven by increased prices in food articles, manufactured food products, crude petroleum & natural gas, mineral oils, and other manufacturing sectors. The overall **WPI for all commodities rose to 153.9 (base year 2011-12=100)**, marking a month-on-month increase of **0.39% from May 2024**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **State Bank of India (SBI)** has launched a **444-day term deposit scheme, "Amrit Vrishti"**, with an **interest rate of 7.25 per cent**. This scheme is available to domestic and non-resident Indian customers and will be effective **July 15, 2024**. India's largest bank will offer an additional **0.50 per cent** to senior citizens on the scheme. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** on July 17, maintained **India's GDP growth forecast at 7 per cent** for the current financial year, citing that a rebound in agriculture is expected given above-normal monsoon projections. The ADB forecast comes a day after the International Monetary Fund revised upward its **GDP growth projections** for India to **7 per cent compared to 6.8 per cent** projected in April. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved a **loan of USD 240.5 million** to finance rooftop solar systems in India, aiding the government's efforts to expand energy access through renewable energy. The ADB announced on July 17, that this financing will support **tranches 2 and 3** of the **Multitranche Financing Facility (MFF) Solar Rooftop Investment Program**, initially approved by **ADB in 2016**. In 2023, the program was restructured to **focus specifically on deploying residential solar rooftop systems**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has established a committee to review the **fee structure of white-label ATMs (WLAs)**. This panel aims to evaluate current policies and recommend a balanced and sustainable model for all stakeholders. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- IndusInd Bank has announced the launch of 'Wrestle for Glory' program, a CSR initiative of the Bank, continuing the longstanding collaboration with the Inspire Institute of Sport (IIS). ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)**, which received approval of funding of \$ 215.6 m from the Green Climate Fund, will create a corpus of \$1 billion for 'financing mitigation and adaptation projects' (FMAP) of Medium and Small Enterprises (MSMEs). ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **AU Small Finance Bank's** board has approved a proposal to transition from a Small Finance Bank (SFB) to a universal bank. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **All-India Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL)** and Rural Labourers (CPI-RL) (Base: 1986-87=100) saw an increase of 11 points each in June 2024, reaching 1280 and 1292, respectively. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** on July 26 prescribed a Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework for relatively weak urban co-operative banks (UCBs), with deposits above ₹100 crore (upper tier category), to nurse them back to health. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- As of March 31, 2024, digital payments in India experienced a **12.6% year-over-year increase**, according to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) **Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI)**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Karnataka Bank** has announced a strategic **partnership with ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company**, enabling its customers to access a comprehensive range of insurance products. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has selected **five entities** for the test phase of its **theme-neutral fifth cohort** of the regulatory sandbox, following the **receipt of 22 applications**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- On July 29, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) introduced **'SEVA,' an AI-powered chatbot** designed to assist investors with a range of functions. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Eleven public sector banks**, excluding **State Bank of India (SBI)**, have charged **Rs 2,331 crore** from account holders for their failure to maintain minimum balance in savings banks in **FY2024**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Economy Current Affairs

- In June 2024, India's gross goods and services tax (GST) collection reached **Rs 1.74 trillion**, marking a 7.7% year-on-year growth, lower than previous months' increases of 12.4% in April and 10% in May. Despite this slowdown, cumulative collections for the fiscal year stood at Rs 5.57 trillion. The finance ministry anticipates continued robust collections above Rs 1.6 trillion in the coming months, despite withholding detailed tax figures citing GST regime stability. ([Click to read article](#))
- In May 2024, growth in **India's core sector industries** decelerated to **6.3% from 6.7% in April**, driven by varied performance across sectors. Coal and electricity saw accelerated growth due to increased demand during a heat wave, while sectors like cement and fertilizers contracted. Factors such as reduced capex, adequate fertiliser stocks, and lower diesel demand influenced sectoral output. The overall impact of these dynamics reflects on the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), expected to print between **4-5% for May 2024**. ([Click to read article](#))
- India's employment growth provisionally rose to **6% in FY24 compared to 3.2% in FY23**, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This increase brought the total employment to 643.3 million, up from 596.7 million the previous year, with 46.7 million jobs created. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) **Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index)**, which measures the extent of financial inclusion across the country, rose to **64.2 in March 2024 from 60.1 in March 2023**. This improvement reflects growth across all sub-indices, indicating a deepening of financial inclusion. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In June 2024, India's economic landscape witnessed significant growth driven by robust performance in both manufacturing and services sectors. The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for manufacturing soared, accompanied by strong hiring activity, marking a 19-year high. Concurrently, the **Eight Core Industries Index expanded by 6.5% year-on-year** in the initial months of **FY25**, led by sectors like coal and electricity. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In June 2024, India's retail inflation reached a **four-month high of 5.08%**, driven by a sharp rise in food prices, particularly vegetables, amidst extended heatwave conditions. This surge marks the 57th consecutive month above the **RBI's 4% target range**, limiting immediate prospects for interest rate cuts. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In June 2024, the All India Consumer Price Index (CPI) showed a **year-on-year inflation rate of 5.08%**. This rate varied across rural and urban areas, with rural inflation at 5.66% and urban inflation at 4.39%. Compared to May 2024, inflation for essential sub-groups like 'Eggs', 'Spices', 'Meat & fish', and 'Pulses & products' decreased. The CPI for General Indices and Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) also showed increases, with rural CFPI notably rising by 9.15%. These figures reflect varied price dynamics impacting different segments of the population across India. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In its latest **World Economic Outlook**, the IMF has increased **India's GDP growth** forecast for the ongoing **fiscal year to 7%**, up by 20 basis points from earlier projections. This upward revision reflects improved consumption prospects, particularly in rural areas, supporting India's economic trajectory. However, the IMF retained a slower **growth rate of 6.5%** for the following fiscal year. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- FICCI's Economic Outlook Survey projects a robust **7% GDP growth** for India in the **fiscal year 2024-25**. The survey, conducted in July 2024, reflects optimism among participating economists about the country's economic prospects, though caution is advised due to global headwinds and inflationary pressures. ([Click to read the complete article](#))

Business Current Affairs

- Tata Group has maintained its position as **India's most valuable brand** with a value of **US\$ 28.6 billion**, marking a **9% increase from last year**. Infosys ranks second, and HDFC Group has surged to third place following its merger with HDFC Ltd. ([Click to read article](#))
- One 97 Communications Limited, the parent company of Paytm, has introduced '**Paytm Health Saathi**', an affordable healthcare and income protection plan tailored for its merchant partners. Available through the '**Paytm for Business**' app, this initiative aims to support the well-being and business continuity of Paytm's extensive network of merchants. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd** has undergone a transformation, rebranding itself to **Sammaan Capital Ltd**. This change reflects its shift from a promoter-led entity to a board-run, diversified financial institution. The rebranding, effective upon receipt of regulatory approvals, marks a significant milestone in the company's 25-year journey since its inception as Indiabulls Financial Services Limited in 2000. ([Click to read article](#))

- Muthoot Finance has been exclusively selected as the only Indian NBFC for the **Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) Mutual Evaluation report for 2023-24**. This recognition highlights Muthoot Finance's global trustworthiness and compliance with stringent financial regulations. ([Click to read article](#))
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), a **'Maharatna' and Fortune Global 500 Company**, has proudly announced its role as the official **Principal Partner of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) for four years**, spanning from the **Paris Olympics in 2024** to the **Los Angeles Olympics in 2028**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **ICICI Lombard**, a leading private general insurer in India, has **launched 'Elevate'**, a pioneering health insurance product **integrating AI technology**. This innovative offering is designed to meet the diverse needs of modern lifestyles and unforeseen medical emergencies, emphasizing personalized solutions and comprehensive coverage. ([Click to read the article](#))
- Tata Power Solar Systems Limited has launched the **'Ghar Ghar Solar' initiative in Uttar Pradesh**, starting from **Varanasi**, aimed at providing every home with clean energy through rooftop solar solutions. This initiative promises substantial financial savings and environmental benefits for residents. ([Click to read the article](#))
- REC Limited, a leading lender in the power sector, has successfully secured a **5-year green loan** amounting to **31.96 billion Japanese yen** (approximately \$200 million). The transaction, facilitated by **Deutsche Bank's Gift City branch**, marks one of the initial yen-denominated green loan deals for the bank in India. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In **May 2024**, **India's industrial output** expanded by **5.9% year-over-year**, marking the **highest growth in seven months**. This growth surpassed expectations, with notable contributions from electricity generation and consumer durables. ([Click to read the article](#))
- Jio Financial Services has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to transition from a **Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) to a Core Investment Company (CIC)**. Following this announcement, the company's shares saw an increase of over **2% on the NSE**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- In June 2024, India's total exports (merchandise and services combined) reached an estimated **USD 65.47 billion**, marking a **5.40% increase from June 2023**. Meanwhile, total imports for the month were estimated at **USD 73.47 billion**, a **6.29% rise** compared to the same period last year. For the April-June 2024 quarter, total exports were estimated at **USD 200.33 billion**, reflecting an **8.60% growth**, while total imports stood at **USD 222.89 billion**, up **8.47%** from the previous year. The merchandise trade deficit for the quarter increased to **USD 62.26 billion** from **USD 56.16 billion** in April-June 2023. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- Continuing with its endeavor to increase the **contribution of bancassurance** and its pursuit to provide life insurance coverage to all **by 2047**. **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** of India has tied-up with one of the best technologically advanced and promising banks in the country, **IDFC First Bank Ltd**, under **Corporate Agency Arrangement**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL)**, a subsidiary of ONGC, has acquired **Norwegian firm Equinor's stake in Azerbaijan's offshore Azeri Chirag Gunashli (ACG) oil field** and an associated **oil pipeline for \$60 million**. This increases OVL's stake in the oil field to **2.95%** and in the **Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline to 3.097%**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Airbus and Tata** are joining forces to manufacture India's first H125 helicopter, which is set to roll out by 2026. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **The Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)** is set to develop India's first integrated agricultural export facility at Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **UltraTech Cement**, a flagship of the **Aditya Birla Group**, will acquire a **32.72% equity stake in India Cements for ₹3,945 crore**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Aditya Birla Group Chairman**, Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla on July 30, announced the launch of the **Group's jewellery retail business**, marking the Group's foray into the rapidly expanding **Rs.6.7 lakh crore** Indian jewellery market. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Three prominent payment companies—**Amazon Pay, Adyen, and Mumbai-based BillDesk**—have secured the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) cross-border payment aggregator license. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Shriram Capital** has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to establish an **Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC)**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Government of India is **implementing a ₹2,516 Crore project** for the computerization of functional **Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS)**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))



International Current Affairs

- On **July 3**, **Japan** will introduce new banknotes featuring what it claims to be the world's pioneering use of **advanced holography**. This technology creates the illusion of historic figures' portraits rotating in **3D** on the bills, serving as a key anti-counterfeit measure. This marks the **first redesign of the banknotes in 20 years**. ([Click to read article](#))
- On June 30 and July 1, 2024, the world witnessed a significant event in international relations. The **third United Nations Conference on Afghanistan** took place in **Doha, Qatar**, marking the first time the **Taliban** participated in such talks since taking control of Afghanistan. ([Click to read article](#))
- China has constructed a **new presidential palace in Vanuatu**, symbolizing the strengthening relationship between the two nations. The **Vanuatu Prime Minister, Charlot Salwai**, inaugurated the new building, which is part of a broader project that includes a new finance ministry and renovations to the foreign affairs department. ([Click to read article](#))
- More than **300 domestic companies** and over **100 foreign buyers** from the **US, Germany and other countries** are expected to participate in the four-day international toy fair **beginning on July 6** in the national capital. More than **250 Indian brands** will display their products during the fair, which is being organised at **Pragati Maidan Delhi**. ([Click to read article](#))
- Hungary has assumed the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union for the next six months. Under the leadership of **Prime Minister Viktor Orban**, Hungary aims to prioritize EU competitiveness, defense policy, migration control, and agricultural reform. The presidency's motto, "**Make Europe Great Again**," reflects a stance emphasizing unity and proactive global engagement. ([Click to read article](#))
- Former spy chief **Dick Schoof** is the new **Dutch prime minister**, leading a right-wing coalition with a focus on implementing the "**strictest-ever**" immigration policy. Schoof, 67, previously headed the **Dutch Secret Service** and takes over from Mark Rutte, who served 14 years in power. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Russia** has approved the schedule for the creation of a **Russian orbital station by 2033**. The schedule includes the design and construction of the space modules, flight tests of a new-generation manned spaceship, the creation of launch vehicles and space infrastructure on **Earth**, and a timetable for the work of **scientific institutes** supporting the project. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Keir Starmer**, born in 1963 to a working-class family near London, is set to **become Britain's next Prime Minister**. With a background in human rights law and public prosecution, he entered politics relatively late, becoming an MP in 2015. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Masoud Pezeshkian**, a seasoned lawmaker and cardiac surgeon, has emerged victorious in **Iran's presidential election**, defeating hardliner Saeed Jalili. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Rachel Reeves** has become the **first woman finance minister** of **UK**. The 45-year-old is an economist and has pledged to grow the nation's economy. Rachel was appointed as the chancellor on June 5, after the **Keir Starmer-led Labour Party** won a majority in Thursday's general election. She is now in charge of the **UK's Budget**. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **India and Russia** have set a target to increase **bilateral trade to \$100 billion by 2030**, emphasizing economic collaboration in energy, trade, manufacturing, and fertilizers. Discussions included balancing trade, reducing non-tariff barriers, and exploring an **India-Eurasian Economic Union Free Trade Area**. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The **Colombo Security Conclave (CSC)**, a regional security grouping, welcomed **Bangladesh** as its **fifth member** at the **8th Deputy National Security Adviser (DNSA)** level meeting hosted virtually by Mauritius. The CSC includes India, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, and the Maldives, with Seychelles participating as an Observer State. ([Click to read the article](#))
- As of June 30, 2024, Ireland has overtaken Mauritius to secure the fourth spot among preferred destinations for **Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs)** routing funds into India. **Ireland boasts assets under custody (AUC) totaling Rs 4.41 trillion**, slightly edging out Mauritius which recorded Rs 4.39 trillion. The shift highlights Ireland's appeal, with a 26% increase in AUC in the first half of the year compared to Mauritius' 11% uptick. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In a comprehensive study conducted by InterNations in 2024, **Vietnam** has once again secured its position as the **most affordable destination for expatriates**. This marks the fourth consecutive year that the Southeast Asian nation has topped the list, solidifying its reputation as a prime location for those seeking an economical lifestyle abroad. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **K.P. Sharma Oli** on July 15 was sworn in as **Nepal's Prime Minister** for the **fourth time**. The leader of Nepal's largest communist party was appointed Nepal's Prime Minister on July 14, by **President Ram Chandra Paudel** to lead a new coalition government that faces the daunting challenge of providing political stability in the Himalayan nation. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Philippines** has been chosen to host the board of the "**Loss and Damage**" fund created by **U.N.** talks, marking another step towards providing financial help for countries to recover and rebuild from the impact of global warming. Last month, the **World Bank's board** approved a plan for the bank to act as interim host of the fund for four years. ([Click to read the complete article](#))

- A new **high-quality malaria vaccine** developed by the **Serum Institute of India** and the **University of Oxford** is officially being rolled out in **Africa**. With this, **Côte d'Ivoire** has become the **first country in West Africa** to start **administering R21/Matrix-M**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **President Paul Kagame** has secured a decisive victory in **Rwanda's 2024 presidential election**, capturing 99.15% of the votes, as reported by the National Electoral Commission. This marks his fourth consecutive term in office. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Roberta Metsola**, a prominent **Maltese politician**, has secured a historic **second term as President of the European Parliament**, making her the first woman to achieve this feat in the EU assembly's history. Known for her leadership and advocacy, Metsola garnered significant support from EU politicians, receiving **562 out of 623 votes in her favor**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **annual Kataragama Esala festival** is being **celebrated in Sri Lanka**. Devotees who started their **Pada Yatra** in May have reached Kataragama completing a **journey of over 500 kilometres** across difficult terrain on foot from as far afield as **Jaffna in Sri Lanka's northern peninsula**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- Belarus has announced a new visa-free regime allowing citizens from **35 European countries** to stay in the country for up to **90 days per year**. This policy, effective from July 19, 2024, is seen as an attempt by Minsk to ease tensions with the West, following recent geopolitical shifts and ongoing sanctions. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire)** has recently become the **53rd Party to the 1992 UN Water Convention**, officially known as the **Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes**. This accession marks Ivory Coast as the 10th African nation to join the treaty. The move highlights a growing trend among African nations to enhance cooperative water management amidst increasing water stress and climate change impacts. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **China** has built the **world's first passenger train** made from carbon fibre, a material that makes it much lighter and more energy-efficient than conventional trains. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy** spoke with Estonia's newly elected **Prime Minister Kristen Michal** on his first day in office, July 22. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Israeli Knesset** has approved a bill to designate the **United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA)** as a terrorist organization. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **International Olympic Committee** named the **French Alps** as the host for the **2030 Winter Games** on July 24, though the decision is subject to certain conditions. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Salt Lake City in Utah state of the USA** will host the **Winter Olympics and Paralympics Games in 2034**. The decision was taken by the IOC Members during the **142nd IOC Session in Paris** here on July 24. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Azerbaijan, hosting COP29 from November 11 to 22 this year**, has announced the creation of a **Climate Finance Action Fund (CFAF)**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Singapore** has reclaimed its title as the **world's most powerful passport**, offering visa-free access to a record **195 global destinations** according to the **Henley Passport Index**. **India ranks 82nd**, allowing **visa-free entry to 58 countries**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- India is hosting the **World Heritage Committee Meeting** for the first time. It takes place from **21 to 31 July 2024**, at **Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **UNESCO World Heritage committee** on July 27 decided to register Japan's controversial **Sado gold mine** as a cultural heritage site. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **TIME magazine** has highlighted three Indian destinations in its prestigious list of **'World's Greatest Places of 2024.'** ([Click here to read complete article](#))

National Current Affairs

- Air India is establishing **South Asia's largest flight training school** in **Maharashtra's Amravati district** with an investment of **over ₹200 crore**. Scheduled to open in the first quarter of the next financial year, this initiative aims to secure a steady pipeline of pilots for the airline, which will require 500-700 pilots annually to support its expansion plans following a mega order of 470 Airbus and Boeing aircraft in 2023. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Union Minister of Mines, G. Kishan Reddy**, along with Minister of State **Satish Chandra Dubey**, inaugurated the **District Mineral Foundation (DMF) Gallery at Shastri Bhawan in New Delhi** on Tuesday, 2nd July 2024. The gallery showcases products from Self-Help Groups (SHGs) formed under the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana and those supported by mining companies under their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. ([Click to read article](#))
- The **Government of India** announced a significant extension to one of its flagship urban development initiatives. The **Smart Cities Mission**, originally set to conclude on June 30, 2024, will now continue until **March 31, 2025**. This extension marks a crucial phase in India's journey towards creating technologically advanced and livable urban spaces. ([Click to read article](#))

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** hosted the **T20 World Cup-winning Indian cricket team** for breakfast on June 4. The team led by skipper **Rohit Sharma** arrived in Delhi in the early morning from **Bridgetown in Barbados**, where it was stranded for five days owing to a Category-4 hurricane. ([Click to read article](#))
- **President Droupadi Murmu** presided over the Defence Investiture Ceremony-2024 (Phase-I) at Rashtrapati Bhavan, presenting Gallantry Awards to distinguished servicemen and women. ([Click to read article](#))
- In a significant move to boost entrepreneurship, **Union Minister Piyush Goyal** has announced an **80% reduction** in licensing fees for **women entrepreneurs** and a **50% reduction for MSMEs** under the **Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO)**. This initiative aims to encourage greater participation from women and MSMEs in the petroleum and explosives sectors, balancing industry compliance with public safety. ([Click to read the article](#))
- India is gearing up to host the prestigious **Malabar naval exercise** alongside the United States, Japan, and Australia in the **Bay of Bengal this October**. This comes amidst escalating regional tensions fueled by China's assertive actions in the South China Sea and its expanding footprint across the **Indian Ocean Region (IOR)**. The **28th edition of the exercise** will focus on advanced **anti-submarine warfare** and aims to enhance military interoperability among the four countries. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The **Government of India** has mandated that all stainless steel and aluminium utensils conform to the **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)**. According to a press release by the **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**, this directive, **effective from March 14, 2024**, under the Quality Control Order issued by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**, makes the ISI mark compulsory for these utensils. ([Click to read the article](#))
- India, represented by a high-level delegation led by **Shri T.K. Ramachandran, Secretary of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways**, has taken a prominent role in shaping international maritime policies at the **132nd session of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London**. The session, which began on July 8, 2024, and continues until July 12, 2024, addresses critical issues and proposals for the future of global maritime operations. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **INS Towers** at the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) Secretariat in Mumbai's Bandra Kurla Complex. This new facility is set to serve as a modern hub for the newspaper industry in Mumbai, addressing the evolving needs of INS members. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The Centre has strengthened the authority of the **Lieutenant Governor (LG) of Jammu and Kashmir** through amendments to the **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019**. The amended rules, effective immediately upon publication in the Official Gazette, significantly enhance the LG's powers, particularly in matters related to transfers, postings of all-India service officers, police, and judicial appointments. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has achieved a significant milestone on **social media platform X, surpassing 100 million followers**. This milestone solidifies his position as the **most followed global leader on X**, far ahead of other world figures such as **US President Joe Biden, Dubai ruler Sheikh Mohammed, and Pope Francis**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, **Shri Amit Shah** on July 14, inaugurated the **Pradhan Mantri Colleges of Excellence** in all 55 districts of the state from **Indore, Madhya Pradesh**. Many dignitaries, including the **Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Mohan Yadav** and Union Minister **Smt. Savitri Thakur** were present on the occasion. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- India is set to launch its **first national toll-free anti-narcotics helpline, '1933'**, alongside an email service under the name **MANAS (Madak Padarth Nisedh Asuchna Kendra)**. Scheduled for launch by **Union Home Minister Amit Shah** during the seventh Narco-Coordination Centre meeting on July 18, the helpline aims to provide a user-friendly platform for citizens to report **drug-related crimes and seek assistance 24x7**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Indian government** has released the first tranche of **USD 2.5 million** to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) as part of its **annual contribution of USD 5 million** for the year **2024-25**. The **UNRWA**, which has carried out direct relief and works **programmes for registered Palestinian refugees** since **1950**, is making efforts to keep up its functioning in the middle of the **Israel-Hamas war in Gaza**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- India has announced a **fresh list of 346 military hardware** items that will only be procured from state-run domestic manufacturers after a ban on their import kicks in under a staggered timeline. This is part of a broader initiative to boost domestic defence industries and reduce import dependence. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh** recently inaugurated Asia's inaugural health research-related **"Pre-clinical Network Facility"** at Faridabad's **Translational Health Science & Technology Institute (THSTI)**. This facility, selected by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), is notable as **Asia's first and the 9th globally** to handle BSL3 pathogens. ([Click to read the complete article](#))

- The **Ministry of Education** and the **University Grants Commission (UGC)** unveiled an ambitious project aimed at enriching the landscape of Indian language literature in higher education. This groundbreaking initiative, known as **ASMITA** (Augmenting Study Materials in Indian Languages through Translation and Academic Writing), sets out to develop an impressive 22,000 books in Indian languages over the next five years. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- In a significant move to bolster India's international relations, **External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar** embarked on a two-day visit to Mauritius on July 16 and 17, 2024. This visit marked a crucial step in reinforcing the strong bonds between India and Mauritius, two nations with deep historical and cultural ties. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- India has successfully completed its **4th periodic review** by the **Human Rights Committee** under the **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)** in Geneva, showcasing its commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA)**, launched in September 2023 by key G20 members including India, the United States, and Brazil, is poised to take a significant step forward in its institutional development. The Indian government is preparing to sign a headquarters agreement with the alliance, marking a crucial milestone in the organization's evolution and India's role in global sustainable energy initiatives. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The theme of the **India Mobile Congress 2024**, 'The Future is Now', was unveiled on July 19 by **Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**, Minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region on July 18. The theme signifies how India stands at the heart of the technological evolution and **IMC 2024** bringing together global leaders, **visionaries**, **pioneers**, and innovators to collaborate and actively shape the technologies transforming our world today, where the future isn't just a concept, it's happening. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** organised an event on **18th July 2024**, named "Utkrishtata ki Ore Badhte Kadam". Celebrating Achievements, Inspiring Excellence to felicitate best performers under **PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Yojana** and **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
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- The **Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)**, a **Mini-Ratna PSU** under the Ministry of Railways, has achieved a notable milestone by advancing to the **Scheduled 'A' category** of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). This upgrade from 'Schedule B' was announced by the Ministry of Railways in an office memorandum dated July 19, 2024. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Three training institutes of DoT**– National Telecommunications Institute for Policy Research, Innovation and Training (**NTIPRIT**), the National Institute of Communication Finance (**NICF**) and Wireless Monitoring Training & Development Centre (**WMTDC**) have been merged into a single administrative entity, named '**National Communications Academy**' (**NCA**) with immediate effect. The Minister of Communications (MoC) approved the merger of these entities on the recommendation of the **Committee for Organisational Reforms**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **India's National Flag Day** commemorates the **adoption of the Indian national flag** on July 22, 1947, by the Constituent Assembly, just days before the country attained Independence from British rule on August 15, 1947. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** at **NITI Aayog** and the **World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)** on July 22, joined hands towards building **joint innovation programmes in the Global South**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** announced India's contribution of **one million dollars** to the **UNESCO World Heritage Centre** to support heritage conservation globally, particularly in the Global South. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Department of School Education and Literacy is observing **Shiksha Saptah from July 22 to July 28, 2024**, to celebrate the fourth anniversary of the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Indian Railways has been allocated a record **capital expenditure (Capex) of Rs 2,62,200 crore** for the fiscal year 2024-25, maintaining the same level as announced in the **Interim Budget 2024**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- In the Regular Union Budget for FY 2024-25, the **Ministry of Defence (MoD)** has received an allocation of **Rs 6,21,940.85 crore (approximately US \$75 billion)**, marking the highest allocation among all ministries. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

- **Forest Survey of India (FSI)**, Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry carries out the assessment of forest cover biennially. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Shri **H.D. Kumaraswamy**, Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries, launched **SIMS 2.0**, the upgraded Steel Import Monitoring System. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **President Droupadi Murmu** has renamed two important halls in **Rashtrapati Bhavan**, formerly known as 'Durbar Hall' and 'Ashok Hall', to 'Ganatantra Mandap' and 'Ashok Mandap' respectively. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **India's installed nuclear power capacity** is set to increase from 8,180 MW to 22,480 MW by 2031-32, according to Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Mankind Pharma** has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire a 100 per cent stake in **Bharat Serums and Vaccines (BSV)** from Advent International. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **India** has taken over the Chair of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) for the year 2024-25, succeeding China. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will chair the 9th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog on July 27, 2024, at the **Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Government has approved setting up of 7 (Seven) PM Mega Integrated Textile Region. Apparel (**PM MITRA**) Parks in Greenfield/Brownfield sites (including a Greenfield project in Virudhanagar Tamil Nadu) with world class infrastructure including plug and play facility with an outlay of Rs. 4,445 cr for a period of seven years upto 2027-28. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- To fulfill Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of disaster resilient India, Ministry of Home Affairs under the guidance of Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah has taken several initiatives to ensure effective management of disasters in the country. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The capital city of India is poised to unveil a groundbreaking addition to its rich tapestry of historical attractions. On July 29, 2024, the country's **first sunken museum** at the Humayun's Tomb complex, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, will be inaugurated in Delhi. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- External Affairs Minister **S. Jaishankar** unveiled a bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Tokyo's Edogawa ward, highlighting Gandhi's global legacy and timeless message of **peace and non-violence**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- July 27, 2024, marks the 9th death anniversary of **Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam**, a visionary scientist, educator, and the 11th President of India. Renowned as the "Missile Man of India," Dr. Kalam made monumental contributions to aerospace engineering and defense technology, particularly through the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Nita Ambani**, IOC member and founder of the Reliance Foundation, inaugurated the India House during the Paris 2024 Olympics on July 27. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- During his three days visit to Laos, the External Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** unveiled a special commemorative stamp set showcasing **Ram Lalla's idol from Ayodhya**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)** celebrated its **18th Foundation Day** at its Prithvi Bhavan Headquarters today on July 27, marking nearly two decades of significant contributions to Earth system sciences. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Ministry of Education celebrated the 4th anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 at the **Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam (ABSS) 2024**, held at the Manekshaw Centre Auditorium in New Delhi. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The inaugural ceremony of '**One DAE One Subscription (ODOS)**' took place on July 29, at Tata Memorial Hospital, in Mumbai. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Union Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Shri **Bhupender Yadav**, launched the **Ideas4LiFE** portal at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- A total of **628 tigers** died in India during the past five years due to natural causes and other reasons, including poaching, according to government data. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- In 2023, India experienced a notable reduction in average tariffs while increasing the use of **non-tariff measures**. According to the **WTO report**, India's average tariffs **decreased to 17% from 18.1% in 2022**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- As many as 3,49,633 farmers benefited to the tune of ₹563 crore for the financial year 2022-23 under the **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- In a groundbreaking initiative, **Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Thekkady** has installed a wind turbine to power real-time monitoring cameras and Wi-Fi connectivity within its expansive forest. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **The Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS)** has introduced the Electronic Services e-Health Assistance and Tele-consultation (E-SeHAT) module as of July 30, 2024. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- 16-year-old **Jiya Rai** from Mumbai has set a new world record as the youngest and fastest para-swimmer to cross the English Channel. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

States Current Affairs

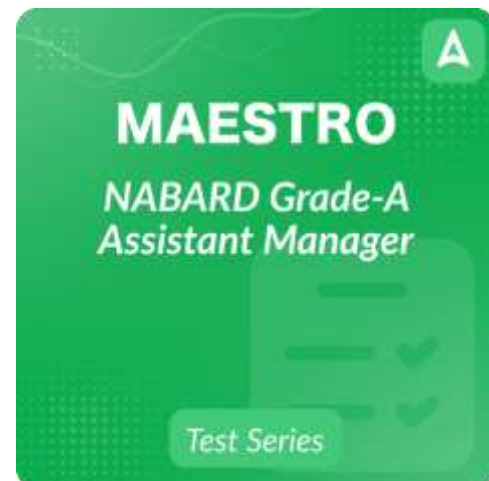
- **Hul Kranti Diwas** is celebrated on **June 30** every year to mark the independence **movement of 1855** led by tribal heroes **Sidho, Kanho, Chand, Bhairav**, among others. More than **50,000 tribals** from **400 villages of Jharkhand** had revolted against **British Rule**. ([Click to read article](#))
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister **Chandrababu Naidu** launched the **NTR Bharosa pension scheme**, fulfilling a key election promise and bringing hope to millions of beneficiaries across the state. ([Click to read article](#))
- A team of researchers from the **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)** has recorded a new species of forest-dwelling horned frog in **Arunachal Pradesh**. The new-to-science **Xenophrys apatani**, recorded from the **Talle Wildlife Sanctuary** in the Lower Subansiri district, has been named after the dominant **Apatani community** in recognition of their ingenuity in the conservation of **wild flora and fauna**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Uttar Pradesh (UP)**, the state government has passed the draft for the **Uttar Pradesh Nodal Investment Region for Manufacturing (Construction) Area Bill (NIRMAN)-2024**. This initiative, chaired by **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath**, is part of a broader strategy to uplift the state's economy to the one trillion dollar mark. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Bhopal**, Chief Minister **Dr. Mohan Yadav** has said that our aim is to make all departments as accountable as possible towards the public. **Lokpath Mobile App** prepared by the Public Works Department is being launched with a view to continuously moving forward on the path of public welfare by adopting a more transparent and accountable working system towards the public. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Hemant Soren** has returned as **Chief Minister of Jharkhand**, reinstated after a five-month hiatus that began with his arrest by the **Enforcement Directorate**. His reappointment follows a tumultuous period marked by political maneuvering within the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), which heads the state's ruling alliance. ([Click to read article](#))
- National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) declared the mica mines of Jharkhand 'child labour-free' at an event in **Koderma, Jharkhand**. NCPCR chairperson **Priyank Kanoongo** announced this as the first-ever successful endeavor to cleanse a supply chain of child labour in mica mining. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Jagannath Rath Yatra** is a famous Hindu festival celebrated every year in the **city of Puri, Odisha**. It takes place on the Dwitiya Tithi, the second day of the bright fortnight of Sharad Paksha, a period of increasing moonlight considered auspicious for spiritual activities. This festival falls in the month of Asadh according to the Hindu lunar calendar, usually corresponding to June or July in the Gregorian calendar. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The 15th Agriculture Leadership Awards Committee has announced that **Maharashtra** has won the **Best Agriculture State Award for 2024**. The announcement was made by the committee headed by **Justice P Sathasivam**, former Chief Justice of India and Governor of Kerala. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The **Uttar Pradesh government**, led by Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath**, has unveiled a major environmental initiative called '**Mitra Van**' (**Friendship Forest**) as part of the Vriksharopan Jan Abhiyan-2024. This ambitious project aims to enhance greenery along the borders of Uttar Pradesh, including its international border with Nepal. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Uttar Pradesh government has secured over **154 defence manufacturing deals worth Rs 25,000 crore**, marking a significant stride in bolstering India's defence production capabilities. These initiatives are part of the **Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC)**, spanning Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi, Aligarh, Chitrakoot, and Agra districts. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **The Forest Department of Uttar Pradesh** has released its latest summer census figures for the state bird, the **Sarus Crane**. The report, unveiled on July 10, 2024, reveals a promising trend in the conservation efforts of this majestic species. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In a significant recognition of its efforts in agricultural development, **Nagaland** has been awarded the title of **best state in horticulture** at the prestigious **Agriculture Leadership Awards 2024**. This accolade highlights the state's commitment to innovative agricultural practices and rural development. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Haryana Cabinet has approved the launch of the **IT Saksham Yuva Scheme, 2024**, targeting the provision of jobs to 5,000 youths in the first phase. This initiative aligns with the '**Mission 60,000**' from the **2024-25 budget**, aiming to employ 60,000 young individuals from poor families. Under the scheme, graduates or postgraduates from IT backgrounds will undergo specially designed short-term courses for a minimum of three months. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The **Jharkhand government** is working on a plan to open eastern **India's first university for physically challenged students in Ranchi (Jharkhand)** a minister said on June 11. The proposed university will offer **education** according to the needs of students with disabilities. Higher and technical education minister **Champai Soren** directed officials to prepare a proposal to open the university for **physically challenged students in Ranchi**. ([Click to read the article](#))

- Uttar Pradesh **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** announced on June 12, in Lucknow that the State would be exporting 40 tonnes of mangoes to **Japan and Malaysia**. And for the first time in its **160-year** history, Lucknow's famous **Dussehri** is to be exported to the **United States**. He was inaugurating the **Uttar Pradesh Mango Festival 2024** at **Awadh Shilp Gram**. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Justice Aalia Neelum** on July 11, took oath as the **Chief Justice of the Lahore High Court (LHC)** of Pakistan (Lahore), making her the first woman to be elevated as the court's top judge. **Punjab Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan** administered the oath of office to her. Punjab province's **first woman Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz** was also present in the oath-taking ceremony. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha** emphasized the importance of educating the younger generation about the historical background of **Kharchi Puja** and its **fourteen deities**. The inauguration of the traditional festival at the **Chaturdash Devta temple** in old Agartala's Khayerpur on June 14. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The Himachal Pradesh Cabinet gave its approval on July 12, to rationalise the provisions for **zero electricity bills for domestic consumers** by restricting subsidy to **'one family, one meter'** and interlinking power connections with ration cards. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The research wing of the Uttarakhand Forest Department established **Uttarakhand's first bird gallery** at the Nature Education Centre, **Jolly Grant, in Dehradun** on July 15. This gallery showcases high-resolution images of Uttarakhand's birds, giving visitors an eye-catching display of the state's feathery inhabitants. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- In a significant stride towards enhancing digital healthcare infrastructure, the Uttarakhand government has successfully integrated its **eSwasthya Dham portal** with the **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)**. This integration marks a crucial step in improving health monitoring and management for pilgrims undertaking the revered **Char Dham Yatra**, while also aligning with India's broader digital health initiatives. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **July 16**, marks the **official beginning of Sawan** accompanied by the vibrant **Harela festival** celebrated across **Uttarakhand**. This traditional festival holds deep significance for the region's **agriculture and culture**, symbolising prosperity and overall well-being. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Indore** on July 14, set a new **Guinness World Record** in the category of **"the most trees planted by a team in 24 hours"** by planting **more than 11 lakh saplings**. Chief Minister **Mohan Yadav** stated that Indore, already the cleanest city in India and the economic capital of Madhya Pradesh, has now achieved the world record of planting more than **11 lakh saplings in a single day**. The programme was **organised by the state government**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- In a bid to tackle **unemployment among the youth**, the **Government of Maharashtra** has unveiled the **Mukhyamantri Yuva Karya Prashikshan Yojana** (Chief Minister Youth Work Training Scheme). It aims to provide valuable internship opportunities, equipping young individuals with essential skills and enhancing their employability in a competitive job market. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The first confirmed death due to **Chandipura virus infection in Gujarat** was reported as a **four-year-old child from Mota Kanthariya in Aravalli**. The confirmation came from Pune's National Institute of Virology. The virus, initially reported in north Gujarat, has spread to new areas, raising concerns about a potential outbreak with 14 deaths in two weeks and 26 suspected cases under investigation. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- Scientists from Hyderabad's **National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI)** have revealed a historic collision between **India and East Antarctica over a billion years ago**. Their findings, including a hidden ridge in **Andhra Pradesh's Darsi and Addanki regions**, suggest significant geological shifts. Seismic data reprocessing uncovered Proterozoic sediment layers, shedding new light on India's eastern coast evolution. Published in the **Journal of Pure and Applied Geophysics**, this research enriches the understanding of ancient Indian subcontinent ties to Antarctica. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- Madhya Pradesh has been recognized as the **'Best Performing State'** under the **Prime Minister SVANidhi scheme**, which supports urban street vendors with collateral-free loans up to ₹50,000. The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry announced this accolade, with Assam securing the second position in the **'Best Performing States – Innovation and Best Practices Award'** category. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy** launched a unique programme to provide financial assistance to the **Civil Services aspirants from Telangana**, under which the candidates who qualify for the Mains exams will be provided with ₹1 lakh for preparation. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Meghalaya** launched State-owned **Hello Meghalaya**, an **OTT platform** primarily for regional languages with a limited reach or small market, on July 11. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Assam Cabinet** has approved the repeal of the **Assam Muslim Marriages and Divorce Registration Act of 1935** through the **Assam Repealing Bill, 2024**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

- In a significant step towards eradicating tuberculosis (TB), Telangana launched the “**Project Swasthya Nagaram**,” a unique model for **TB-free municipalities**, on July 24, 2024, in **Hyderabad**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- On July 24, 2024, the Bihar Assembly passed the **Anti-Paper Leak Bill** to combat malpractices in government recruitment exams. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Mumbai**, India’s bustling financial capital, is set to witness a significant transformation in its urban transit system with the inauguration of its first underground metro, the **Aqua Line**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Municipal Corporations of Gurugram and Faridabad are all set to establish **two waste-to-charcoal plants**, also known as **green coal plants**, in the two districts at a cost of **₹500 crore** each. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD)**, a unit of the **Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)**, has identified lithium resources in the **Mandya and Yadgiri districts of Karnataka**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- On July 25, 2024, **Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy**, launched the **Vriksharopan Abhiyan 2024** at **Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) in Dhanbad**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- In a significant milestone for India's community radio landscape, **Union Minister** of Information and Broadcasting **Ashwini Vaishnaw** inaugurated the **country's 500th community radio station**, Apna Radio 90.0 FM, at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) in **Aizawl, Mizoram**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- On July 27, 1939, the **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)** was established as the Crown Representatives Police in response to political turmoil within princely states. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Department of Posts** has released a commemorative postage stamp at **Dras, Kargil in Ladakh**, marking the Silver Jubilee of **Kargil Vijay Diwas**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Ahom dynasty’s Moidams in Assam** have been officially inscribed on the **UNESCO World Heritage List** as **India’s 43rd entry**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Chief Minister **A. Revanth Reddy** attended a public meeting in **Kalwakurthy** to mark the **death anniversary** of former Union Minister **S. Jaipal Reddy**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Uttar Pradesh Assembly** on July 30, passed the **UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2024** that enhances punishment for forced conversions. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Schemes and Committees

- The **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** has introduced the **eSankhyiki portal** to revolutionize data accessibility and user experience. This initiative aims to centralize and streamline access to key national statistical data, supporting planners, policymakers, researchers, and the public. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Union Minister for Coal and Mines, Shri G Kishan Reddy**, inaugurated the **NIRMAN portal in New Delhi**, aligning with **PM Modi’s “Mission Karmayogi.”** This CSR initiative by Coal India Limited aims to aid meritorious youth from its operational districts who cleared the UPSC Preliminary exams in 2024. ([Click to read article](#))
- In a significant move to accelerate the development of India’s most challenging regions, **NITI Aayog** is set to launch the ‘Sampoornata Abhiyan’ on July 4, 2024. This ambitious **3-month campaign** aims to achieve saturation in key indicators across **112 Aspirational Districts** and **500 Aspirational Blocks**, marking a new chapter in India’s journey towards inclusive growth. ([Click to read article](#))
- In a landmark event for India’s cultural diplomacy, the nation is set to host the **46th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee** from July 21-31, 2024. This prestigious gathering will take place at the **Bharat Mandapam** in New Delhi, bringing together delegates from around the world to discuss and decide on matters of global cultural significance. ([Click to read article](#))
- The **Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) and TransUnion CIBIL** have launched **SEHER**, a credit education program designed to empower women entrepreneurs in India. SEHER aims to provide financial literacy content and business skills, facilitating access to essential financial tools for growth and employment creation. ([Click to read article](#))
- The **Uttar Pradesh government** has constituted a three-member judicial commission to investigate the stampede that occurred during a Satsang in Hathras on 3 July 2024, resulting in 121 fatalities. Uttar Pradesh Governor **Anandiben Patel** issued the notification for this commission. ([Click to read the article](#))



- India, a vibrant center of artistic expression, has a rich history of public art reflecting its cultural and spiritual diversity. **Project PARI (Public Art of India)**, initiated by the Ministry of Culture and executed by **Lalit Kala Akademi** and the **National Gallery of Modern Art**, seeks to blend India's millennia-old artistic heritage with modern themes and techniques. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The government has designated the **Ministry of Minority Affairs as the nodal ministry for the Haj Committee**, taking over from the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)**. This change includes new rules and the nomination of officers from various ministries to the committee. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Government of India is set to launch the **'Agri Fund for Start-Ups & Rural Enterprises'** (AgriSURE) to support start-ups and agripreneurs through investments in sector-specific, sector-agnostic, and debt **Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs)**, as well as direct equity support to start-ups working in agriculture and allied sectors. This initiative aims to foster innovation and sustainability in India's agricultural sector through the establishment of a **Rs 750 crore Category-II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF)**. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The second regional event of the **'Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman'** campaign, under the aegis of **Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice (DISHA)**, is scheduled to take place in **Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh on the 16th of July 2024**. This event commemorates the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Indian Constitution and India becoming a Republic. The campaign aims to promote understanding of the Constitution and raise awareness about legal rights. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** is set to unveil a groundbreaking initiative that promises to revolutionize the landscape of agricultural and animal husbandry research in India. The **'One Scientist-One Product'** programme, scheduled for launch on July 16, marks a significant milestone in the organization's commitment to advancing agricultural science and technology. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde** announced the **'Ladla Bhai Yojana'** for boys in the state after announcing the **'Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana'** for girls. The latter aims to provide **monthly financial assistance of ₹1,500 to eligible women**. Speaking in **Maharashtra's Pandharpur** on the occasion of **Ashadhi Ekadashi**, Shinde reportedly said the state government does not differentiate between boys and girls and that the **'Ladla Bhai Yojana'** scheme will solve the **unemployment issue**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- Under the **Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative**, India has marked a significant achievement in the global coal mining sector. The **Gevra and Kusmunda coal mines**, operated by **South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL)**, a subsidiary of Coal India, have secured prominent positions among the world's largest coal mines. These mines, located in **Chhattisgarh's Korba district**, have been recognized as the **2nd and 4th largest coal mines globally** by **WorldAtlas.com**, producing over 100 million tons of coal annually and contributing about 10% to India's total coal production. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Lok Sabha Speaker** sets up the **Business Advisory Committee** for the new session. The Committee includes members such as **Sudip Bandhyopadhyay, Gaurav Gogoi, Dayanidhi Maran, PP Chaudhary, and Anurag Thakur, among others**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Gujarat state government** launched the **Shramik Basera Scheme 2024**. The Gujarat state government introduced the **Shramik Basera Scheme 2024** to provide temporary housing facilities to the financially unstable, especially the laborers. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Centre** has introduced a revised **Model Skill Loan Scheme**, designed to provide financial support for skill development courses to the nation's youth. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** has launched the **National Apprenticeship and Training Scheme (NATS) 2.0 portal** and disbursed **Rs. 100 crore** in stipends to apprentices via **Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT)**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has entered into a **\$60 million** financing agreement with **Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL)** to provide housing loans to women in India. The initiative aims to address the shortage of financing in the **low-income and affordable housing segment**. Half of the funds will be deployed in **Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal**. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The **Philippines and Japan** have taken a big step in their security relationship. They signed a new deal that allows their military forces to enter each other's countries more easily. This comes at a time when there are growing concerns in the Indo-Pacific region. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** has initiated talks with the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** to develop an **AI Audit Tool** aimed at overseeing corporate India and detecting frauds. **ICAI President Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal** has confirmed that a proposal has been sent to **MeitY Secretary Krishnan**. ([Click to read the article](#))

- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and the **M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF)** have signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** aimed at enhancing livelihood opportunities among rural, tribal, and farming communities in India. This collaboration aims to leverage CSIR's technological innovations and MSSRF's grassroots outreach to empower marginalized groups. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The **India-Taiwan Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)** for Organic Products, effective from **July 8, 2024**, aims to enhance trade by allowing certified organic products from each country to enter the other's market. India's **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)** and Taiwan's Agriculture and Food Agency are the respective implementing agencies for this landmark agreement. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The government and Netflix India have partnered to create opportunities for voice-over artists, especially women, to enhance their skills and find better opportunities in the media and entertainment sector. The **National Film Development Corporation (NFDC)** and Netflix India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to launch "**The Voicebox**," a program to train voice-over artists in **multiple languages** including English, Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, and Gujarati. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** announced the signing of a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, for the establishment of the 'BIS Standardization Chair Professor' at the latter. This initiative **formalised on July 3, 2024**, marks a significant **step towards institutionalising** BIS's collaboration with leading academic and research establishments across India. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- In a significant step towards developing Indigenous technology, the **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)**, signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IIT Roorkee) and Indian Institute of Technology, **Mandi (IIT Mandi)**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- India is hosting the **World Heritage Committee Meeting** for the first time. It takes place from **21 to 31 July 2024**, at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Singapore** has reclaimed its title as the **world's most powerful passport**, offering visa-free access to a record **195 global destinations** according to the **Henley Passport Index**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- On July 26, 2024, India and the United States signed their first-ever Cultural Property Agreement (CPA) during the 46th World Heritage Committee meeting at **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

New Appointments

- **Ravi Agrawal, a 1988-batch IRS officer**, has been appointed as the **new chairman** of the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)**. He succeeds **Nitin Gupta**, whose tenure ended on June 30, 2024. Agrawal's appointment extends till June 2025, with a reappointment on a contract basis to ensure continuity in CBDT's policy framework. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Financial Services Institution Bureau (FSIB)** has selected **Challa Sreenivasulu Setty** as the **next chairman of State Bank of India (SBI)**. **Ashwini Tiwari and Vinay Tonse** were two other contenders to the post. **Setty** will succeed the current chairman, **Dinesh Khara**, when he turns 63, the upper **age limit** for the position of **SBI Chairman**. His term is scheduled to end in August 2024. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Akhilesh Pathak** has assumed office as the new **Chief General Manager (CGM)** of the **Southern Region Transmission System-I (SRTS-I)** of the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) on Monday, July 1, 2024. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Puma India**, a leading sports brand, announced two new brand ambassadors: **Riyan Parag** and **Nitish Kumar Reddy**. This exciting news showcases Puma's commitment to supporting young talent and connecting with India's youth. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Dr. BN Gangadhar**, who was serving as the officiating chairperson, has been officially appointed as the head of the National Medical Commission. This appointment marks a crucial step in stabilizing the leadership of this vital organization. ([Click to read article](#))
- The government has recently strengthened the National Security Council (NSC) by making several high-profile appointments. Former **Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) chief Rajinder Khanna** has been promoted to Additional National Security Adviser (NSA). **T V Ravichandran and Pavan Kapoor** have also been appointed as **Deputy NSAs**. ([Click to read article](#))
- SBI General Insurance Company Ltd. has appointed **Shri Naveen Chandra Jha** as its new **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer**. He succeeds **Shri Kishore Kumar Poludasu**, nominated by parent company State Bank of India. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Justice Sheel Nagu** has been appointed as the **Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court**, following a notification by the Centre. ([Click to read article](#))

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed **Smt. Charulatha S Kar as Executive Director (ED)**, effective from July 1, 2024. ([Click to read article](#))
- In a significant move to strengthen the **government's communication strategy**, senior Indian Information Service (IIS) officer **Dhirendra K Ojha** has been appointed as the principal spokesperson of the central government. This appointment marks an important day in the realm of government communications, as it brings fresh leadership to crucial information dissemination roles. ([Click to read article](#))
- State-owned life insurer **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** has redesignated its chairman **Siddhartha Mohanty** as chief executive officer and managing director with effect from 30 June 2024. It is not yet known if the life insurance company would appoint a new chairperson. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Justice Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi** has been appointed as the **Chief Justice of the Jharkhand High Court**, succeeding **Justice Sanjaya Kumar Mishra** who retired on December 28, 2023. His appointment was recommended by the Supreme Court collegium in December last year and officially announced by the **Union Ministry of Law and Justice on July 3**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Elisa de Anda Madrazo** of Mexico has assumed the presidency of the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** for a two-year term from July 2024 to June 2026. This transition marks a significant moment for the global financial watchdog, as Madrazo brings a fresh perspective aimed at strengthening efforts to combat financial crimes and terrorism financing. ([Click to read the article](#))
- A division bench of the Supreme Court, comprising **Justice Surya Kant and Justice K V Vishwanath**, passed an order appointing former Chief Justice of India, **Uday Umesh Lalit**, as the chairman of the search and selection committee for appointing vice-chancellors in West Bengal's state-run universities. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The board of **Indian Energy Exchange (IEX)** has approved the reappointment of **Satyanarayan Goel** as its **Chairman and Managing Director** for a three-year term starting August 10, 2024. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the reappointment of **Govind Singh** as the **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer** of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank (**Utkarsh SFB**). His new term will commence on September 21, 2024, and will last for three years. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Prof. (Dr.) Soumya Swaminathan** has been appointed as the **Principal Adviser** for the **National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme at the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**. This high-profile appointment underscores the Indian government's commitment to eradicating tuberculosis as a public health threat. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In a significant development for the Indian media landscape, **Rajat Sharma**, the esteemed Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of India TV, has been unanimously elected as the President of the **News Broadcasters & Digital Association (NBDA)**. This landmark decision was made during the NBDA's board meeting held on July 9, 2024, marking a new chapter in the organization's history. ([Click to read the article](#))
- Olympic medalist and badminton sensation **PV Sindhu** has made a significant move in the business world by joining **Hoop**, a Gurugram-based wellness brand, as both an investor and brand ambassador. This announcement marks a new milestone in Sindhu's career beyond the badminton court, showcasing her growing interest in entrepreneurship and brand building. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Indian government has made a significant move in the telecommunications sector by appointing **Robert Jerard Ravi** as the new **Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** of **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)**. This appointment, effective from July 15, 2024, marks a new chapter for the state-run telecom operator. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Paytm Payments Bank**, an associate entity of **One97 Communications (OCL)**, has appointed **Arun Kumar Bansal** as its new **Managing Director (MD)** and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **West Bengal government** on July 15 reinstated senior IPS officer **Rajeev Kumar** as the Director General of Police (**DGP**) of West Bengal. Mr. Kumar will replace **Sanjoy Mukherjee**, who was appointed the State's DGP at the directions of the Election Commission of India during the recently concluded Lok Sabha polls. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Supreme Court** now has **two more judges** after **President Droupadi Murmu** cleared the appointments of **Justice N Kotiswar Singh** and **Justice R Mahadevan**. The appointments were announced by **Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal** July 16. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- Former **Chief Secretary of Maharashtra**, **Manoj Saunik**, has been appointed as the next Chairman of the Maharashtra Real Estate Regulatory Authority (MahaRERA). He will succeed **Ajoy Mehta**, whose term ends in September 2024. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **HSBC Holdings Plc** has appointed its **Chief Financial Officer Georges Elhedery** as its **next CEO**, the bank said on July 17, opting for continuity as it tries to kickstart growth. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- European Parliament lawmakers **re-elected Ursula von der Leyen** to a second five-year term as **President of the European Union's** executive commission. Von der Leyen secured a comfortable majority, preventing a potential leadership vacuum. ([Click to read the complete article](#))

- **Shri Vivek Johri**, Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), presented a set of **Time Release Studies (TRS)** conducted by the department. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** has awarded the **Taxnet 2.0 project to Bharti Airtel Ltd.** This project aims to provide advanced network connectivity, facility management services, and video conferencing services to the **Income Tax Department (ITD)**. Bharti Airtel was chosen through an open tender process for this critical project, which marks a significant advancement over the **current Taxnet 1.0 project**. The new system aims to enhance the digital infrastructure of the ITD by providing secure, reliable, and seamless connectivity services. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Former Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra** has been appointed as **India's next Ambassador to the United States**, as confirmed by the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** on Friday. Kwatra will assume his new role shortly, filling the position that has been vacant since **Taranjit Sandhu's retirement in January 2024**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **UPSC Chairman Manoj Soni** has submitted his resignation citing personal reasons. **Manoj Soni's resignation** has not been accepted yet. The resignation of **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) chairperson** comes five years before the termination of his tenure and a year after taking charge. His tenure is slated to end in **2029**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Sanjeev Krishan** has been re-elected as the **chairperson of PwC India** for a second term, set to begin on April 1, 2025. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Ronald L. Rowe Jr.** has been appointed as the **acting chief of the US Secret Service** following the resignation of Kimberly Cheatle. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved the appointment of **Krishnan Venkat Subramanian** as **Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Federal Bank**, the bank said in an exchange filing on July 22. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **CMA Bibhuti Bhusan Nayak**, a Fellow Member of the **Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICMAI)** and a member of the Bhubaneswar Chapter, has been unanimously elected as the **67th President of ICMAI for the 2024-2025 term**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Nita Ambani**, has been **re-elected unanimously as the IOC from India** at the 142nd session. Nita is the founder of Reliance Foundation and won unanimously with 100 per cent of the vote. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** on July 25, appointed senior **IPS officer Hargobinder Singh Dhaliwal** as the new **Director General of Police of Andaman and Nicobar Islands**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Veteran filmmaker **Shekhar Kapur**, known for films such as "Mr India", "Bandit Queen" and "Elizabeth", has been appointed **festival director** for the International Film Festival of India (IFFI). ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Manoj Mittal** has taken charge as **Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** of **Small Industries Development Bank of India (Sidbi)**, following his appointment by the Government of India. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Venezuela's National Electoral Council (CNE)** announced on July 29, that **Nicolas Maduro** has won the presidential election once again and will govern the country from **2025 to 2031**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Rohan Bopanna**, one of India's most accomplished tennis players, has announced his retirement from representing India in international competitions following his exit from the **Paris 2024 Olympics**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Indian badminton veteran **Ashwini Ponnappa** bid an emotional farewell to her Olympic career on July 30, 2024, at the **Paris Games**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Former Union Health Secretary **Preeti Sudan** is set to assume the role of **Chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)** on August 1, 2024. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Former Union Minister **Santosh Kumar Gangwar** was on July 31 sworn in as the **12th Governor of Jharkhand**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Sports Current Affairs

- In a **historic** moment for Indian cricket, the national team lifted the **T20 World Cup** trophy, ending an 11-year wait for a global title. The **nail-biting final** against South Africa saw India emerge victorious by a narrow margin of seven runs. As the team celebrated their hard-fought win, fans were stunned by an unexpected announcement from their beloved captain, **Virat Kohli**. ([Click to read article](#))
- In the aftermath of India's **thrilling victory** over South Africa in the T20 World Cup final, **Rohit Sharma** confirmed that he had donned the blue jersey for the last time in T20 internationals. The announcement sent ripples through the cricketing world, marking the end of an era for Indian T20 cricket. ([Click to read article](#))
- Star India all-rounder **Ravindra Jadeja** has announced his decision to **retire from T20 internationals** following **India's T20 World Cup 2024 triumph**. Ravindra Jadeja has called it quits from **T20 internationals**, bowing out on a high with the **T20 World Cup 2024 trophy**. ([Click to read article](#))

- **Viswanathan Anand**, the former world chess champion from India, achieved a remarkable feat. He won the **Leon Masters chess championship** for the 10th time, defeating **Jaime Santos Latasa** of Spain in the final with a score of 3-1. This victory adds another jewel to Anand's crown of achievements in the world of chess. ([Click to read article](#))
- The **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** has announced a consolidated cash prize of **Rs. 125 crore** for the Indian **men's T20 World Cup-winning squad**. The amount is a little over three times than the combined figure that was distributed as bonus after the Men in Blue won the **2011 ODI World Cup**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **India's U23 wrestling team** excelled in **Amman, Jordan**, clinching a total of **19 medals across women's wrestling**, Greco-Roman, and freestyle categories. The women wrestlers led with three gold medals, showcasing dominance in their divisions. Meenakshi, Pushpa Yadav, and Priya Malik stood out with impressive performances, securing victories by various methods including **Victory by Superiority and Victory by Fall**. ([Click to read article](#))
- The **Austrian Grand Prix 2024** will be remembered as a day of unexpected twists and turns, culminating in a stunning victory for **George Russell of Mercedes**. This race, held at the iconic **Red Bull Ring** in Spielberg, Austria, showcased the unpredictable nature of Formula 1 racing and the skill of drivers who can capitalize on sudden opportunities. ([Click to read article](#))
- A 28-member **Indian athletics team**, led by men's javelin throw defending champion **Neeraj Chopra**, will compete at the **Paris 2024 Olympics**, the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) announced on June 04. Chopra made history three years ago by becoming the first Indian **track and field** athlete to win a medal at the Olympics, that too a **gold**. This time, the Indian javelin throw ace will have Olympic debutant Kishore Jena for company in his pet event. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Lewis Hamilton** has won the **British Grand Prix 2024**. He became the first F1 driver to win on any track nine times and also extended his F1 record to 104 wins. His last came at the Saudi Arabian GP in December 2021 — the year he lost the title to Red Bull driver Verstappen. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Dhruv Sitwala** claimed his **third Asian Billiards Title** by defeating **Pankaj Advani in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**. Organized by the ACBS, the championship featured various events including Men's Snooker Team, Men's Billiards, and Women's Asian Snooker. ([Click to read the article](#))
- Indian squash players secured two titles at the recently concluded **Asian Squash Doubles Championship 2024** held at the Arena Emas in **Johor, Malaysia**. The Indian team clinched victories in both the men's doubles and mixed doubles categories. ([Click to read the article](#))
- Sports brand **PUMA India** has announced a significant partnership with the **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)**, becoming the **Official Footwear Partner** for the Indian contingent at the **Paris Olympics 2024**. This collaboration marks a major step in supporting Indian athletes on the global stage and promoting sports excellence in the country. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **The Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** has announced that India will continue the tradition of having two flag bearers for the **Paris 2024 Olympics**, following the precedent set at Tokyo 2020. This decision aligns with the **International Olympic Committee's** push for gender equality in sports. **PV Sindhu**, the badminton ace, has been chosen as the female flag bearer for the Indian contingent. **Sharath Kamal**, the veteran table tennis player, will serve as the male flag bearer. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Jasprit Bumrah**, the hero of India's victorious **T20 World Cup** campaign, has added another accolade to his illustrious career. He was named the '**ICC Men's Player of the Month for June**', cementing his status as one of cricket's premier fast bowlers. **Smriti Mandhana**, the vice-captain of the Indian women's cricket team, secured her first **ICC Women's Player of the Month** award. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Four-time Olympian** and **2012 Olympic bronze medalist** Gagan Narang has been appointed as India's **Chef-De-Mission** for the **2024 Paris Olympics**. This decision comes after Mary Kom's resignation from the position due to health issues. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In a significant development for Indian sports, **Gautam Adani**, Chairman of the Adani Group, has declared that the conglomerate will be the principal sponsor of the Indian contingent at the upcoming **2024 Paris Olympics**. This announcement marks a pivotal moment in the preparation of Indian athletes for one of the world's most prestigious sporting events. ([Click to read the article](#))



- In a momentous occasion for cricket fans worldwide, **James Anderson**, the veteran English speedster, has officially announced his retirement from Test cricket. The 41-year-old bowler's illustrious career, spanning an impressive **21 years**, came to a close at the very ground where it all began – the iconic **Lord's Cricket Ground** in London. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In a thrilling finale to Euro 2024, **Spain** secured their **fourth European Championship** trophy with a nail-biting 2-1 victory over **England** at the **Olympiastadion** in Berlin. This win cements Spain's status as the most successful nation in the tournament's history and marks their third title in the last five editions. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- In a **riveting finale** of the World Championship of Legends 2024, **India Champions** clinched a memorable victory against their arch-rivals **Pakistan Champions** by five wickets. The match, held at **Edgbaston** on July 13, 2024, showcased the enduring spirit of cricket and the fierce competition between these two cricketing powerhouses. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- In a move that marks the conclusion of an illustrious international career, **Thomas Müller**, the German football icon, has announced his retirement from international football following the conclusion of **Euro 2024**. This decision brings to a close a chapter that has spanned over a decade, leaving an indelible mark on German and world football. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Cricketer Virat Kohli** has reclaimed the top spot to become **India's most valued celebrity**, boasting a brand value of **\$227.9 million in 2023**. However, this value still falls short of his peak brand value of **\$237.7 million in 2020**, as reported by Kroll's **Celebrity Brand Valuation Report 2023**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Chennai Super Kings (CSK)**, one of the most successful franchises in the **Indian Premier League (IPL)**, has announced a significant expansion of its global presence with the establishment of its third international **Super Kings Academy** in Sydney, Australia. This move not only enhances CSK's international profile but also reinforces the franchise's long-standing connection with Australian cricket. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Eurosport India** has announced the appointment of renowned Indian cricketer **Shikhar Dhawan** as the brand ambassador for **MotoGP™** in India. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Former Indian tennis stars **Leander Paes** and **Vijay Amritraj** have become the **first Asian men** to be inducted into the prestigious **International Tennis Hall of Fame**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Manolo Marquez** was appointed as the new head coach of the **Indian men's football team** by the **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** on **July 20**. **Marquez will take over as the full-time national team head coach after ISL 2024-25**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Board of Control for Cricket** in India Secretary Jay Shah on July 20 said that the **BCCI** will provide **Rs 8.5 crore** to the **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** as a support for the Indian contingent. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Harmanpreet Kaur** has now become the top run-scorer in women's T20I cricket for India, overtaking **Smriti Mandhana**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Indian hockey goalkeeper PR Sreejesh**, a pivotal figure in the sport, has announced that he will retire from international hockey following the **Paris Olympics 2024**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Australian Formula 1 (F1) racer **Oscar Piastri** secured his first-ever F1 title victory at the **Hungarian Grand Prix**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** on July 12, announced that it has partnered with the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of **Saudi Arabia** to host the inaugural **Olympic Esports Games 2025** in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Ajinkya Naik**, at 37 years old, has been elected as the youngest president in the history of the **Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA)**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Six-time Grand Slam winner and former **World No. 1** in women's doubles **Sania Mirza**, six-time World Champion and Olympic bronze medallist **MC Mary Kom** and actor **Rannvijay Singha** have joined 'Play Sports' as brand ambassadors. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Australian Formula 1 (F1) racer **Oscar Piastri** secured his first-ever F1 title victory at the **Hungarian Grand Prix**. The Australian rookie led a strong McLaren one-two finish alongside the British-Belgian racer **Lando Norris**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Kush Maini** achieved his **first-ever Formula 2 win** at the **Hungarian Grand Prix** after **Richard Verschoor**, the original sprint race winner, was disqualified due to a technical infringement. This victory marks **Maini's fifth podium of the season**, placing him eighth in the championship standings, just three points behind Dennis Hauger. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Lewis Hamilton** clinched victory at the 2024 Formula 1 Rolex **Belgian Grand Prix** under dramatic circumstances after his Mercedes team-mate George Russell, who initially crossed the finish line first, was disqualified due to a technical infringement. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- As the 2024 Paris Olympics kick off, India's athletes are ready to shine on the global stage with a strong ambition to win medals. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- As of July 28, 2024, the Olympic medal standings reflect an intense competition among nations. **Australia has taken an early lead, securing the top spot with three gold medals**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

- The **Asian Cricket Council (ACC)** has announced that **India** will host the next edition of the **Men's Asia Cup** cricket tournament in 2025. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- In a remarkable display of skill and precision, **Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh** has secured a bronze medal in the **10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event at the Paris Olympics**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- As the 2024 Paris Olympics kick off, India's athletes are ready to shine on the global stage with a strong ambition to win medals. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- As of July 28, 2024, the Olympic medal standings reflect an intense competition among nations. **Australia has taken an early lead, securing the top spot with three gold medals**. Following closely behind are the People's Republic of China and the United States of America. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Basketball Federation of India (BFI)** has set up the **National basketball academy** in collaboration with **Corvuss American Academy** in Mumbai. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- As of July 28, 2024, the Olympic medal standings reflect an intense competition among nations. **Australia has taken an early lead, securing the top spot with three gold medals**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Asian Cricket Council (ACC)** is poised for a significant leadership change as **Mohsin Naqvi**, the current chairman of the **Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)**, is expected to assume the role of ACC president later this year. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Summits And Conferences

- The **International Association of Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine (IASRM)** and the **Anti-Ageing Foundation (India)** hosted the **9th Annual World Congress – Longevity Revolution 2024 in New Delhi**. The event featured **advances in regenerative medicine, workshops**, keynotes from renowned scientists, and discussions on aging, aesthetics, and health. ([Click to read article](#))
- The **'Global IndiaAI Summit 2024'** commences today in **New Delhi**, hosted by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. This two-day event aims to position India as a global leader in AI innovation while promoting ethical and inclusive AI advancement. It will feature sessions on IndiaAI's strategic pillars, including compute capacity, datasets platform, innovation centers, and skills development. Sessions will explore topics like **'IndiaAI: Large Language Models'** and **'GPAI Convening on Global Health and AI'**. ([Click to read article](#))
- India chaired its first meeting as Chair of the **'Colombo Process'** at the Permanent Representative **Level Meeting in Geneva**, marking a significant moment in regional migration cooperation. The Colombo Process, comprising 12 Asian member states, focuses on enhancing governance and opportunities for overseas employment. Under India's leadership, priorities include financial sustainability, membership expansion, and collaboration with regional bodies like the Abu Dhabi Dialogue. ([Click to read article](#))
- Laos authorities have discussed preparations for the **57th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Foreign Ministers' Meeting** and related meetings, scheduled to take place in the **Laos capital Vientiane from July 21 to 27**. ([Click to read article](#))
- The **NATO summit**, hosted by **President Joe Biden in Washington, DC** from July 9 to 11, marks a pivotal moment for the alliance. It will include Sweden as a new member, highlighting NATO's expansion and unity amidst global challenges. Biden aims to strengthen support for Ukraine, with announcements expected to bolster military, political, and financial aid. The summit, commemorating **NATO's 75th anniversary**, underscores its role in Euro-Atlantic security and collective defense against evolving threats. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Om Birla, Speaker of the Lok Sabha**, will head a prominent Indian parliamentary delegation to the **10th BRICS Parliamentary Forum in St. Petersburg, Russia**. The forum aims to explore the role of parliaments in advancing global development and security through multilateral cooperation. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **India** will host the first **World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit** in November alongside the International Film Festival of India in **Goa**. I&B Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw promising to strengthen the ecosystem for the protection of intellectual property rights in the media and entertainment sector. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **IIT Delhi and Prasar Bharati** will host the **two-day Robot Competition 'DD-Robocon' India 2024** from July 13, at **Thyagaraj Stadium in Delhi**. The event will host more than **750 students** from over 45 colleges, institutions, and universities in the country. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** is set to make history as it holds its **Annual Conference** in Sri Lanka from July 19th to 22nd, 2024. This marks the **first time** the prestigious event will be hosted in the **Asian region**, highlighting the growing importance of Asian cricket on the global stage. ([Click to read the complete article](#))

- The **All-India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) in New Delhi** successfully concluded its **Second National Seminar SAUSHRUTAM Shalya Sangoshti** on July 15, 2024, celebrating Sushruta Jayanti. The three-day event, beginning on July 13, honored Sushruta, the father of surgery, with a series of live surgical demonstrations and expert discussions. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- India is hosting the **UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting for the first time**, alongside the **2024 World Heritage Young Professionals Forum in New Delhi**. From July 14 to 23, young professionals from around the world will gather to enhance their skills in heritage preservation and sustainable development. The forum, organized by the **Ministry of Culture and the Archaeological Survey of India**, focuses on integrating global heritage concepts with local Indian heritage management. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **India** is set to host the second Asia Pacific ministerial conference on **civil aviation on September 11 and 12**, with representatives from **around 40 countries**, including **China and Pakistan**. The Asia Pacific region is a significant contributor to global air traffic, and India the world's fastest-growing aviation market. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI)**, under the **Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC)**, hosted **SYNCHN 2024 on July 14th, 2024**. This event aimed to strengthen academia-industry collaborations in the NCR Biotech Cluster, focusing on advancing biomanufacturing and bio-innovation. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- A milestone event in space exploration, the **45th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR)** commenced in **Busan, South Korea**. Hosted for the first time by South Korea, the conference gathered 3,000 scientists and industry leaders from 60 nations. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The Indian team, which participated at the **35th International Biology Olympiad (IBO) 2024** achieved remarkable success, with one student winning a **GOLD medal** and three students securing **SILVER medals**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **46th session of the World Heritage Committee at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi**, emphasizing India's commitment to global heritage preservation. **PM Modi announced a \$1 million contribution to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre for heritage conservation**, particularly in the Global South. He highlighted India's efforts in conserving heritage sites in countries like Cambodia, Vietnam, and Myanmar. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired the 9th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog on July 28. The Meeting was held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Foreign ministers from **Australia, India, Japan** and the **United States** said on July 29, they were seriously concerned about intimidating and dangerous manoeuvres in the **South China Sea** and pledged to bolster maritime security in the region. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- The **Fauna of India Checklist Portal** is the first comprehensive document on the faunal species reported from India. **India** has become the **first country** in the world to prepare a checklist of its entire **fauna**, covering **104,561 species**. The '**Fauna of India Checklist Portal**' was launched on the occasion of the 109th Foundation Day of the **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) in Kolkata** on Sunday by **Union environment minister Bhupender Yadav**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **India ranks fifth in Generative AI (GenAI)** innovations, trailing behind China, the US, Republic of Korea, and Japan. Despite India's position, the country has shown the highest annual growth rate in GenAI patent publications, with significant potential for economic impact. ([Click to read the article](#))
- India's population is projected to peak at **1.7 billion in the early 2060s** before declining by **12%**, as predicted by the **United Nations' World Population Prospects 2024** report. Despite the decline, India will remain the world's most populous country throughout the 21st century. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- A recent study by Kantar reveals that **Google, Tata Motors, Amazon, Jio, and Apple** are ranked as the '**most inclusive' brands in India**. The Kantar Brand Inclusion Index 2024 highlights significant issues of discrimination and the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) for Indian consumers. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- India should set an ambitious target of achieving **\$500 billion in electronics manufacturing by 2030**, as stated in a recent **NITI Aayog report**. This goal includes \$350 billion from finished goods manufacturing and \$150 billion from component manufacturing. Currently, India's electronics production totals \$101 billion, with \$86 billion from finished goods and \$15 billion from components. The report, titled "**Electronics: Powering India's Participation in Global Value Chains**," also forecasts that India's electronics exports could reach \$240 billion, with domestic value addition expected to surpass 35%. ([Click to read the complete article](#))

- India has **maintained its 124th position** in the latest FIFA men’s rankings released. This comes as a small relief for the success-starved nation, which has been experiencing a downward trend in recent months. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- In a recent report by the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**, India has made significant strides in increasing its **forest area, gaining 266,000 hectares** annually from **2010 to 2020**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **data on Employment and Unemployment** is collected through **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)** which is conducted by the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** since 2017-18. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Parle**, the biscuit brand owned by Parle Products, continues to be India's top FMCG brand. According to the latest edition of Brand Footprint, Kantar **World panel’s annual ranking** of the **most chosen consumer brands in India**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Important Days

Date	Important Days
July 1, 2024	National Doctor’s Day
July 01, 2024	National Chartered Accountants Day
July 01, 2024	GST Day
July 02, 2024	World Sports Journalists Day
July 02, 2024	World UFO Day
July 03, 2024	International Plastic Bag Free Day
July 06, 2024	World Zoonoses Day
July 06, 2024	International Day of Cooperatives
July 07, 2024	World Kiswahili Language Day
July 11, 2024	World Population Day
July 11, 2024	International Day of Reflection and Commemoration of the 1995 Genocide in Srebrenica
July 12, 2024	Malala Day
July 12, 2024	International Day of Combating Sand and Dust Storms
July 15, 2024	World Youth Skills Day
Jul 17, 2024	World Day for International Justice
July 18, 2024	International Nelson Mandela Day
July 20, 2024	World Chess Day
July 20, 2024	International Moon Day
July 22, 2024	National Mango Day
July 22, 2024	World Brain Day
July 23, 2024	National Broadcasting Day
July 24, 2024	National Income Tax Day
July 25, 2024	World Drowning Prevention Day
July 26, 2024	Kargil Vijay Diwas
July 28, 2024	World Hepatitis Day
July 29, 2024	International Tiger Day
July 30, 2024	International Day of Friendship
July 30, 2024	World Day against Trafficking in Persons
July 31, 2024	World Ranger Day

Defence Current Affairs

- India has taken a significant leap in military technology with the development of **SEBEX 2**, a powerful new explosive. Certified by the Indian Navy, SEBEX 2 is reported to be twice as lethal as the standard Trinitrotoluene (TNT), marking it as one of the most powerful non-nuclear explosives globally. This breakthrough is set to revolutionize artillery shells and warheads, enhancing their destructive capabilities without increasing their weight. ([Click to read article](#))
- July 1, 2024, marks the beginning of an important event in India-Thailand relations. The **Maitree Exercise**, a joint military exercise between the **Indian Army** and the **Royal Thai Army**, kicks off at Fort Vachiraprakan in Tak Province, Thailand. This two-week exercise, running until July 15, 2024, is a significant step in strengthening military ties between the two nations. ([Click to read article](#))
- The Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief, **Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari**, inaugurated the **Weapon Systems School (WSS) in Hyderabad**, marking a significant advancement for the IAF. Established to recalibrate and transform the IAF into a future-oriented force, the WSS aims to provide contemporary, effect-based training to officers of the newly formed Weapon Systems (WS) branch. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Indian army** has inducted the first-ever indigenous **chip-based 4G mobile** base station, which it procured from **Bangalore-based firm Signaltron** through the government e-marketplace portal. **Signaltron** founder **Himamshu Khasnis** told PTI that the chip used in the **Sahyadri LTE base stations** has been developed by **Signalchip**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **India's defence sector** has achieved a remarkable milestone in the fiscal year 2023-24, with total annual defence production reaching an all-time high of **Rs 1,26,887 crore**. This unprecedented achievement, announced by the **Union Ministry of Defence on July 5, 2024**, marks a significant leap in India's journey towards self-reliance in defence manufacturing. ([Click to read article](#))
- India has unveiled the '**Zorawar**' **light tank**, developed jointly by **DRDO and Larsen & Toubro**, aimed at bolstering military capabilities in high-altitude environments. Designed within a record two-year timeframe, the tank features advanced weaponry and protection systems, including a 105mm rifled cannon and composite modular armor. **Named after General Zorawar Singh**, the tank is slated for extensive trials before potential deployment in Ladakh, Sikkim, or Kashmir. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Border Security Force (BSF), in collaboration with the State Bank of India (SBI), organized the "**Grow with the Trees**" plantation drive at the **BSF Headquarters in Srinagar**. The initiative aimed to create a greener environment and promote the importance of tree plantation, involving BSF officials, jawans, SBI officials, and school children. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Azerbaijan Army** servicemen have arrived in **Kazakhstan to take part in the "Birlestik-2024"** operational-tactical command-staff exercise. This joint military drill, scheduled from July 11 to July 17, will be conducted at the Oymasha training ground and Cape Tokmak in the Caspian Sea. The exercise is part of a collaborative effort between the Defense Ministries of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Armed Forces Medical Services witnessed a significant change in leadership as **Lt Gen Shankar Narayan, NM, VSM**, assumed the role of Commandant at the **Army Hospital (Research & Referral)**, widely recognized as the apex hospital of the Indian Armed Forces. This appointment marks a new chapter in the hospital's illustrious history and promises to bring fresh perspectives to military healthcare. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has expanded the scope of remittances to **International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs)** under the **Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)**. This allows resident Indians to open fixed deposits in dollars at GIFT IFSC, facilitating various financial services and products as per the **International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019**. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has embarked on a significant international engagement by participating in **Exercise Pitch Black 2024**, hosted by the **Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF)** at their Base Darwin, Australia. This biennial, multi-national exercise, scheduled from July 12 to August 2, 2024, represents a crucial platform for enhancing international military cooperation and showcasing air combat capabilities. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) has taken a significant step towards promoting self-reliance in the defense sector by awarding seven new projects to industries under the **Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme**. These projects aim to address various requirements of the Armed Forces and the aerospace & defense sectors, while simultaneously nurturing the growth of industries, particularly **MSMEs and start-ups**, in these domains. ([Click to read the article](#))
- On July 14, 2024, **Visakhapatnam** hosted the prestigious **Fleet Awards Function** to honor the **Eastern Fleet's exceptional operational achievements** over the past year. **INS Delhi** was recognized as the Best Ship of the Eastern Fleet for its outstanding performance and operational prowess. ([Click to read the complete article](#))

- Indian Navy's frontline frigate, **INS Tabar** arrived at Hamburg, Germany on **17 July 24** for a three day visit. It will participate in an exercise. During the visit, activities will include **professional exchanges** between the Indian and German Navies, tours of the German Naval Academy, and public visits to the ship. The crew of **INS Tabar** will also engage in community service. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Captain Supreetha C.T.** has etched her name in history by becoming the **first woman officer from the Corps of Army Air Defence** to be operationally deployed at the **Siachen Glacier**. ([Click here to read complete article](#)).
- On July 23, 2024, India's naval prowess took a significant leap forward with the launch of the first of two Advanced Frigates at **Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- On July 24, 2024, the **Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO)** of India achieved a significant milestone in its ongoing efforts to enhance national security. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Indian Army contingent has embarked on its journey to participate in the multinational military exercise **KHAAN QUEST 2024**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **INS Tabar**, a frontline frigate of the **Indian Navy**, arrived in **Saint Petersburg** to participate in the **328th Russian Navy Day celebrations**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** unveiled its new '**Suvidha Software Version 1.0**' during the inaugural '**Annual Operational Sea Training Conference**' held in **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**, on July 30, 2024. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- In a significant recognition of feminist literature and studies, writer, critic, and feminist activist **P. Geetha** has been awarded the first **K. Saraswathi Amma Award**. This prestigious accolade, instituted by **WINGS (Women's Integration and Growth Through Sports) Kerala**, marks a pivotal moment in the acknowledgment of feminist contributions to literature and social discourse. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Sopna Kallingal of Kallingal Plantation**, Thrissur, received **Spice Award 2024**, instituted by **ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research**. The award has been given to her for her initiatives in enterprise diversification and integrated crop management strategies, promoting a sustainable spice-based cropping system. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Roshni Nadar Malhotra**, Chairperson of IT services firm **HCLTech**, has been conferred with the "**Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur**" (Knight of the Legion of Honour), the highest civilian award of France. ([Click to read the article](#))
- Tamil literature, renowned author **Sivashankari** has been selected as the recipient of the highly esteemed **Dr. C. Narayana Reddy National Literary Award**. This prestigious accolade celebrates her immense contributions to the rich tapestry of Tamil literary culture and her role in shaping contemporary Indian literature. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In a significant recognition of his contributions to alternative medicine, **Dr. Arpit Chopra**, a distinguished homoeopathic practitioner, was bestowed with the **Excellence Award at the NDTV MSMES (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) Summit held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**. The award ceremony, which took place at the Marriott Hotel, saw the presence of several high-ranking state officials and industry leaders. ([Click to read the article](#))
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** ceremoniously presented with the **Order of St Andrew the Apostle the First-Called**, which was bestowed on him in the year 2019 at St Catherine's Hall of the Moscow Kremlin. The order was presented to the Prime Minister of India for his distinguished contribution to the development of a privileged strategic partnership between Russia and India and friendly ties between the two countries. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In a significant recognition of his contributions to the field of **victimology**, retired professor **K. Chockalingam** from Tamil Nadu, India, has been selected for the esteemed **Hans von Hentig award**. This honour highlights the global impact of Indian scholarship in the study of crime victims and their experiences within the criminal justice system. ([Click to read the article](#))



- Renowned sand artist **Sudarsan Pattnaik** on July 12, won the **Golden Sand Master award** at an international championship in **Russia**. The event, International Sand Sculpture Championship was **organised from July 4-12 in St Petersburg** at the **iconic Peter and Paul Fortress**. The **world's 21 master sculptors** participated in the event. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF)** initiative has been awarded the prestigious **2024 Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity**. This accolade not only highlights India's progress in sustainable farming but also places Andhra Pradesh on the global map for its pioneering efforts in eco-friendly agriculture. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Sobha Group's CSR wing, Sri Kurumba Educational and Charitable Trust**, has been honoured with the **"Best Child and Women Development Initiatives of the Year 2024."** This esteemed accolade was presented at the Global CSR, Sustainability, and ESG Awards 2024, at the **Hyatt Regency, Gurgaon**. The event was organised by Marketing and Brand Honchos and brought together industry leaders and champions of social responsibility. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Committee on Space Research (COSPAR)**, the world's first scientific body dedicated to space science research, has recognized the outstanding contributions of two Indian space scientists at its 45th scientific assembly in Busan, South Korea. **Prahlad Chandra Agrawal**, one of India's most senior space scientists, received the esteemed **Harrie Massey Award**. **Anil Bhardwaj**, the director of the Ahmedabad-based **Physical Research Laboratory (PRL)**, was awarded the **Vikram Sarabhai Medal**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Rigoberta Menchú Tum**, the renowned **Nobel Peace Prize** laureate and Guatemalan human rights activist, has been honored with the **Gandhi Mandela Award 2020**. This prestigious accolade recognizes her lifelong commitment to advocating for **Indigenous rights** and promoting peace and social justice. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Ram Charan**, the superstar known for his stellar performance in the global blockbuster "RRR", is set to be the guest of honor at the prestigious **Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM) 2024**. This recognition comes as a testament to his significant contributions to Indian cinema and his rising international profile. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR)** has received the best technology award for its pioneering work in the field of horticultural sciences. Union Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** presented the award during the **96th Foundation Day celebrations** of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in New Delhi. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Curator and author Rahaab Allana** has been awarded the insignia of **Officier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres** by the **French government**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has **honored Abhinav Bindra**, India's **first individual Olympic gold medallist**, with the prestigious Olympic Order. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Bollywood superstar **Shah Rukh Khan** has been honoured with customised **gold coins by the Grevin Museum in Paris**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, announced the winners of the **10th National Community Radio Awards** and inaugurated the country's **500th Community Radio Station**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Town Official Language Implementation Committee (TOLIC) honored **Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)** in Visakhapatnam with the **'Rajbhasha Gaurav Samman'** for the year 2023-24. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- In a ceremony to mark the **International Meet** of leading medical celebrities, professionals and Medicos from all over the country and abroad, **Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh** was conferred the prestigious **"Lifetime Achievement Award"**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The Central Water Commission (CWC) has been honored with the **GEEF Global WaterTech Award** in the category **'Water Department of the Year'** at the **Global Water Tech Summit - 2024**, held by the Global Energy and Environment Foundation (GEEF) in New Delhi. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Indian students have secured **two gold and three silver medals** at the **54th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) 2024** held between **July 21 and July 29 in Isfahan, Iran**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- The year 2024 marks a significant milestone in the field of Indian epigraphy as **V. Vedachalam**, a renowned Tamil epigrapher and historian, receives the prestigious **V Venkayya Epigraphy Award**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Science and Technology

- **Space Exploration and Research Agency (SERA) and Blue Origin** have designated India as a partner nation in their **human spaceflight initiative**, inviting Indian citizens to participate in a historic opportunity. The program offers six seats aboard Blue Origin's New Shepard rocket, taking participants on an 11-minute journey beyond the Kármán line, the boundary of space. ([Click to read article](#))
- A **Google employee** recently created the **"world's first AI dress"** and it has astonished many on the internet. **Christina Ernst**, a **software engineer** at the tech giant and the **Founder of SheBuildsRobots.org**, a platform which aims to educate girls on building robots, shared a clip of her creation which has robotic snakes attached to it to detect faces. ([Click to read article](#))
- **The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** on June 2, announced that India's inaugural solar mission has completed its **halo orbit around the Sun-Earth L1 point** on July 2. This significant breakthrough was achieved after a station keeper manoeuvre made its transition into the **second halo orbit**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Europe's new Ariane 6 rocket** successfully blasted off for the **first time**, restoring the continent's independent access to space after a series of setbacks. Initially delayed for an hour by a small problem, the rocket lifted off from Kourou, French Guiana, releasing satellites into orbit. This launch marked a significant milestone for European space efforts, which had suffered from delays and loss of independent launch capabilities. ([Click to read the article](#))
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched **MeDevIS (Medical Devices Information System)**, an online platform designed to be the first global open access clearing house for information on medical devices. It aims to support governments, regulators, and users in making informed decisions about the selection, procurement, and use of medical devices for diagnostics, testing, and treatment of various health conditions. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Sanjay Seth** inaugurated the GRSE Accelerated Innovation Nurturing Scheme (GAINS 2024) at **Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE) in Kolkata** on July 10, 2024. This initiative aims to foster technological solutions for shipyard challenges and promote innovation through Indian start-ups. ([Click to read the article](#))
- In a groundbreaking achievement, NASA has transmitted Missy Elliott's 1997 hit song **"The Rain (Supa Dupa Fly)" to Venus**, marking the first time a hip-hop song has been beamed into deep space. The transmission was made possible through **NASA's Deep Space Network (DSN)**, from their **Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California**. Traveling at the speed of light, the song covered the vast distance of 158 million miles to Venus, taking approximately 14 minutes to reach its destination. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Elon Musk** said on July 16, said that he would move the **headquarters of two of his businesses**, the social media platform X and the **rocket manufacturer SpaceX**, to Texas, escalating an increasingly contentious **fight with California**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- NASA has achieved a significant milestone with the discovery of **six new exoplanets**: HD 36384 b, TOI-198 b, TOI-2095 b, TOI-2095 c, TOI-4860 b, and MWC 758 c. This brings the total number of confirmed exoplanets outside our solar system to 5,502, marking a remarkable advancement in our understanding of the universe and the potential for extraterrestrial life. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- In a bold move that could reshape the landscape of internet search, **OpenAI**, the company behind the revolutionary ChatGPT, has announced the development of an **AI-powered search engine** called **SearchGPT**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **SpaceX and NASA** said on July 26, they plan to launch the **space agency's Crew-9 mission** to the International Space Station (ISS) no earlier than Aug. 18. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Books & Authors

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** released **three books** on the life and journey of former Vice President of India M Venkaiah Naidu via video conferencing on June 30. **"Venkaiah Naidu: Life in Service"**, **"Celebrating Bharat: The Mission and Message of Shri M Venkaiah Naidu** as 13th Vice-President of India" and **"Mahaneta: Life and Journey of Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu"**. ([Click to read article](#))
- In the world of **celebrity biographies**, a new addition stands out for its raw honesty and inspiring narrative. **"Manoj Bajpayee: The Definitive Biography"** by journalist **Piyush Pandey** offers readers an intimate look into the life of one of India's most respected actors. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Tim Walker**, an award-winning designer-turned-author, has recently published a historical fiction novel titled **"The Prisoner of Bhopal."** This book, aimed at young readers, commemorates the 40th anniversary of one of India's most devastating industrial disasters – the **Bhopal gas tragedy**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))

- In a significant event that bridges the worlds of politics and literature, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** recently met with renowned author and development activist **Dr. R Balasubramaniam**. The occasion was marked by a special gesture from the Prime Minister, who signed a copy of Dr. Balasubramaniam's latest work, "**Power Within: The Leadership Legacy of Narendra Modi**." ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh was recently presented with a significant book titled "**Power Within: The Leadership Legacy of Narendra Modi**", authored by Dr. R Balasubramaniam. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Interwoven with engaging real-life stories and interesting anecdotes that went into the making of India's popular brands such as Tata Tea, Tata Motors, Titan and Tanishq. This unique account brings alive the vision of Jamsetji Tata and what we can learn from it. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Sudipta Sengupta**, a name that resonates with groundbreaking achievements in geology and mountaineering, is the subject of a new book titled "**Breaking Rocks and Barriers**." ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has announced the launch of a new **MA programme in Bhagavad Gita Studies** for the academic session **2024-2025**. The course will begin in July 2024 and will be offered through **open and distance learning (ODL)**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari** launched **Bajaj Auto's new bike, Freedom, the world's first CNG motorcycle**. He praised it as "**eco-friendly**" and "**sustainable**," highlighting the significant issues of air, sound, and water pollution, and the high cost of fossil fuel imports in India. ([Click to read article](#))
- The ambitious project to build the "**world's largest Ramayan temple**" has entered its second phase of construction in **East Champaran district** of Bihar. The **Viraat Ramayan Mandir**, as it is known, promises to be a monumental structure that will surpass the size of the recently constructed Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, drawing inspiration from various architectural marvels across Asia. ([Click to read the article](#))
- International mountaineer **Nitish Singh** left for **Mount Kinabalu**, the highest peak in Malaysia, when the rain subsided. He conquered it at 5:30 am on July 9 and hoisted the **tricolor** there. International mountaineer Nitish Singh, a resident of Gorakhpur, UP, has created a new record by hoisting the tricolor on **Kinabalu**, the highest peak of **Malaysia**. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Manvi Madhu Kashyap** and two other transgender individuals have made history by becoming the **first transwoman sub-inspectors in Bihar Police**. Despite facing rejection and discrimination from coaching centers, Kashyap persevered and cleared the Bihar Police Subordinate Selection Commission (BPSSC) exams. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA)** has launched the trial operation of the **world's first electric abra manufactured using 3D printing technology**, in collaboration with the private sector. The abra, which can carry 20 passengers, was designed, and built to retain the traditional abra identity. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated **India's longest and largest urban tunnel** project, the **Thane Borivali Twin Tunnel**, developed by the **Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA)**. This Rs. 16,600 crore project will reduce travel time between Thane and Borivali from over an hour to just 12 minutes, cutting the travel distance by 12 km. This initiative is part of broader infrastructure projects worth **Rs. 29,000 crore** aimed at enhancing connectivity in Mumbai. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Ratings agency ICRA** has upgraded the rating of **Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ)** to **AAA/Stable** from **AA+/Stable**. The company's long-term fund based/non-fund based facilities, non-convertible debentures (NCDs) and commercial papers have been upgraded to **AAA/Stable**. APSEZ announced the development after market hours and the Adani Ports shares on July 18 ended at Rs 1,491.95 on the NSE, down by **Rs 7.10 or 0.47%**. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Dr Neeraj Mittal**, Secretary (Telecom) has inaugurated a **centre of excellence** on "**Classical and Quantum Communications for 6G**" at **IITM Research Park, Chennai**. This is a **sub-centre of Telecom Centres of Excellence (TCoE)-India** and it will spearhead the development and deployment of 6G technology, promising unprecedented speeds, ultra-low latency, and enhanced connectivity. **Shri Sanjeev Kumar Bidwai**, Sp DGT, **Tamil Nadu** was among those present at the occasion. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The **Ahom dynasty's Moidams in Assam** have been officially inscribed on the **UNESCO World Heritage List** as **India's 43rd entry**. Announced on July 26, 2024, during the **46th session** of the World Heritage Committee in New Delhi, this makes the Moidams the first cultural property from Northeast India to receive this honor. The nomination was submitted on July 4, 2024, and underscores the global recognition of Assam's unique cultural heritage. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Obituaries Current Affairs

- Former India midfielder **Bhupinder Singh Rawat**, who played in the **1969 Merdeka Cup in Malaysia** died after a brief illness, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) stated. A speedy winger of the 1960s and 1970s, Rawat played for India in the 1969 Merdeka tournament in Malaysia. Domestically, he played for **Delhi Garrison, Gorkha Brigade** and **Mafatlal**. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Robert Towne**, the acclaimed screenwriter whose work shaped the landscape of American cinema in the 1970s and beyond, passed away on Monday, December 4, 2023, at his home in Los Angeles. He was 89 years old. ([Click to read article](#))
- Veteran actor **Smriti Biswas** died on July 3 at the age of **100**. The actor, best known for her work in **Bengali, Hindi, and Marathi films**, breathed her last at her house in **Nashik** due to age-related illness. Social media too is flooded with condolence posts for **Smriti Biswas** with many sharing pictures of the actor from her various films. ([Click to read article](#))
- **Jon Landau**, the Oscar-winning producer known for his collaborations with director James Cameron on blockbuster films like Titanic and the Avatar series, has died at the age of 63. ([Click to read the article](#))
- **Aparna Vastarey**, a cherished **Kannada actress** and the familiar voice behind Namma Metro's announcements, has **passed away at the age of 57**. She succumbed to lung cancer on July 11, with her husband breaking the news to her fans via social media. He disclosed that Aparna was in the advanced **fourth stage of cancer** at the time of her death. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- The stationery industry in India lost a pioneer with the passing of **Subhash Dandekar**, the founder of the iconic brand **Camlin**. At the age of 86, Dandekar left behind a legacy that transformed the landscape of stationery and art supplies in the country. His vision and leadership not only built a household name but also contributed significantly to India's industrial and social development. ([Click to read the complete article](#))
- **Kamala Pujari**, the renowned **Padma Shri** awardee and pioneering organic farmer, **passed away at the age of 74 due to kidney-related ailments**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- On July 23, 2024, the world of economics lost a brilliant mind and compassionate soul. **C.T. Kurien**, a distinguished economist and former professor of Madras Christian College, passed away at the age of 93 due to age-related ailments. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Vasai-based **Catholic priest Father Francis D'Britto**, writer and environmentalist, who translated the Bible into Marathi, passed away on July 25, 2024, after prolonged illness. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- **Hamzah Haz**, the **vice-president of Indonesia from 2001 to 2004**, has died. He was aged 84. Hamzah, who served under President Megawati Soekarnoputri. ([Click here to read complete article](#))
- Hamas's political chief **Ismail Haniyeh** has been **assassinated in Iran's capital, Tehran**. ([Click here to read complete article](#))

Static Current Affairs

- Capital of Japan: Tokyo
- Japan Prime minister: Fumio Kishida
- Japan Currency: Japanese yen (¥)
- National Medical Commission Formation: 25 September 2020;
- National Medical Commission Headquarters: New Delhi, India;
- National Medical Commission Head: Dr. BN Gangadhar.
- NITI Aayog Chairperson: Narendra Modi;
- Vice Chairman of Niti Aayog of India: Suman Bery;
- NITI Aayog Founded: 1 January 2015.
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) Established: May 19, 1894
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) Headquarters: New Delhi, India
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) Founder: Lala Lajpat Rai
- 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 Mishr
- National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Founded: 5 March 2007;
- National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Headquarters: New Delhi, India;
- National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Chairman: Priyank Kanoongo.
- FATF Founded: July 1989;
- FATF Headquarters: Paris, France.
- Maharashtra Governor: Ramesh Bais
- Maharashtra Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde
- Indian Olympic Association President: P. T. Usha;
- Indian Olympic Association Founded: 1927;
- Indian Olympic Association Headquarters: New Delhi, India.
- International Court of Justice Established: 26 June 1945;
- Judge Nawaf Salam (Lebanon) as President and Judge Julia Sebutinde (Uganda) as Vice-President of International Court of Justice.
- International Court of Justice Headquarters: The Hague (Netherlands)
- Taiwan Capital: Taipei
- Taiwan Currency: New Taiwan Dollar (TWD)
- Taiwan Government: Unitary semi-presidential republic
- Taiwan President: William Lai Ching-te
- Taiwan Language: Mandarin Chinese (official), Taiwanese Hokkien, Hakka
- Puma Founder: Rudolf Dassler;
- Puma Owners: Artemis S.A, Kering;
- Puma Headquarters: Herzogenaurach, Germany;
- Puma Parent organization: Artemis S.A;
- Puma Founded: 1948, Herzogenaurach, Germany.
- Chief of the Air Staff of India: Vivek Ram Chaudhari;
- Indian Air Force Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Indian Air Force Founded: 8 October 1932, India.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation Chairman: Samir V Kamat;
- DRDO was formed in 1958.
- WHO Establishment: Founded on April 7, 1948.
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- WHO Parent Organization: United Nations (UN).
- Ireland Capital: Dublin
- Ireland Currency: Euro (EUR)
- Pakistan Capital: Islamabad
- Pakistan President: Asif Ali Zardari
- Chief minister of Jharkhand: Hemant Soren
- Governor of Jharkhand: C. P. Radhakrishnan
- Capital of Jharkhand: Ranchi
- Jharkhand was founded: 15 November 2000
- Jharkhand (before was): Part of Bihar
- Jharkhand's Bird: Koel
- NABARD Established: 1982.
- NABARD Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.
- Chairman of NABARD: Shaji K V
- State Bird: Flame-throated bulbul
- Capital of Tripura: Agartala
- Tripura Governor: Indra Sena Reddy Nallu
- Tripura CM: Dr. Manik Saha
- Tripura as union territory: 1 November 1956
- State Bird: Green imperial pigeon
- Headquarters of World Bank: Washington, D.C., United States
- World Bank was founded: July 1944, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States
- CFO of World Bank: Anshula Kant
- President of World Bank: Ajay Banga
- Founders of World Bank: John Maynard Keynes, Harry Dexter White
- Headquarters of the ICAR: New Delhi;
- ICAR Established: 16 July 1929;
- ICAR Director: Himanshu Pathak.
- UGC Founded: November 1956;
- UGC Headquarters: New Delhi;
- UGC Chairman: Prof. Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar.
- Rwanda Capital: Kigali
- Rwanda Currency: Rwandan franc
- Rwanda President : Paul Kagame
- Mauritius Capital: Port Louis;



- Mauritius Currency: Mauritian Rupee;
- Mauritius Prime Minister: Pravind Kumar Jugnauth.
- Committee on Space Research Location: Paris, France;
- Committee on Space Research President: Pascale Ehrenfreund;
- Committee on Space Research Established: 1958.
- International Chess Federation President: Arkady Dvorkovich;
- International Chess Federation Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland;
- International Chess Federation Founded: 20 July 1924, Paris, France.
- United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs Headquarters: Vienna, Austria;
- United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs Founded: 13 December 1958;
- United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs Head: Director; Aarti Holla-Maini.
- UNESCO DG: Audrey Azoulay;
- UNESCO Founded: 16 November 1945;
- UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France.
- International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach
- International Olympic Committee (IOC) Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- International Olympic Committee (IOC) Established: June 23, 1894
- Indian Olympic Association President: P. T. Usha
- Indian Olympic Association Founded: 1927
- Indian Olympic Association Founders: Harry Buck, Arthur Noehren
- Food and Agriculture Organization President: Qu Dongyu
- Food and Agriculture Organization Headquarters: Rome, Italy
- Food and Agriculture Organization Founded: 16 October 1945, Québec City, Canada
- Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) Chairman & Managing Director: Brajesh Kumar Upadhyay;
- Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) Headquarters: Goa;
- Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) Founded: 1957.
- CRPF Founded: 27 July 1939;
- CRPF Headquarters: New Delhi;
- CRPF Director General: Anish Dayal Singh.

List of Fathers of Agricultural Revolutions in India

Name of the Revolution	Field of the Revolution	Father of the Revolution	Period of the Revolution
Green Revolution in India	Agriculture	M.S. Swaminathan	1966 – 1967
White Revolution or Operation Flood in India	Milk/ Dairy products	Dr Varghese Kurien	1970 – 1996
Blue Revolution in India	Fish and Aqua	Dr Arun Krishnan, and Dr Harilal Chaudhari	1973-2002
Golden Revolution in India	Fruits, Honey, Horticulture	Nirpakh Tutaj	1991- 2003
Silver Revolution in India	Eggs	Indira Gandhi	2000's
Yellow Revolution in India	Oil Seeds	Sam Pitroda	1986 – 1990
Pink Revolution in India	Pharmaceuticals, Prawns, Onion	Durgesh Patel	1970's
Brown Revolution in India	Leather, Coco	Hiralal Chaudri	-
Red Revolution in India	Meat, Tomato	Vishal Tewari	1980's
Golden Fibre Revolution in India	Jute	-	1990's
Evergreen Revolution in India	Overall Production of Agriculture.	M.S. Swaminathan	2017 – 2022
Black Revolution in India	Petroleum	-	-
Silver Fiber Revolution in India	Cotton	-	2000's
Round Revolution in India	Potato	-	1965- 2005
Protein Revolution in India	Agriculture (Higher Production)	-	2014 – 2020
Grey Revolution in India	Fertilizers	-	The 1960s-1970s