

MAY 2024

THE HINDU REVIEW

- **Monthly** capsule
- **Current Affairs**
(हिन्दी)

Economy | Appointment | Awards | Ranking
Government Scheme | Summit | Partnership | GDP
Banking & Financial | Defence | Sports |
Book and Author | Science and technology

Lok Sabha
Elections
2024

VOTE

India



Website : ambitiousbaba.com

The Hindu Review (May 2024)

Index

No. of Chapter	Topic Name
Chapter 1	Appointment (National, International)
Chapter 2	Awards (National, International)
Chapter 3	Government Scheme/ campaign
Chapter 4	Summit/ Conference
Chapter 5	Partnership/ Agreement
Chapter 6	Ranking Index
Chapter 7	Mergers and Acquisitions
Chapter 8	Loan
Chapter 9	App/Website/Portal
Chapter 10	Important MoU
Chapter 11	GDP Forecasting
Chapter 12	Current Affairs (National) In Short
Chapter 13	Current Affairs (International)
Chapter 14	Banking & Financial
Chapter 15	Committee
Chapter 16	Defence News
Chapter 17	Sports News
Chapter 18	Book and Author
Chapter 19	Important Day
Chapter 20	Science & Technology
Chapter 21	Obituary

Chapter 1: Appointment (National, International)

(National)

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Person</u>
Assumed command of the Indian Navy as the 26th Chief of the Naval Staff	Dinesh Tripathi (Updated 1 May)
IndiGo has named as a chief of transformation	Isidro Pablo Porqueras Orea (Updated 1 May)
Appointed as president of the Indian Vaccine Manufacturers Association (IVMA) About Indian Vaccine Manufacturers Association (IVMA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IVMA is a non-governmental apex body, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization. IVMA was established in 2010 by 4 founding members from the private sector. 	Krishna M Ella (Updated 1 May)
Appointed as MD & CEO of Jio Financial Services	Hitesh Sethia (Updated 2 May)
Appointed as Director of the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)	Pratima Singh (IRS) (Updated 2 May)
Assumed the charge of Director General of Akashvani News About All India Radio <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All India Radio (AIR) aka Akashvani, is an Indian state-owned public radio broadcaster founded by the Government of India, owned by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and one of Prasar Bharati's two divisions. It was established in 1936. 	Maushumi Chakravarty (Updated 3 May)

<p>Appointed as Secretary of National Jute Board</p>	<p>Shashi Bhushan Singh (Updated 3 May)</p>
<p>Reappointed as Chairman of HDFC Bank</p> <p>About HDFC Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded – August 1994 • Founder - Hasmukhbhai Parekh • Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra • MD & CEO - Sashidhar Jagdishan • Chairman – Atanu Chakraborty • Tagline - We understand your world 	<p>Atanu Chakraborty (Updated 4May)</p>
<p>Raymond has re-appointed as its managing director</p>	<p>Gautam Hari Singhania (Updated 5 May)</p>
<p>Ujjivan Small Finance Bank has appointed as executive director</p> <p>About Ujjivan Small Finance Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded- 1 February 2017 • Headquarters- Bangalore, Karnataka • MD & CEO – Ittira Davis 	<p>Carol Furtado (Updated 5 May)</p>
<p>Appoints as head of GST Appellate Tribunal</p>	<p>Sanjaya Kumar Mishra (Updated 5 May)</p>
<p>Appointed as MD & CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank</p> <p>About Ujjivan Small Finance Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded- 1 February 2017 • Headquarters- Bangalore, Karnataka • MD & CEO – Ittira Davis 	<p>Sanjeev Nautiyal (Updated 6 May)</p>
<p>UNICEF India has appointed as its new National Ambassador</p>	<p>Kareena Kapoor Khan (Updated 6 May)</p>
<p>Named as Director General of the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE)</p>	<p>Prof. Mohammad Rihan (Updated 6 May)</p>

The Gurgaon administration has announced as its brand ambassador for the election	Yuzvendra Chahal (Updated 7 May)
Visa has appointed as the country manager for India	Sujai Raina (Updated 8 May)
Appointed as Director in the Ministry of Ayush	Subodh Kumar (Updated 8 May)
SBI General Insurance has named as Head of Key Relations Group	Jaya Tripathi (Updated 9 May)
The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI) has approved the appointment as chairman of HDFC Life	Keki Mistry (Updated 10 May)
Larsen and Toubro was elevated as the President of the engineering and construction conglomerate	R Shankar Raman (Updated 10 May)
The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed as executive director (ED)	R Lakshmi Kanth Rao (Updated 11 May)
Appointed as first woman DGP of Meghalaya About Meghalaya <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital - Shillong • Chief Minister - Conrad Kongkal Sangma • Governor - Phagu Chauhan 	Idashisha Nongrang (Updated 13 May)
Elected as a director of IFFCO (Indian Farmers Fertilizers Co-op Ltd.) New Delhi.	Vivek Kolhe (Updated 13 May)
Wipro has appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Asia Pacific, India, Middle East, and Africa (APMEA) strategic market unit (SMU)	Vinay Firake (Updated 14 May)
Appointed as Chairman of Tata Electronics	N. Chandrasekaran (Updated 14 May)
Assumed charge as Chief of Personnel (CoP) of Indian Navy	Sanjay Bhalla (Updated 14 May)

Elected as the President of Supreme Court Bar Association	Kapil Sibal (Updated 17 May)
Appointed as additional directors in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	A.Y.V. Krishna and N. Venu Gopal (Updated 18 May)
The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment as Whole Time Director on the Board of IDFC FIRST Bank About IDFC First Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded - October 2015 • Headquarters - Mumbai • MD & CEO - V. Vaidyanathan 	Pradeep Natarajan (Updated 19 May)
The board of IndiaFirst Life Insurance has approved the elevation deputy chief executive officer, as MD and CEO	Rushabh Gandhi (Updated 20 May)
Apex industry chamber Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has a new President Chairman and Managing Director of ITC Limited About Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded - 1895 • Headquarter - New Delhi • CII is a non-profit and non-governmental organization. 	Sanjiv Puri (Updated 20 May)
The Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) India has appointed as Chief of Measurement Science and Analytics	Dr. Bikramjit Chaudhuri (Updated 21 May)
Appointed as the Managing Director of Honeywell Automation India Ltd (HAIL)	Atul Pai (Updated 21 May)
Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services has appointed as Chief Risk Officer (CRO)	Mahesh Rajaraman (Updated 22 May)
Government appoints as Member in Central Electricity Regulatory Commission	Ramesh Babu V (Updated 22 May)

Appointed as Citroen's brand ambassador in India	MS Dhoni (Updated 26 May)
RBI approves appointment of as Part-time Chairman of ICICI Bank	Pradeep Kumar Sinha (Updated 26 May)
eeElected uncontested as the chairman of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)	Jetha Ahir (Updated 27 May)
Appointed as Chairperson of Equestrian Federation Of India's Ad-Hoc Administrative Committee	Najmi Waziri (Updated 27 May)
Assumed the appointment of Commandant, National Defence Academy from Vice Admiral Ajay Kocchar in Pune	Gurcharan Singh (Updated 27 May)
DRDO chairman gets one year extension About Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded - 1 January 1958 • Headquarters - New Delhi • Motto - "Strength's Origin is in Knowledge" • Chairman - Dr. Samir V Kamat 	Samir V. Kamat (Updated 28 May)
Appoints as new CEO of Sony India	Gaurav Banerjee (Updated 29 May)
Appointed as Secretary to Lokpal till 30th June Appointed as Chairman of Staff Selection Commission (SSC)	Rakesh Ranjan (Updated 30 May)
The board of National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL) has recommended for the post of managing director and chief executive officer of the state-owned bad bank	P Santhosh (Updated 30 May)
Appoints brand ambassador of Muthoot Pappachan Group	Shah Rukh Khan (Updated 31 May)

<p>The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has approved the appointment as Chairman of the Board of Directors of ICICI Prudential.</p>	<p>Sandeep Batra (Updated 31 May)</p>
---	---

(International)

<u>Organization / Country</u>	<u>Person</u>
<p>Legislators in the Solomon Islands have elected as their new prime minister</p>	<p>Jeremiah Manele (Updated 3 May)</p>
<p>Won Panama's presidential election</p> <p>About Panama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital - Panama City • Currency- Balboa • Continent - North America • President - José Raúl Mulino 	<p>José Raúl Mulino (Updated 7 May)</p>
<p>Sworn in as Russian President for 5th time</p> <p>About Russia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital - Moscow • Currency - Rubel • President - Vladimir Putin • Prime Minister - Mikhail Mishustin 	<p>Vladimir Putin (Updated 9 May)</p>
<p>Won Chad's Presidential election</p> <p>About Republic of Chad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chad is a landlocked country situated in north-central Africa. • It is the fifth largest country in Africa in area. • Capital: N'Djamena • Currency: CFA franc • President: Mahamat Idris Deby Itno 	<p>Idriss Deby (Updated 11 May)</p>
<p>Appointed as new defence minister of Russia</p> <p>About Russia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital - Moscow • Currency - Rubel 	<p>Andrei Belousov (Updated 15 May)</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President – Vladimir Putin (5th time) • Prime Minister - Mikhail Mishustin 	
Sworn in as Singapore's fourth Prime Minister	Lawrence Wong (Updated 16 May)
Mizuho Financial Group has hired as an external senior advisor for Mizuho Bank India (Mizuho)	Sanjay Nayar (Updated 19 May)
Sworn in as president of Taiwan	Lai Ching-Te (Updated 21 May)
Vedanta Aluminium has appointed as Vice-Chairman of the International Aluminium Institute (IAI) About International Aluminium Institute (IAI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established in 1972, IAI is the sole organisation representing the primary aluminium industry worldwide. 	John Slaven (Updated 22 May)
The International Cricket Council (ICC) has appointed as the brand ambassador of the forthcoming 9th ICC Men's T20 World Cup About International Cricket Council (ICC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation - 15 June 1909 • Headquarters - Dubai, UAE • Chairman - Greg Barclay (New Zealand) • Deputy Chairman - Imran Khwaja (Singapore) • CEO - Geoff Allardice (Australia) • General Manager - Wasim Khan • Membership - 108 members 	Shahid Afridi (Updated 25 May)
Named as new PM of Chad	Allamaye Halina (Updated 27 May)
Elected as the president of Lithuania About Lithuania <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital: Vilnius • Official language: Lithuanian 	Gitanas Nauseda (Updated 28 May)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime minister: Ingrida Šimonytė • President: Gitanas Nausėda 	
<p>Appointed as the Chairperson of the Committee A at the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA) by the WHO</p> <p>About World Health Organization (WHO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation - 7 April 1948 • Headquarters - Geneva, Switzerland • First President - Andrija Štampar • Director General - Tedros Adhanom (Ethiopia) • Deputy Director General - Soumya Swaminathan (Indian) • Member Countries - 194 	<p>Apurva Chandra</p> <p>(Updated 29 May)</p>
<p>Appointed as India's next High Commissioner to Cameroon</p> <p>About Cameroon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital- Yaoundé • Currency- Central African CFA franc • President- Paul Biya • Prime minister- Joseph Ngute • Official languages- French, English 	<p>Vijay Khanduja</p> <p>(Updated 30 May)</p>

Chapter 2: Awards (National, International)

(National)

<u>Award</u>	<u>Person/Organization</u>	<u>Purpose/ Field</u>
'Green Oscar' Whitley Gold Award 2024	Dr Purnima Devi Barman	She was honoured for her conservation effort of the endangered bird, Hargila or Greater Adjutant Stork and its wetland habitat.
The prestigious title of Best Trading Platform in India	QuantPower	This milestone reaffirms QuantPower's position as the preferred software for Indian investors, offering an unparalleled

		suite of features that consolidate various trading tools into one comprehensive solution.
The 9th edition of Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize 2024	Bhavi Mehta	For " The Book Beautiful " by Pradeep Sebastian
INMA Global Media Awards 2024	OTTplay	Gold for Best Product Iteration and Silver in Best Use of an Event to Build a News Brand
Honored by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)	Genius Box	For its outstanding commitment to quality and branding excellence.
Global Pride of Sindhi Award 2024	Pawan Sindhi	For Outstanding Social Work.
'PSU Samarpan Award' by Gov Connect	Hemant Khatri	For driving the transformation of the shipyard and inspiring countless individual within the industry.
Global Excellence Award 2024	Chandrakant Satija	For being the " Most Trusted Admission Consultant in Vidarbha Region ".
Zero waste to landfill (ZWL) accolade by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII-ITC) Centre of Excellence.	Thiruvananthapuram International Airport	The award confirms the airport's implementation of leading waste management practices.
The Corporate Social Responsibility award in the Non-Fossil Fuel (NF) business category at the Outlook Planet Sustainability Summit & Awards 2024	Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC)	PFC's Chairperson & Managing Director (CMD) Parminder Chopra received the award from the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances' Secretary V Srinivas in presence of officials from Department of Public Enterprises, IIT Goa and Outlook.

(International)

<u>Award</u>	<u>Person/Organization</u>	<u>Purpose/ Field</u>
Goldman Environmental Prize 2024	Alok Shukla	For his efforts to save the forests of Hasdeo Aranya in Chhattisgarh
The title of Grandmaster by the International Chess Federation (FIDE)	Vaishali Ramesh Babu	Vaishali is the third Indian female Grandmaster, joining Koneru Humpy and Harika Dronavalli.
UNESCO awarded its World Press Freedom Prize	Palestinian journalists awarded 2024 Guillermo Cano	For covering the war in Gaza.
'Best Employer' 2023 by Kincentric	DBS Bank India	The award acknowledges organizations with exceptional employee experiences and a strong culture of engagement.
The 2024 Pulitzer Prize winners Fiction	Night Watch by Jayne Anne Phillips	For his Fiction
Honorary degrees from Canada's prestigious McGill University	Dr Soumya Swaminathan	In 2017, Swaminathan joined the World Health Organisation (WHO) as Deputy Director General (Programmes), and, in March 2019, was named its first Chief Scientist, a role she filled through the Covid-19 pandemic until late 2022.
The ATD BEST Award 2024	NTPC	NTPC gets third rank
International Booker Prize 2024	Jenny Erpenbeck's 'Kairos'	For " Kairos, " the story of a tangled love affair during the final years of East Germany's existence
Shaw Prize in Astronomy for 2024	Srinivas R. Kulkarni	Kulkarni, who serves as the George Ellery Hale Professor of Astronomy and Planetary Science at Caltech.
The Amal Clooney Women's	E -Rickshaw driver Arti	Arti arrived at Buckingham Palace in a

Empowerment Award by the King of the United Kingdom, Charles III		Pink E-rickshaw , which she received under the Mission Shakti scheme of the UP government.
77th Cannes Film Festival	Chidanand Naik and Anasuya Sengupta	Chidanand Naik's film 'Sunflowers Were the First to Know' won the La Cinef Award for Best Short Film , while Anasuya Sengupta became the first Indian to win the Best Actress award for her film Shameless
First ever Grand Prix Award at the 77th Cannes Film Festival.	Payal Kapadia Scripts History; All We Imagine as Light	Her Malayalam-Hindi film All We Imagine as Light stars Kani Kusruti and Divya Prabha as nurses working in Mumbai. The movie also stars Chhaya Kadam and Hridhu Haroon.
'The Economic Times HR World Future Ready Organization Award 2024-25'	NHPC	In recognition for its future preparedness in the areas of upskilling of its employees, ESG interventions, DE&I initiatives, constant technological upgradations, Employee Engagement processes, robust Corporate Governance strategies etc. which establishes it as a trusted brand amongst all its stakeholders
UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award 2023	Major Radhika Sen	For her outstanding service and efforts to empower local communities , especially women and girls , during her tour of duty from March 2023 to April 2024.

Goldman Environmental Prize 2024

Winner	Country	Region
--------	---------	--------

Marcel Gomes	Brazil	South and Central America
Murrawah Maroochy Johnson	Australia	Islands & Island Nations
Alok Shukla	India	Asia
Teresa Vicente	Spain	Europe
Andrea Vidaurre	United States of America	North America
Nonhle Mbuthuma and Sinegugu Zukulu	South Africa	Africa

Pulitzers Winner 2024

- Columbia University of the United States of America announced the 2024 Pulitzer Prize winners.
- The awards, considered the most prestigious in the fields of journalism and arts, were conferred by Columbia University on the recommendation of the Pulitzer Prize Board Book, Drama, and Music Category

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

Journalism Category

Category	Winner
Public Service	Pro Publica (Joshua Kaplan, Justin Elliott, Brett Murphy, Alex Mierjeski, and Kirsten Berg)
Editorial Writing	David E. Hoffman (The Washington Post)

Breaking News Photography	Photography Staff of Reuters
Investigative Reporting	Hannah Dreier (The New York Times)
International Reporting	Staff of The New York Times
Audio Reporting	Staff of the Invisible Institute and USG Audio
Feature Photography	Photography Staff of Associated Press

Chapter 3: Government Scheme/ campaign

Chapter 4: Summit/ Conference

Summit/Conference	Location	About
The 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM 46) and the 26th Meeting of the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP 26)	India	The meeting is organized by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) through the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) , these meetings aim to facilitate global discussions on environmental conservation and scientific cooperation in Antarctica.
The World Hydrogen Summit and Exhibition 2024.	Rotterdam, Netherlands	India has set up its maiden pavilion at the World Hydrogen Summit and Exhibition 2024. The World Hydrogen Summit 2024 was held in Rotterdam, Netherlands. The Summit was attended by 15,000 delegates from around the world.
The second edition of India, Australia, Indonesia Trilateral Maritime Security Workshop (TMSW)	Kochi, India.	The theme of the workshop was ' Indian Ocean Region: Collaborative Efforts to Enhance Regional Maritime Security '.
'India's Progressive Path in the Administration of Criminal Justice System'	Guwahati, Assam	The aim of the conference was to create awareness about the recent changes made by the government in repealing British-era criminal law and the enactment of new laws related to the criminal justice system in the country.
Cyber Security Conclave	New Delhi	During this conclave, important strategies for cyber security were discussed. It was organized with joint efforts by CSC and United Service Institution.
Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce &	New Delhi	To enhance India's cold chain and logistics sector

Industry (FICCI) organized a summit		
India assumed the Chair of Colombo Process for 2024-26	India	Colombo Process is a Regional Consultative Process of migrant worker origin countries from South and South East Asia .
Ministry of Mines organized a workshop on Granite and Marble mining	Bengaluru	V L Kantha Rao addressed the inaugural session of workshop. Additional Chief Secretary & Development Commissioner, Government of Karnataka, Dr. Shalini Rajneesh delivered the keynote address on the occasion.
Became Chief Guest for Supply Chain Conference 2024	Sourav Ganguly	The conference will host 400+ delegates, focusing on " India Tomorrow: Economic Supremacy " to enhance India's economy .

Chapter 5: Partnership/ Agreement

Partnership/ Agreement	Aim
NHPC Limited to collaborate with Ocean Sun	For implementation of Floating Solar Energy Technology
NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) has signed an agreement with the Bank of Namibia (BoN)	To support them in developing an instant payment system like Unified Payment Interface (UPI) for Namibia.
India and Nigeria have agreed to an early conclusion of the Local Currency Settlement System Agreement	To strengthen bilateral economic ties
YES Bank has partnered with Bengaluru-based financial services provider ANQ	To unveil two new credit cards designed for Indian consumers .
India and Ghana are working to link their payment systems - Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Ghana Interbank Payment and Settlement Systems (GHIPSS)	To permit users to make instant, low-cost fund transfers on a reciprocal basis .
CCAvenue, the payments platform of fintech firm Infibeam Avenues, will partner with Shivalik Small Finance Bank	To provide merchants registered with it to access to SFB's customer base .
Sri Lanka has sealed a 20-year power deal with Adani Green Energy Ltd of India	Sri Lanka's Cabinet of Ministers have approved the project under which two wind power stations will be developed by Adani ,

	marking a crucial step towards sustainable energy solutions .
South Indian Bank and Northern Arc Capital join hands	To explore and maximise commercial prospects by combining efforts in loan origination, underwriting, disbursement, collection, and reconciliation procedures .
India and Moldova signed an agreement	Allowing holders of diplomatic and official passports from either country to travel to the other without requiring a visa .
India and Iran have signed an agreement	Under which India will operate the strategically important Shahid Beheshti terminal of Chabahar Port of Iran for the next 10 years.
Aurm, an asset protection firm has partnered with Tata AIG General Insurance	To provide comprehensive insurance coverage to its customers for their valuables
PhonePe has partnered with LankaPay	To allow its users to pay using UPI across Sri Lanka .
Energy firm ReNew has signed an initial pact with European bank Societe Generale	For up to \$1 billion financing as debt and advisory solutions over the next three years.
PUMA India has signed a deal with the Athletics Federation of India	To become its official kit sponsor .
Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles (TMPV) and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM), subsidiaries of Tata Motors, have joined hands with Bajaj Finance	To extend supply chain finance solutions to its passenger and electric vehicle dealers .
Online food delivery platform Swiggy has partnered with SHIELD, a device-first risk AI platform	To enhance its fraud prevention and detection capabilities
Cisco and Tata Communications has partnered	To launch Webex Calling solution in India with cloud public switched telephone network (PSTN) , aimed at helping enterprises move from on-premises phone systems to a global cloud calling system .
Ghana has signed deals with a Reliance Jio subsidiary, Tech Mahindra and other vendors to build 4G and 5G infrastructure as the African country	To enhance its telecom capabilities .

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has bagged a deal with Burgan Bank	To modernize the core banking technology of Burgan Bank
Sterlite Technologies Ltd partnered with UK-based Connexin	To help deliver gigabit broadband connectivity in Nottinghamshire.
Wipro has partnered with the Centre for Brain Research (CBR) at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru	To develop a personal care engine to reduce and manage the risk of cardiovascular disease by utilizing AI.
Poonawalla Fincorp Limited collaborated with IndusInd Bank	To launch the co-branded ' IndusInd Bank Poonawalla Fincorp eLITE RuPay Platinum Credit Card ', a card designed to redefine and elevate the banking experience of customers.
Capital Small Finance Bank (CSFB) has forged a bancassurance tie-up with ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Ltd.(ICICI Lombard)	Through this collaboration, CSFB will leverage its network and customer base to distribute ICICI Lombard's suite of general insurance products, including health, motor, home, travel and rural insurance.

Chapter 6: Ranking Index

Index	Index released by	India's Rank	1st Rank
World Press Freedom Index 2023	Reporters Without Borders	161	Norway
Largest solar power generator in 2023	The 5th " Global Electricity Review " report published by the United Kingdom-based global think tank Ember	3rd	China
Forbes' list of highest-paid athletes	Forbes	-	Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo
World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index	The index, prepared in collaboration with the University of Surrey	39th	US
Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2024		Delhi 350th	New York

Chapter 7: Mergers and Acquisitions

Merger Company	About
The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of additional shares in Sikkim Urja Limited (formerly Teesta Urja Limited) by Greenko Energies Private Limited	Sikkim Urja Ltd is a special purpose vehicle incorporated for the purpose of the implementation of the 1,200 MW hydropower project in North Sikkim.
Warburg Pincus will acquire Shriram Housing Finance Ltd (SHFL) in a deal valued at ₹4,630 crore	For equity and convertible instruments .
Adani Energy Solutions Ltd (AESL) has acquired 100 per cent stake in Essar Transco Limited	For an Enterprise Value of INR 1,900 crore after obtaining necessary clearances
State Bank of India has executed transaction documents to acquire a 6.125 per cent stake in CCIL IFSC Limited for ₹6.125 crore	CCIL IFSC , which will be incorporated with an authorized and paid-up capital of ₹200 crore and ₹100 crore , respectively, will operate the foreign currency settlement system and act as a clearing house and system operator at the IFSC within GIFT City .
Noise acquires women's wellness platform SocialBoat	This acquisition will expand its tech offerings and build specialized innovation capabilities for its flagship smart wearable, Luna Ring .
HSBC to acquire 6.125 per cent equity stake in CCIL IFSC Limited (CCIL IFSC)	HSBC has through its branch in Gift City executed transaction documents . The investment value for this transaction stood at ₹6.125 crore .

Chapter 8: Loan

Organization/Bank	Loan Amount	To which country	Purpose
The consortium of lenders includes Cooperative Rabobank U.A., DBS Bank Ltd, Intesa Sanpaolo S.p.A., MUFG Bank, Ltd., and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation.	USD 400 million	Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL)	For its under-construction solar projects of 750 MW in Gujarat and Rajasthan

International Finance Corporation (IFC)	\$500 million	HDFC Bank	For extending microloans to “underserved women” in rural and semi-urban India
The Asian Development Bank (ADB)	\$2.6 billion	India	The loan sanctioned by ADB in 2023 will be used to finance urban development projects, promote the power sector, support industrial corridor development, support horticulture, enhance connectivity and build India’s climate resilience.

Chapter 9: App/Website/Portal

App/ Website/Portal	Company / Department	Purpose
PRAVAAH portal, Retail Direct mobile app and a Fintech Repository	The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	These initiatives are aimed at enhancing regulatory processes, facilitating retail investment, and providing comprehensive data on the fintech sector.

Chapter 10: Important MoU

MoU	Between Which Countries
Signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance the knowledge base of the critical minerals processing industry in India.	The Ministry of Mines with the non-profit, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation
Signed an agreement to renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to train 1500 Bangladeshi officers from 2025 to 2030	The government of India with the government of Bangladesh
Signed an MoU for the supply of indigenous marine-grade steel.	The Indian Coast Guard and Jindal Steel & Power Ltd
Signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for manufacturing and supply of indigenous marine-grade aluminium for construction of ships.	Indian Coast Guard with Hindalco Industries
To boost rural women’s empowerment signed a MoU to conduct two Pilot Projects under the Drone Didi Yojana	The Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.
Signed an MoU to collaborate in the field of medical research, innovation and education	AIIMS New Delhi with the University of Bolton Institute of Medicine

Signed an MoU on Digitalization of Vaccine Cold Chain Management, Communication Planning and Capacity Building.	The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) under the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India
Signed a strategic bancassurance collaboration agreement to facilitate the sale of non-life insurance products	SBI General Insurance has signed a strategic bancassurance collaboration agreement with Jana Small Finance Bank
Signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for financing the purchase of Airbus helicopters in India	Airbus Helicopters and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
Signed an MoU to collaborate on research and training.	The Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad

Chapter 11: GDP Forecasting

India Ratings raises FY25 GDP growth forecast to 7.1% from 6.5%

- India Ratings and Research revised upward the country's GDP growth estimate for FY25 to 7.1 per cent from 6.5 per cent earlier.
- The projection is marginally higher than the Reserve Bank's estimate of 7 per cent.

Indian economy likely to grow at 6.6% in FY25: Moody's

- Moody's Ratings projected a 6.6% growth rate for the Indian economy in the fiscal year ending March 2025 (FY25).
- The RBI, Asian Development Bank (ADB), and Fitch Ratings each estimate a 7% growth rate for FY25, while S&P Global Ratings and Morgan Stanley predict a 6.8% growth rate.

UN revises India's 2024 growth forecast to 6.9%

- The United Nations (UN) has revised India's growth projections for 2024 and expects the economy to grow by 6.9% for FY24.
- The report also predicts a growth rate of 6.6% for 2025, which remains unchanged from the previous forecast.
- This expected decrease aligns with the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) target range of 2-6%.
- The world economy is now forecast to grow by 2.7% in 2024 and 2.8% in 2025, reflecting better outlooks in the United States, Brazil, India, and Russia.

Goldman Sachs raises India's GDP growth forecast to 6.7 percent for FY24

- Global investment bank Goldman Sachs has raised India's GDP growth forecast to 6.7 percent for calendar year 2024.
- The latest data released by the bank said, they expect a sustained growth momentum with additional fiscal space on account of a bumper dividend transfer from the RBI.

RBI projects 7% Real GDP growth in current financial year

- The **Reserve Bank of India** has **projected a 7 percent GDP growth in the current financial year.**
- In its annual report, RBI said the real GDP growth for 2024-25 is projected to grow at 7 per cent with risks evenly balanced.
- The Indian economy expanded at a robust pace in fiscal 2024, with real GDP growth accelerating to 7.6 percent from 7 percent in previous year.

Chapter 12: Current Affairs (National)

UP govt to establish cyber police stations in 57 districts

- The **Uttar Pradesh government** is to **establish cyber police stations in 57 districts** after the parliamentary polls with each cyber police station having 25 posts for officers and employees.
- The state government plans to create a total of 1,425 posts in the designated 57 police stations across the state.

India Reduces Windfall Tax on Petroleum Crude

- **India** has cut its **windfall tax on petroleum crude to 8,400 Indian rupees (\$100.66) a metric ton from 9,600 rupees with effect from May 1.**
- The government had on April 16 raised the windfall tax on petroleum crude to 9,600 rupees a metric ton from 6,800 rupees.
- This tax is levied as the Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED).

Indian Army and Punit Balan Group develop Constitution Park in Pune

- **Constitution Park, jointly developed by Indian Army and Punit Balan Group,** was inaugurated in **Pune.**
- The park was inaugurated by GOC-in-C, Southern Command, Lt Gen Ajai Kumar Singh.
- It delineates our Fundamental Rights and underscores our Fundamental Duties. It's crucial for every citizen to understand their rights and fulfill their duties.

India's core sector growth slows to 5.2% in March from 7.1% in February

- The **growth in output of eight key infrastructure industries slowed to 5.2% year-on-year in March** from 7.1% in February on the back of a sequential deterioration recorded by five of its constituents.
- Output decelerated in sectors like coal (8.7%), crude oil (2%), natural gas (6.3%) and steel (5.5%) during March, according to Ministry of Commerce and Industry data.
- The eight core industries account for 40.27 per cent weighting of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) and, thus, have a significant impact on the index.

REC gets RBI nod to set up subsidiary in GIFT City

- **State-owned REC Ltd,** under the Ministry of Power and a leading NBFC, has received a '**No Objection Certificate**' (NOC) from the Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) for setting up a subsidiary in Gujarat International Finance Tech-City (GIFT) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

- The proposed subsidiary will engage in a range of financial activities as a finance company within GIFT, including lending, investment, and other financial services.

Auto Expo set to move back to New Delhi in 2025

- **The Auto Expo** is set to return to **the national capital in 2025, after a decade.**
- India's flagship biennial motor show will be organized next year under the Bharat Mobility umbrella in New Delhi's Pragati Maidan, 10 years after the exhibition was moved to Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, in 2014.

Bajaj Auto to launch world's first CNG-powered bike in June

- **Bajaj Auto** will launch the **world's first compressed natural gas (CNG) motorcycle on June 2024.**
- This move marks a significant shift in the industry, providing customers with a cost-effective and eco-friendly alternative to traditional petrol motorcycles.
- With the new CNG-powered bikes, customers can expect a significant reduction in operational costs, making it an attractive proposition in today's market.

IAF conducts Bambi Bucket Operation in response to the forest fires in Uttarakhand

- The **Indian Air Force** had deployed its **Mi17 V5 helicopters to undertake Bambi Bucket operations** to douse the forest fires near Nainital, Uttarakhand.
- These helicopters efficiently transported and released over 4,500 liters of water over the affected areas, a crucial effort made in close coordination with the Uttarakhand government.

IIT Madras startup Mindgrove launches first India-made microcontroller chip

- India is finally set to have a made-in-India microcontroller chip powering electronic device.
- **Mindgrove Technologies, incubated by IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation and IIT Madras Incubation Cell, and supported by Peak XV Partners, has launched Secure IoT, India's debut high-performance SoC (system on chip).**
- A system-on-chip (SoC) combines many electronic parts into one chip, like a mini-computer. It goes into the printed circuit board (PCB) and is used in various devices, making them smaller and more efficient.

Manipur launches "School on Wheels" Initiative for Students

- **Manipur government** has launched the "**School on Wheels**" initiative aiming to impart education to students sheltered in relief camps in the state following the yearlong ethnic strife in the state.
- The Manipur government currently runs around 320 relief camps, housing more than 59,000 men, women, and children. Around 18,000 students are currently staying in relief camps.

Uttarakhand Govt Launches Pirul Lao Paise Pao Campaign

- **The Uttarakhand government** has launched **the Pirul Lao-Paise Pao campaign to contain the raging forest fire in the state.**
- Under the Pirul Lao-Paise Pao campaign, the local youth and villagers will collect dry Pirul (Pine tree leaves) in the forest and take them to the designated Pirul collection centre.
- The Tehsildar in their respective areas will manage the pirul collection centre under the supervision of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate.

DRDO hands over nine defence tech projects to IIT-Bhubaneswar

- **Nine projects sanctioned from the electronics and communication systems (ECS) cluster of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) were handed over to IIT-Bhubaneswar.**
- Seven more projects are in the process of being sanctioned from ECS with a funding of Rs 18 crore.

Zomato unveils weather services infrastructure

- **Zomato CEO Deepinder Goyal** has launched **India's first crowd-supported weather network with over 650 weather stations**, the largest private setup in India, for real-time local weather data.
- These weather stations, developed by Zomato, provide localised, real-time information on key weather parameters such as temperature, humidity, wind speed, rainfall, among others can be seen at <http://weatherunion.com>.

Indian export to 115 countries shows positive growth in 2023-24

- According to data released by the Union Ministry of Commerce, **India's exports have recorded positive growth in 115 countries out of the total 238 countries/territories it exported in 2023-24.**
- These 115 export destinations, which account for 46.5 per cent of India's export basket, include the US, UAE, Netherlands, China, UK, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Bangladesh, Germany and Italy.
- The top 10 source countries, which constitute 59.3 per cent of India's import basket, include China, USA, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Russia, and Switzerland.

SAIL-Bhilai to set up Chhattisgarh's first 15-Mw floating solar plant

- **Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP)**, the Chhattisgarh-based arm of **the state-run Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)**, will **install the state's first 15-megawatt (MW) floating solar project** in its Maroda-1 reservoir to improve its carbon footprint.
- The steel major is undertaking various projects to reduce carbon emissions, conserve energy, and promote renewable energy.
- The solar plant will **be set up in Durg district.**

India extends budgetary support of \$50m to Maldives

- In a goodwill gesture, **India has decided to extend vital budgetary support to the Maldives government** with the rollover of a **USD 50 million Treasury Bill for another year** on the Maldivian government's special request.

- The State Bank of India has subscribed for one more year to the USD 50 million Government Treasury Bill, issued by the Ministry of Finance of Maldives, upon maturity of the previous subscription.

TCS announces creation of Global AI Center of Excellence in France

- **Tata Consultancy Services** announced the creation of a **Global Artificial Intelligence (AI) Centre of Excellence in Paris, France** during the Choose France Summit.
- The TCS AI Centre of Excellence in Paris will leverage TCS' global ecosystem of startups, academia, and research organisations to bring the best of global capabilities to French companies.

Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana enter 'UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register'

- **The Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana** have been included in 'UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register'.
- The 'Ramcharitmanas', 'Panchatantra', and 'Sahṛdayaloka-Locana' are such timeless works that have deeply influenced Indian literature and culture, shaping the nation's moral fabric and artistic expressions.
- The decision to include Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana was taken at the 10th General Meeting of the Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP) held in Ulaanbaatar, capital of Mongolia.

India overtakes Australia, Japan and Singapore in data centre capacity

- **India has become the country with the highest data center capacity in the Asia-Pacific region**, surpassing major countries like Australia, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, Singapore, and Korea.

Sela Tunnel recognized as India's highest tunnel by International Book of Honour

- **Sela Tunnel**, constructed by BRO India, is **officially recognised as the highest tunnel in the country by the International Book of Honour**, England.
- The 2.598 Km long tunnel is situated at an altitude of 13000 ft on the Tezpur-Tawang Road.
- Situated at an altitude of 13,000 feet, the strategically important Sela Tunnel will ensure all-weather connectivity to Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh.

'Operation Sadbhavana': Army's support for North Sikkim's communities

- **The Indian Army's Trishakti Corps under Operation Sadbhavana** provided **essential aid and healthcare to North Sikkim's** Naga and Rangrang villages post-GLOF.
- Over 150 villagers received medical attention, and youths participated in educational sessions linked to the Agniveer Scheme for empowerment.

India registers record export at USD 778 Billion in 2023-24

- **India registered record exports in financial year 2023-24 at USD 778 billion**, according to the commerce ministry.
- In the financial year 2022-23, the combined value of exported goods and services stood at USD 776.3 billion.

- In 2023-24, services exports increased from USD 325.3 billion to USD 341.1 billion, while merchandise exports marginally declined from USD 451.1 billion to USD 437.1 billion.
- The other countries in the Top 10 list are the UK, Australia, Saudi Arabia, the Netherlands, and South Africa.

Police started Operation 'Maryada' for smooth conduct of Kedarnath Dham Yatra 2024 in Uttarakhand

- **Police launched Operation 'Maryada'** for the smooth conduct of **Kedarnath Dham Yatra 2024 in Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand.**
- Under Operation Maryada, the police request pilgrims and tourists who consume drugs to maintain decorum in this area. Along with challan, the police is also registering a case against the rioters and drug users.

Porter becomes India's 3rd Unicorn of 2024

- **Homegrown logistics services platform Porter** has become **the third unicorn** (with a valuation of \$1 billion and above) **in India this year.**
- Earlier this year, fintech firm Perfios and Ola's AI venture Krutrim had turned unicorns.
- As per Tracxn, there were 113 unicorns in India as of earlier this month.

Nayara Energy to invest ₹600 crore in two Ethanol Plants

- **Nayara Energy**, a private downstream company, **is planning to invest Rs 600 crore for setting up ethanol manufacturing plants in the country.**
- The move is in line with the government's target of 20% ethanol blending for FY26.
- The company plans to set up two ethanol manufacturing plants, each with a production capacity of 200 kiloliters per day (KLPD), **in Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.**

Sri Sri Ravi Shankar receives first Stamp released

- **Indian spiritual guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar** received the **first stamp released commemorating the completion of 200 years of Indian Origin Tamils in Sri Lanka.**
- Governor of the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka Senthil Thondaman presented the stamp to Sri Sri Ravi Shankar.
- The stamp is a way to attain recognition for the community which has been neglected for decades.

Student Enrollment Under SC Category Grows By 44 %

- The **student enrollment under the Scheduled Caste category** has grown by **44 per cent, from 46 lakh in 2014-15 to 66 lakh in 2021-22**, according to a report of the National Commission for Backward Class.
- In the report, minority female student enrollment also witnessed over 42 per cent increase, from over 10 lakh in 2014-15 to 15 lakh in 2021-22.
- Female SC enrollment increased by 51 per cent, whereas that of ST students went up by 65.2 per cent.

Assam unveiled the "DRIMS" platform For Disaster Management

- **Assam Government has launched the Disaster Reporting and Information Management System (DRIMS) platform** to facilitate efficient disaster reporting and aid distribution in collaboration with UNICEF.
- DRIMS captures critical impact data, expediting relief delivery for damaged crops, livestock losses, and other post-disaster restoration efforts.

CDS Anil Chauhan attends Exercise Cyber Suraksha 2024

- **Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Anil Chauhan** attended 'Exercise Cyber Suraksha - 2024' and underscored the importance of strengthening India's cyber defence capabilities.
- The comprehensive cyber defence exercise is being conducted by Defence Cyber Agency.

Kaamya Karthikeyan becomes youngest Indian to summit Mt Everest at 16

- **Sixteen-year-old Kaamya Karthikeyan** successfully **summitted Mt. Everest, becoming the youngest Indian mountaineer** to scale the world's highest peak from the Nepal side.
- The daughter of a naval officer, Kaamya is a class 12 student at Navy Children School, Mumbai.
- Kaamya and her father Cdr S Karthikeyan successfully summited Mt. Everest (8,849 m).

L&T Technology Services launches simulation centre for Airbus in Bengaluru

- **L&T Technology Services** has inaugurated a **simulation centre of excellence (CoE) for Airbus at its Bengaluru campus.**
- The CoE is designed to provide engineering support for Airbus aircraft structural simulation activities across its business units in France, Germany, the UK, and Spain.

Karnataka mandates 33% reservation for women in govt contract jobs

- Aligning with the quota policy applied in permanent government positions, the Karnataka State government has now made it mandatory to provide 33% reservation for women in services and posts that are being outsourced by various government departments and organizations.

Indian Oil exports premium fuel to Sri Lanka

- **Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL)** exported its **first-ever consignment of 100 octane premium fuel, XP100 to Sri Lanka.**
- The product is tailored for premium high-end vehicles.

About XP100

- The XP100 is domestically developed, leveraging IndianOil's indigenous Octamax Technology.

DD Kisan launched AI Anchors Krish and Bhoomi

- **Doordarshan Kisan (DD KISAN)** has become the first government TV channel of the country to launch **two AI anchors - AI Krish and AI Bhoomi.**
- The AI anchors can speak in fifty languages and read news 24 hours and 365 days without getting tired.
- The viewers will be able to see these anchors in all the states of the country.

Sikkim celebrates Saga Dawa festival

- **Sikkim** has celebrated **Saga Dawa**, a festival that falls annually on the 15th day of the fourth month of the Northern Buddhist Calendar.
- Saga Dawa is considered the most sacred Buddhist festival, commemorating the birth, enlightenment, and Mahaparinirvana (passing away) of Buddha Shakyamuni.

World's first 100% biodegradable pen launches in India

- **Saurabh H Mehta** from New Delhi has introduced the **world's first fully biodegradable pen**, named the NOTE pen (No Offence to Earth).
- The pen features a recycled paper refill, and non-toxic ink, and comes in options of metal, paper, or bamboo exteriors.

WB govt plans new AI and ML-focused data centre

- The **West Bengal state government** will set up a powerful, high-capacity data centre that will allow 2,300 concurrent users to run **artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) applications**.

Cyclone Remal bring heavy rains in part of WB and Bangladesh

- The **Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)** has issued a **warning** that a low depression in Bay Bengal has developed into a severe cyclonic storm **Remal**.
- Cyclone Remal is the first cyclone of the season to develop in the Bay of Bengal region. The name Remal has been given by Oman which means sand in Arabic.

Jyoti Ratre becomes India's oldest woman to Conquer Mount Everest

- **Jyoti Ratre**, an entrepreneur and fitness enthusiast from Madhya Pradesh, has etched her **name in history by becoming the oldest Indian woman to conquer Mount Everest**.
- Ratre's remarkable achievement was realized as part of a 15-member expedition team organized by 8K Expeditions, led by the renowned Bolivian climber David Hugo Ayaviri Quispe.

First Hydrogen plant of GAIL inaugurated in Vijaipur, MP

- **The government of India-owned GAIL(India) Limited's** first green hydrogen plant has **become operational at Vijaipur in Madhya Pradesh**.
- This marks the entry of India's largest natural gas transmission and distribution company in the green fuel business.
- The 10-megawatt proton exchange membrane electrolyser for the green-hydrogen producing unit at the Vijaipur complex has been imported from Canada.

Telangana government enforces Statewide ban on gutka and pan masala

- The **Telangana government** has issued a **one-year ban** on the **manufacture, storage, distribution, transportation and sale of gutka and pan masala containing tobacco and nicotine throughout the State, effective immediately**.
- The restriction has been imposed in light of a legitimate concern for public well-being. As indicated by the order from the Food Safety Commissioner, the restriction will be upheld under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Fischer Medical Ventures makes India's first indigenous MRI system

- **Chennai-headquartered Fischer Medical Ventures (FMVL)** has **manufactured its magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) systems** domestically, claiming to be the first company in the country to achieve this.
- The company is developing its MRI systems at a production facility in the Andhra Pradesh MedTech Zone (AMTZ) in Visakhapatnam.

Reliance Industries to begin construction on India's first multimodal logistics park near Chennai

- Conceptualised 12 years ago, **India's first Multimodal Logistics Park at Mappedu near Chennai** will see the limelight as **Reliance Industries** starts construction in June.
- In 2022, the company beat Adani Group to win the bid for the Rs 1,424 crore project on 184.27 acres of land in Tiruvallur district.

Indian mountaineer Satyadeep Gupta becomes first person to scale Mt. Everest and Mt. Lhotse twice in one season

- Indian mountaineer **Satyadeep Gupta** has scripted history by **becoming the first person to scale Mt. Everest and Mt. Lhotse twice in one season.**
- He also set another record by being the first Indian to traverse from Mt. Everest to Mt. Lhotse in 11 hours and 15 minutes.
- Gupta conquered the 8,516 metre-high Mt. Lhotse, followed by towering 8,849 metre-high Mt. Everest.
- This historic achievement marks the first Double Dual Ascent of the world's highest and the fourth highest peaks in a single season.
- Gupta had previously summited Mt Everest on May 21 and Mt Lhotse on May 22.

India offers \$1 million aid to disaster-hit Papua New Guinea

- The **Government of India** has granted **\$1 million as immediate assistance for Papua New Guinea**, which has been hit by a devastating flood and landslide that has so far killed 2,000 people.
- As a close friend and partner under the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) and as a gesture of solidarity with the friendly people of Papua New Guinea, GoI extends an immediate relief assistance of \$1 million to support relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts.

Sanjay Kumar inaugurates Summer Fiesta 2024

- Secretary of Department of School Education and Literacy, **Sanjay Kumar** has inaugurated the month-long **"Summer Fiesta 2024"** at the National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi.
- Summer Fiesta is a month-long camp comprising over 30 types of different activities for children aged between 5 to 16 years.

NHAI launches initiative to attract the UAE's investments for India's highway expansion

- The **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)** has launched an **initiative to monetize its infrastructure**, seeking investments from the UAE to sustain and enhance India's expanding national highway network.

- NHAI's delegation is conducting high-level meetings and roadshows in Dubai and Abu Dhabi to attract foreign investment via NHAI Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InVITs).

Government raises Retirement & Death Gratuity Limits to 25 Lakh

- **The maximum limit of retirement gratuity and death gratuity** has been revised by the **government from 20 lakh to 25 lakh rupees.**
- Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions has issued an official memorandum in this regard. The revised limit will come into effect from 1st January 2024.

South Korea launches its First Space Agency

- **South Korea** plans to make a **Mars landing by 2045** and spend 100 trillion won (\$72.6 billion) until then on space exploration, President Yoon Suk Yeol said at the launch of the country's first space agency.
- The **Korea Aerospace Administration (KASA)** will lead the country's "space economy," with hundreds of businesses and enterprises working to catapult South Korea into the ranks of the world's top five space powers.
- The country's first lunar lander is planned for 2032. South Korea plans at least three more space launches by 2027 and has plans to launch military satellites

Chapter 13: Current Affairs (International)

World's deepest blue hole discovered in Mexico

- **Researchers** have **discovered the world's deepest blue hole located in Mexico's Chetumal Bay, named Taam Ja' Blue Hole (TJBH).**
- Initially thought to be the second deepest, recent measurements have now recorded it at depths exceeding 420 meters below sea level (mbsl), surpassing all known blue holes to date.

India and Oman to jointly undertake research on sharks and rays in Arabian Sea

- A joint initiative between **India and Oman to boost research and conservation of sharks and rays in the Arabian Sea** will be launched at an upcoming workshop at ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).
- Experts from both countries will take part in the workshop which is expected to take place shortly, here, which will take up the collaborative research works and capacity building in elasmobranch research.

India contributes \$5,00,000 to U.N. Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund

- **India** has **contributed \$500,000 to the U.N. Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund,** underscoring its unwavering commitment to support multilateral efforts in the global fight against the scourge of terrorism.
- India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj handed over to Under Secretary General, UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) Vladimir Voronkov the country's voluntary financial contribution of half a million dollars towards the U.N. Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund (CTTF).

Nepal climber Kami Rita Sherpa climbs Mt Everest for 29th time

- **Nepali Sherpa climber Kami Rita** has scaled **Everest for the 29th time**, surpassing his own record of 28 ascents.
- He now holds the record for the most ascents of the world's tallest peak in its 71-year climbing history.
- Kami Rita Sherpa, also known as 'Everest man,' embarked on the Spring Season Everest expedition from Kathmandu, accompanying a team of approximately 28 climbers. Seven Summit Treks organised the expedition to conquer the world's highest peak.

China surpasses US, becomes India's top trading partner with \$118.4 billion business: GTRI

- **China has emerged as India's largest trading partner in the FY 2023-24** with \$118.4 billion two-way commerce, narrowly edging past the US, according to the data of economic think tank GTRI (Global Trade Research Initiative).
- The **bilateral trade between India and the US stood at \$118.3 billion in 2023-24**.
- According to the report, India's exports to China rose by 8.7 per cent to \$16.67 billion in the last fiscal. The main sectors which recorded healthy growth in exports to that country include iron ore, cotton yarn/fabrics/madeups, handloom, spices, fruits and vegetables, plastic and linoleum.

UAE launched 10-year Blue Residency Visa for Environmental Champions

- **The United Arab Emirates** has launched a **10-year Blue Residency visa** for individuals who have made **'exceptional efforts and contributions to protecting the environment'**, whether marine or land'.
- The 10-year Blue Residency Visa aims to attract and retain global leaders in environmental research, activism, and technological solutions.
- This visa category extends beyond the UAE's borders, welcoming those who champion sustainability initiatives worldwide.

Venezuela becomes first country to lose all Glaciers

- **Venezuela** is the **first country to lose all of its glaciers**, which is a huge change in the environment.
- New research shows that the Humboldt glacier in the Andes, which used to be very big, has shrunk to less than 2 hectares, which means it is no longer a glacier but an ice field.

World's first 6G device launched in Japan

- **A Japanese consortium** recently **introduced the prototype of the world's first high-speed 6G device**, which is claimed to transfer data at lighting speed.
- As per reports, the purported device can transmit data at a whopping 100 gigabits per second (Gbps) and can cover more than 300 feet. **The device is 20x faster than the ongoing 5G technology.**

World highest competition swimming pool opens in Bhutan

- **World Aquatics** has announced the **opening of the first-ever competitive swimming pool** at a record **altitude of 2,400 meters** above sea level in Bhutan.

- The pool is part of the Pools for All Program to promote aquatic sports in the region.

Pakistan's Sirbaz Khan conquers Mount Everest without Oxygen.

- A notable mountaineer, **Sirbaz Khan scaled Mount Everest without supplementary oxygen**, making him only the 2nd Pakistani to achieve this feat.
- Khan aims to be the 1st Pakistani to climb all 14 peaks above 8,000 meters, having already climbed 13, two with oxygen support.

Spain becomes 99th member of International Solar Alliance

- **Spain** has become **the 99th member of the International Solar Alliance**.
- Spain handed over the International Solar Alliance Instrument of Ratification, during the meeting of Ambassador José María Ridaó Domínguez of Spain with the Head of Depository, Joint Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry Abhishek Singh in New Delhi.
- The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is a collaborative platform for increased deployment of solar energy technologies as a means for bringing energy access, ensuring energy security, and driving energy transition in its member countries.

University of Tokyo inaugurates world's highest observatory in Chile

- **The University of Tokyo** has inaugurated the **Atacama Observatory (TAO) in Chile's Antofagasta Region**.
- It has been built on the summit of Cerro Chajnantor in the Antofagasta Region, at 5,640 meters above sea level.
- TAO also houses a 6.5-meter optical-infrared telescope. The telescope will focus on understanding the nature of the universe, according to Emol's academic section.

Norway, Spain, and Ireland to recognize Palestinian state

- The governments of **Norway, Spain, and Ireland** have announced that they **would recognize the Palestinian state**.
- In a swift reaction, the Israeli government condemned the move, while the Palestinians welcomed it.
- The official recognition by the three nations of an independent Palestinian state will take effect on 28 May 2024.

WHO launches first-ever investment round for sustainable funding

- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** has launched **its first investment round to sustainably finance its Health for All mandate**.
- The move comes as the organization seeks to transform the way it is funded by 2028.

WHO Organizes 'Walk The Talk' Yoga Session Event

- For the upcoming occasion of International Yoga Day, **Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations in Geneva and World Health Organization (WHO)** yesterday organised a **'Walk the Talk' Yoga session** event at Place des Nations.

- Union Health Secretary Apurva Chandra joined by Director General of WHO Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and other senior officers of India delegation joined the event and re-energised themselves with yoga aasanas.

Purnima Shrestha conquers Mount Everest thrice in a single season

- A 32-year-old mountaineer from Gorkha, Nepal, **Purnima Shrestha** has made history as the **first woman in the world to climb Mount Everest three times** in the same season, all in just 13 days.
- Her exceptional triple ascent beats the previous record of any woman summiteer to climb Everest thrice in a single season.

Chapter 14: Banking & Financial

Indian economy likely to grow over 7% in 2024-25: Economic think tank NCAER

- The **Indian economy could grow more than 7 per cent** during the **current fiscal amid a benign global outlook and expected above-normal monsoon**, according to economic think tank NCAER.
- In its April 2024 issue of Monthly Economic Review (MER), NCAER said a range of high-frequency indicators reveal the resilience of the domestic economy with the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for manufacturing at a 16-year high and UPI, the leading digital payments system, touching the highest volume since its inception in 2016.

GST revenue collection hits record high of Rs 2.10 lakh cr in April

- **India's Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections** hit a record high of **Rs 2.10 lakh crore in April, growing 12.4 per cent on year-on-year basis**.
- GST collection in March stood at Rs 1.78 lakh crore. Previously, the highest-ever GST collection figure stood at Rs 1.87 lakh crore in April 2023.
- This is also the first time GST collection has crossed the ₹2 trillion mark, since the unified indirect tax regime was rolled out seven years ago.

UPI transactions dip marginally in April to Rs 19.64 trn

- **Unified Payment Interface (UPI) transactions** declined in **volume and value in April by 1 per cent and 0.7 per cent, compared to March 2024**.
- Transactions stood at **Rs 19.64 trillion in value terms**, down from Rs 19.78 trillion in March. There were **13.3 billion transactions in April**, compared to 13.44 billion in March.
- Y-o-Y, UPI transactions increased by 50 per cent in terms of volume and 40 per cent in value. In February 2024, transactions stood at 12.10 billion and Rs 18.28 trillion, respectively.
- Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) transactions declined by 7 per cent in value and 5 per cent in volume in April compared to March.

NaBFID expects cumulative loan sanctions to top ₹2-lakh cr in FY25

- The **Government-owned National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID)** expects its loan sanctions pipeline to swell to about

₹2 lakh crore by March-end 2025 against about ₹1 lakh crore as of March-end 2024.

- To support loan growth, the development financial institution (DFI) is planning to mop up about ₹53,000 crore this year via bond market, bank and multilateral credit lines.
- The All India Financial Institution was set up in 2022 under the NABFID Act, 2021, as the principal entity for infrastructure financing in the country.

India global services export to reach \$800 billion by 2030: Goldman Sachs

- **India's services exports will increase to \$800 billion by 2030 from \$340 billion in 2023**, making the external sector resilient to supply-side shocks and reducing rupee volatility, Goldman Sachs report.
- India's foreign trade policy announced last year targeted \$1 trillion of service exports by 2030.
- Services exports (as percentage of gross domestic product or GDP) could reach around 11% of GDP by 2030 (versus 9.7% of GDP in 2023) which amounts to around \$800 billion (compared to around \$340 billion in 2023).

Groww & Worldline join growing club of India's online payment aggregators

- Financial services platform **Groww** and digital payment processing company **Worldline ePayments** have secured **RBI licence to operate as online payment aggregators**.
- With this, the number of firms getting the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) nod to operate as payment aggregators has touched 20 in the first four months of calendar year 2024.
- Groww has secured the licence for its UPI payments platform Groww Pay.

RBI imposes monetary penalty on three co-operative banks for rule violations

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed **monetary penalty of three co-operative banks for rule violations**.
- These banks are Lokmangal Co-operative Bank, The Udgir Urban Co-operative Bank, and The Satara Sahakari Bank.
- The central bank imposed Rs 5 lakh penalty on Lokmangal Co-operative Bank, Rs 2 lakh on The Satara Sahakari Bank, and Rs 1 lakh on The Udgir Urban Co-operative Bank.

OECD raises the Indian economy growth rate forecast to 6.6% in 2024-25

- The **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** has raised its growth **forecast for India by 40 basis points to 6.6 per cent for 2024-25**.
- In its earlier report, it had projected a growth rate of 6.2 per cent for the Indian economy in 2024-25.
- It has also forecasted a growth rate of 6.6 % for 2025-26.

Neobanking startup Fi secures NBFC License from RBI

- **Neobanking startup Fi**, backed by investors such as Peak XV and Temasek, has secured a **non-banking finance company (NBFC) licence** from the Reserve Bank of India, enabling it to provide loans from its own books.

- With this, Fi has joined the likes of Jupiter, Groww and Cred, all of which got into the lending business either by getting a fresh licence or by acquiring another NBFC.

HDFC Life launched 'No Jhanjhat Life Insurance Fatafat' campaign

- **HDFC Life**, a leading insurer in India, has unveiled its **latest campaign, 'No Jhanjhat Life Insurance Fatafat'**.
- This campaign promises a seamless and swift life insurance purchasing experience, tailored for today's fast-paced world.

ICICI Bank introduces UPI for NRIs through international mobile numbers

- **ICICI Bank** has rolled out a **new facility allowing its non-resident Indian (NRI) customers to make Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions in India using their international mobile numbers.**
- The new facility allows ICICI Bank's NRI customers to use their international mobile numbers registered with their NRE/NRO accounts for UPI payments.
- This change applies to customers residing in ten countries, including the **USA, UK, UAE, Canada, Singapore, Australia, Hong Kong, Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.**

Thomas Cook launches video KYC for forex buyers

- **Thomas Cook India** has launched **video KYC for its retail foreign exchange customers for a safe digital transaction.**
- The company said that the new initiative, 'Ab Forex Ghar Baithe', offers customers a paperless means to buy forex without stepping out of home.

ICICI Pru Life launches ULIP having fund value-based distributor payouts

- **ICICI Prudential Life Insurance** has launched **ICICI Pru Platinum, a Unit Linked Investment Plan (ULIP)** that ties the distributor's commission to their customers' Assets Under Management (AUM).
- According to the product specifications, customers have unlimited free switches between asset classes without any cost or tax implications.

IRDAI imposes a fine of Rs 1 crore on IPO-bound Go Digit Insurance

- **The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai)** imposed a **penalty of Rs 1 crore on Go Digit General Insurance** for non-disclosure of a change in the conversion ratio of compulsorily convertible preference shares (CCPS).
- The company had not furnished the full particulars of the revision to the regulator, violating Section 26 of the Insurance Act.

RBI removes restrictions on BoB app, allows new customer enrollment

- **Reserve Bank of India** lifted the restrictions on **Bank of Baroda**, allowing the bank to **resume onboarding new customers through its 'Bob World' mobile application.**
- As a result, the bank will be able to onboard customers through the mobile app.

HDFC Bank, Atal Innovation Mission empower social sector startups with Rs 19.6 crore grants

- **HDFC Bank** has supported social sector startups in India with grants worth **Rs 19.6 crore in FY24**, in partnership with **Atal Innovation Mission** (under NITI Aayog).
- In FY 2023-24, 170 social start-ups received funding via 41 incubators, with a total of Rs 19.6 crore in the 'Parivartan Start-up Grants programme.'

L&T Finance launches 'The Complete Home Loan'

- **L&T Finance Ltd (LTF)** has launched '**The Complete Home Loan**', offered through a digitised process, along with a dedicated relationship manager and optional home décor finance.
- Home décor finance aims to provide flexibility and convenience in acquiring essential furnishings for a comfortable living space.

Zeta launches digital credit as service for banks in India

- **Fintech platform Zeta** has launched its '**Digital Credit**' as a service for bank in India.
- Zeta estimates that the transaction volume on this scheme will exceed \$1 trillion by 2030 and aims to capture 50% of this market opportunity with its end-to-end solution that can help banks conceive and rapidly launch multi-form credit products.

Thomas Cook India launches Digital Service TCPay for International Money Transfers

- **Omnichannel forex services company** Thomas Cook India has launched TCPay, a new digital service that brings ease and efficiency to international money transfers.
- Traditionally, sending money abroad was considered an arduous process, that involved visits to branches, cumbersome paperwork and limited operating hours.

Hinduja Group gets IRDAI approval for Reliance Capital acquisition

- **Hinduja Group's IndusInd International Holdings (IIHL)** has received the long-awaited **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's approval for the acquisition of Reliance Capital**.
- The acquisition will include the takeover of Reliance Capital's insurance arms — wholly-owned subsidiary Reliance General Insurance and 51:49 JV with Nippon Life, Reliance Nippon Life Insurance.
- The insurance regulator has cleared the transfer of Reliance Capital's 26 per cent stake in Reliance Nippon Life to Aasia Enterprises.

All Inactive Accounts to be closed on 1 June 2024: PNB

- **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** has announced that it will close all its **customers' inactive bank accounts on 1 June 2024**.
- Customers whose accounts have become inactive can activate their accounts by completing their KYC (Know Your Customer) by 31 May 2024.

Retail Inflation eases to 4.83% in April 2024

- **Retail inflation** eased marginally to **4.83% in April on an annual basis from 4.85% in March last month**, as per government data released
- The inflation rate has stayed within the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) tolerance range of 2-6%.
- The National Statistical Office (NSO) reported that inflation in the food basket rose to 8.7% in April from 8.52% in March.

HDFC Bank launches virtual credit card 'Pixel'

- The country's largest private sector lender, **HDFC Bank** has launched **PIXEL, its first virtual credit card with Visa's network**.
- The card is available in two variants: **PIXEL Play and PIXEL Go** and allows users to build their own cards with personalised benefits, offers, etc.

India's WPI inflation hits 13-month high of 1.26% in April

- India's wholesale price index-based inflation accelerated to 1.26 per cent in April on an annual basis as against 0.53 per cent in March, at a 13-month high, data from the Commerce Ministry.
- This spike was due to both food and fuel inflation. In April last year, WPI inflation stood at (-) 0.8 per cent.

Public sector banks' total profit crosses Rs 1.4 lakh crore in FY24

- **Public sector banks' cumulative profit crossed ₹1.4 lakh crore** in the financial year ended **March 2024**, recording a growth of 35 per cent over the previous year on a high base of ₹1 lakh crore.
- The 12 public sector banks (PSBs) together had earned a net profit of ₹1,04,649 crore in 2022-23.
- Out of the total profit of ₹141,203 crore earned during the FY24, market leader **State Bank of India (SBI) alone contributed over 40 per cent** of the total earnings, as per the published numbers on exchanges.
- SBI earned a profit of ₹61,077 crore 22 per cent higher than the previous financial year (₹50,232 crore).

SBI becomes trading-clearing member of IIBX at GIFT City

- The **State Bank of India (SBI)** has secured the distinction of being the **first bank to become a trading-cum-clearing (TCM) Member of India International Bullion Exchange at the GIFT City in Gujarat**.
- This milestone enables SBI IBU Gift City to conduct trades on the IIBX platform and settle them on behalf of its clients.
- RBI guidelines permitted branches of an Indian Bank in GIFT IFSC to act as a trading member (TM)/trading and clearing member (TCM) of IIBX.

LIC gets 3-yr extension from Sebi to achieve 10% public shareholding

- **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India** has been granted a **three-year extension by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to achieve a 10 per cent public shareholding**.
- LIC is required to increase its public shareholding to 10 per cent on or before May 16, 2027.

SBI raises short-term retail fixed deposit rates by up to 75 bps

- **State of India (SBI)** has increased **interest rates on short-term retail fixed deposits (FDs) by 25 to 75 basis points (bps)**.
- This is the first increase in the fixed deposit rates by the bank since December 2023.
- The new interest rates are effective from May 15, 2024. This deposit rate hike comes against the backdrop of credit growth outstripping deposit growth.

Yes Bank launches premium services under 'Yes Grandeur'

- **Yes Bank** has launched premium banking services under the label '**Yes Grandeur**' targeting elite and rising affluent class to drive business growth.
- The exclusive banking program, tailored to meet distinctive financial and lifestyle needs, has an eligibility threshold of average monthly balance of ₹5 lakh or a Net Relationship Value (NRV) of ₹20 lakh, with additional consideration given to loan relationships.

Bank of Maharashtra tops among PSU banks in business growth in FY24

- State-owned **Bank of Maharashtra** recorded the **highest growth rate last fiscal in terms of total business and deposit mobilisation** among public sector lenders at a time when most banks are facing difficulty in achieving double-digit growth.
- The **lender has registered a 15.94 per cent rise in the total business (domestic) in FY24**.
- Followed by the country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) with 13.12 per cent growth, according to published financial numbers of the public sector banks (PSBs).
- BoM continued to maintain its top spot in terms of growth in deposit mobilisation, with a 15.66 per cent rise in FY24. It was followed by SBI (11.07 per cent), Bank of India (11.05 per cent) and Canara Bank (10.98 per cent).

NPS assets surge 26% y-o-y to ₹11.94 lakh crore as of May 11: PFRDA

- Riding on buoyant equity markets, **National Pension System (NPS) assets grew 26 per cent year-on-year to touch ₹11.94 lakh crore**, according to PFRDA data.
- This overall AUM including that of Atal Pension Yojana (APY) — slightly short of ₹12 lakh-crore milestone mark — was higher than end March 2024 level of ₹11.73 lakh crore.

RBI approves ₹2.11 lakh crore dividend payout to govt for 2023-24

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has approved a **₹2.11 lakh crore dividend payout** to the **central government for 2023-24**, more than double the amount it paid for the previous 2022-23 financial year.
- The Board approved the transfer of ₹2,10,874 crore as surplus to the Central Government for the accounting year 2023-24.
- The dividend payout was ₹87,416 crore for 2022-23.

SEBI imposes ₹11.90 crore fine on 19 entities for Superior Finlease 'pump and dump'

- **SEBI has slapped penalties totalling ₹11.90 crore on 19 entities** and also barred them from the securities market for up to five years for indulging in a pump-and-dump scheme of shares in the matter of Superior Finlease Ltd.
- The regulator-imposed fines in the range of ₹10 lakh to ₹5 crore on 19 entities, including Rajneesh Kumar, Ashish P Shah and Kirtidan K Gadhavi.

RBI imposes Rs 3.10-lakh penalty on Hero Fincorp for rule violations

- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed Rs 3.10 lakh penalty on Hero Fincorp Ltd for rule violations.**
- The penalty was imposed for non-compliance with certain provisions of the 'Non-Banking Financial Company - Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company and Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016' issued by RBI.

RBI imposes ₹1-crore penalty on ICICI Bank, ₹91 lakh on YES Bank

- The **Reserve Bank of India** has imposed a penalty of **₹1 crore on ICICI Bank for non-compliance with certain directions** on 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions'.
- The regulator also fined **Yes Bank ₹91 lakh, for violation of certain norms on 'Customer Service in Banks'**, and 'Un-authorized Operation of Internal/Office.

Govt to get Rs 3,662 crore from LIC as dividend

- The **Government of India** will get **Rs 3,662 crore as dividend for being Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** of India's largest shareholder.
- This comes after the country's largest insurer declared an interim dividend of Rs 6 per share.
- The government owns 96.5 percent stake in the insurer or 6,10,36,22,781 shares.
- Gross non-performing asset (GNPA) stood at 2.01. percent against 2.56 percent in the year-ago period, LIC said

HDFC Bank to stop SMS alerts for small UPI payments

- **HDFC Bank** will stop sending **SMS alerts for UPI transitions** up to Rs 100 from June 25.
- The private lender said that SMS alerts won't be pushed for incoming payments up to Rs 500 from the said date either.
- UPI transactions require the authorisation of a Personal Identification Number (PIN), a 4-6 digit pass code set by the customers as a security measure to ensure safe and approved transactions. For normal UPI the transaction limit is up to Rs 1 Lakh per transaction.

RBI imposes Rs 36.38 lakh penalty on HSBC for violating Fema regulations

- **The Reserve Bank** has imposed a fine of **Rs 36.38 lakh on foreign lender HSBC for Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) violations.**
- The central bank said reporting requirements under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme of FEMA, 1999 were not followed by HSBC.

Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) 1999

- The Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) was enacted in 1999 and was implemented on 1 January 2000. It replaced the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) 1973.
- The FEMA Act lays down the rules and regulations regarding foreign exchange transactions. Certain sections of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) 1999 empower the RBI regarding transactions and management of foreign exchange in India.

Chapter 15: Committee

Chapter 16: Defence News

DRDO successfully test SMART missile system for Indian Navy

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully tested the **next-generation Supersonic Missile-Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART) system** from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha.
- SMART is a next-generation missile-based light-weight torpedo delivery system designed and developed by DRDO to enhance the anti-submarine warfare capability of the Indian Navy far beyond the conventional range of lightweight torpedoes.

China launches sea trials for next-generation aircraft carrier

- **China** has launched **sea trials for the Fujian**, its third and most advanced aircraft carrier.
- The start of tests by the Chinese navy came nearly two years after the aircraft carrier was first unveiled in June 2022.
- The Fujian, entirely designed and built domestically, is larger and more advanced than the Shandong, commissioned in late 2019, and the Liaoning, which China bought second-hand from Ukraine in 1998.

India's first indigenous bomber UAV unveiled in Bengaluru

- **Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace Technologies** launched **FWD-200B in Bengaluru**, marking India's entry into indigenous UAV manufacturing.
- The FWD-200B has a payload capacity of 100 kgs and is classified as a MALE Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (medium-altitude, long-endurance).
- The Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) consists of optical surveillance payloads and is integrated with missile-like weapons for precision air strikes.

Indian Air Force testes BHISHM state-of-the-art indigenous mobile hospital, for airdrop in Agra

- **Indian Air Force** has **tested BHISHM Cube**, a state-of-the-art indigenous mobile hospital, for airdrop in Agra.
- This innovative technology is a great leap forward in providing rapid and comprehensive medical aid during emergencies anywhere.

France successfully test fired ASMPA Missile

- The **French General Directorate of Armaments (DGA)** conducted a successful test firing of the **enhanced medium-range air-to-surface strategic missile (ASMPA-R)**.
- The Air-Sol Medium Range (ASMP/ASMP-A) is an air-launched land-attack supersonic cruise missile that carries a nuclear payload.

DRDO Successfully Tests RudraM-II Missile

- The **Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO)** has successfully flight-tested the **RudraM-II air-to-surface missile**.
- The missile was fired from a Su-30 MK-I aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) off the coast of Odisha.
- The missile's performance was validated through data captured by various range tracking instruments, including electro-optical systems, radar, and telemetry stations set up by the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur and on an on-board ship.

Defence Exercise	Between	About
Joint military Exercise Shakti	Indian and the French forces	The exercise aims at enhancing cooperation, understanding, and interoperability between the two Armies.

Chapter 17: Sports News

Velavan Senthil Kumar Wins His Eighth Professional Squash Association Tour Title In Paris

- **India's Velavan Senthilkumar** won his **eighth Professional Squash Association (PSA) Tour title** yesterday by winning the Batch Open, a PSA Challenger event, at the **Societe Sportive du Jeu de Paume in Paris**.
- World No. 58 Senthilkumar, the top seed, beat Frenchman Melvil Scianimanico 11-6, 11-9, 11-6 to clinch the title.

Rohit Sharma to lead Indian team for the 2024 T20 Cricket World Cup

- The five-member Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee, headed by Ajit Agarkar, announced the 15-member Indian squad for the 2024 ICC men's T20 cricket World Cup.
- **The 9th ICC Men's T 20 Cricket World Cup** will be held from 1-29 June 2024. It is being **co-hosted by the West Indies and the United States of America**.
- **India has been placed in group A** along with Pakistan, Canada, the United States and Ireland.

India to host BWF World Junior Badminton Championships 2025

- **India** will host the **BWF World Junior Championships 2025 at the National Centre of Excellence in Guwahati.**
- The 2025 edition in India will mark the return of the BWF Junior World Championships to the country for the first time since 2008 when Pune hosted the event.
- The 2026 edition of the BWF Thomas and Uber Cup Finals, meanwhile, will head to the Danish city of Horsens.

ICC Imposes 5-Year Ban on West Indies Cricketer Devon Thomas

- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has **imposed a five-year period of ineligibility from all cricket** on **West Indies player Devon Thomas** after he accepted breaching seven counts of the anti-corruption codes of Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC), the Emirates Cricket Board (ECB) and the Caribbean Premier League (CPL)
- Thomas admitted to seven charges, including those related to match-fixing.

Amul to sponsor USA's cricket team in T20 WC

- Amul will be the lead arm sponsor for USA's cricket team that will participate in ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 which commences on June 1.
- The opening match of the tournament will be played between USA and Canada in Dallas.

Tejaswin Shankar wins men's High Jump event at USATF Festival

- **India's Tejaswin Shankar** clinched victory in the **men's High Jump event at the USATF Festival in Tucson, Arizona, USA.**
- The National record holder Tejaswin cleared 2.23 metres in his first attempt to secure the top spot at the World Athletics Continental Tour – Silver event. With this jump, he equaled his season-best effort.
- Earnie Sears of USA finished second, while Roberto Vilches of Mexico was third. Another Indian athlete, Sarvesh Kushare cleared 2.13m to finish fifth.

China wins both Thomas and Uber Cup Badminton titles

- The **Chinese badminton** team has **won both the men's Tomas Cup 2024 and the women's Uber Cup 2024.**
- The final of the 2024 BWF Thomas and Uber Cup was played in the Chinese city of Chengdu.
- Thomas and Uber Cup is held every two years and is organised by the world badminton governing body, the Badminton World Federation (BWF).

McLaren's Lando Norris win Miami GP

- **McLaren's Lando Norris** has won the **first Formula One race of his career** with a shock victory over world champion Max Verstappen in the Miami Grand Prix.
- Breathing life into an F1 season that risked becoming a one-man story again, Norris, in his 110th race for McLaren, beat Verstappen by more than seven seconds, with Ferrari's Charles Leclerc finishing third.

Iga Switek, Andrey Rublev wins the Madrid Open Tennis Singles Title

- World no.1 women's tennis players **Iga Switek and Andrey Rublev** won the **women's and men's singles titles at the 2024 Madrid Open, respectively.**

- Iga Swiatek defeated Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (9/7) to win her first Madrid Open title. Last year, she lost in the final to Aryna Sabalenka.
- Andrey Rublev of Russia won the singles title of the ATP Madrid Open Masters 1000, beating Felix Auger-Aliassime of Canada 4-6, 7-5, 7-5, to win his second ATP Masters title.

Women's Doubles Title

- Winner - Sara Sorribes (Spain) and Cristina Bucsa (Spain)
- Runner Up - Barbora Krejčíková (Czech Republic) and Laura Siegemund (Germany)

Men's Doubles Title

- Winner - Jordan Thompson (Australia) and Sebastian Korda (United States)
- Runner Up - Adam Pavlesak (Czech Republic) and Ariel Behra (Uruguay)

Mumbai City FC win the ISL 2023-24

- **The Mumbai City FC football club defeated Mohun Bagan Bagan Super Giant by 3-1 goals to win the 2023-24 Indian Super League (ISL) final.**
- It was played at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan Stadium in Kolkata (West Bengal).
- This was Mumbai City FC's second title.
- In the final match, Jorge Pereyra Diaz, Bipin Singh and Jakub Vojtus scored for Mumbai City FC, while the solitary goal for the Mohun Bagan Bagan Super Giant was scored by Jason Cumming.
- The winner of the ISL 2023-24 Mumbai City FC took Rs 6 crore as the prize money, and the runners-up, Mohun Bagan Super Giant, got Rs 3 crore as prize money.

Award	Winner
Golden Ball (Best Player)	Dimitrios Petratos (Mohun Bagan)
Golden Boot (Top Goal Scorer); 13 goals.	Dimitrios Diamantakos (Kerala Blaster)
Golden Glove (Best Goalkeeper)	Phurba Lachenpa (Mumbai City)
Emerging Player of the League	Vikram Pratap Singh (Mumbai City)
Best Pitch	Jamshedpur FC
Grassroots Award	FC Goa
Best Elite Youth Program	Bengaluru FC

Japan win 2024 Men's AFC U-23 title

- **Japan defeated Uzbekistan** in the final to win the **Men's AFC U-23 Asian Cup for the second time.**
- In the final match played at the Jassim bin Hamad Stadium in Doha, Qatar.
- Japan had earlier won the tournament title in 2016.

- The solitary goal scored by substitute Yamada in injury time secured Japan's victory and qualification for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Amul to Sponsor Sri Lanka Men's T20 World Cup Team

- **Sri Lanka** has announced **Amul**, one of India's iconic dairy brands with a global footprint, as their **sponsor for the ICC T20 World Cup 2024**, starting June 2 in the USA and the West Indies.
- Sri Lanka, former champions of the T20 World Cup, will become the third team after South Africa and USA to be sponsored by Amul at the showpiece T20 tournament.

India clinches 5 medals at Asian Open Pickleball Championships

- **India** clinched **three gold and two bronze medals at the Asian Open Pickleball Championships in Vietnam**.
- Sachin Pahwa and Priyanka Chhabra led India to its first gold medal, defeating Ruben Hellberg and Chitlada Hemasee 11-9, 5-11, 11-9, in the mixed doubles intermediate 35+ category final.
- While in the women's doubles open category, the pair of Isha Lakhani and Pei Chuan Kao bagged the gold medal with a dominating 15-7, 15-3 win against Dang Kim Ngan and Tyak K.

Bajrang Punia suspended by Wrestling Authorities

- **Wrestling's world governing body (UWW) has suspended Bajrang Punia** till the end of this year following NADA's decision to hand him a provisional suspension for refusing to undergo a dope test.
- However, despite being well aware of NADA's order, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) sanctioned close to Rs 9 lakh for his training abroad.

New Zealand's Colin Munro announces retirement from International Cricket

- **New Zealand left-handed batter Colin Munro** announced his **retirement from international cricket** after a career spanning 123 matches for the Blackcaps across all formats.
- The 37-year-old has featured in 65 T20Is, 57 ODIs and a single Test for New Zealand, with his last appearance coming in their T20I home series against India back in 2020.

Neeraj Chopra finishes 2nd with 88.36m throw in Doha Diamond League

- **Neeraj Chopra** finished **second with a best throw of 88.36m** while India's Kishore Jena's best was 76.31m in Doha Diamond League.
- Jakub Vadlejch of the Czech Republic, who finished first with a best effort of 88.38. while Anderson Peters claimed the third spot.
- Meanwhile, India's Kishore Jena, who claimed the silver medal at the Asian Games last year with a personal best of 87.54m, endured a disappointing Diamond League debut, finishing ninth with a best throw of 76.31m.

Japan defeated Pakistan to win the 30th Sultan Azlan Shah Trophy

- **Japan** has won its maiden **Sultan Azlan Shah Hockey trophy** by defeating Pakistan 4-1 in the penalty shoot-out in the final.
- The final was played at the Azlan Shah Stadium in Ipoh, Malaysia.

- Japan won the trophy, with Pakistan in second place. Malaysia was in third place, followed by New Zealand, South Korea, and Canada in last place.

Rathika, Senthil to lead India in 22nd Asian Squash Championship

- **Velavan Senthilkumar will lead the Indian men's team while Rathika Seelan will lead the women's team.**
- The Indian team is highly optimistic after its spectacular performance in the 19th Hangzhou Asian Games. India won five medals—two gold, one silver, and two bronze at the Hangzhou Asian games.

Indian Gymnast Srishti Khandagale wins Silver at Asian Championships

- **India's Srishti Khandagale scripted history by becoming the first ever Indian to win a medal at the Asian Trampoline Gymnastics Championships.**
- She clinched the silver medal in Women's Individual Age group category at the 6th Asian Trampoline Gymnastics Championship held in Hong Kong, China.
- Kazakhstan's Dolgoplova secured the gold medal, while Hong Kong's S Hung won the bronze.

ITF Tournament Junior 30 inaugurated in Lucknow

- **International Tennis Federation, ITF tournament Junior 30** was inaugurated in **Lucknow**.
- Uttar Pradesh ADG Traffic B.D Paulson graced the event as a chief guest.

6 Indian Wrestlers Qualify for Paris Olympics

- At Paris Olympics 2024, **India will have six wrestlers in its contingent with five quotas coming through women.**
- Aman Sehrawat and Nisha Dahiya took India's number of quotas to six at the World Olympic Wrestling Qualifiers in Istanbul, Turkey.
- Earlier, Vinesh Phogat in the 50kg category, Antim Panghal in 53kg, Anshu Malik in 57kg and Reetika Hooda in 76kg category had already qualified for Paris Games at different qualifying events.
- **Tamil Nadu's P Shyaamnikhil became India's 85th chess Grandmaster (GM).**
- The 31-year-old chess prodigy, who started his career at the age of eight, finally secured his third and final GM norms at the 2024 Dubai Police Masters Chess Tournament. R Vaishali was the 84th Indian Chess Grandmaster.

Abha Khatua Sets National Record Winning Gold In Women's Shot Put

- **Abha Khatua** has set a **national record and won gold medal in Women's Shot Put** with a **massive throw of 18.41 metres** at National Federation Cup Athletics Competition in Bhubaneswar.
- While Uttar Pradesh's Kiran Baliyan finished second and Delhi's Srishti Vig stood at third position.

England cricketer James Anderson announced retirement

- **England pace legend James Anderson** has announced **retirement from cricket**.
- Having made his debut for England at Lord's in 2003, Anderson will finish his career at the same ground playing his 188th Test.

Sunil Chhetri announces retirement from International Football

- **India Captain Sunil Chhetri** will be **retiring from international football** after the FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifier against Kuwait on June 6.
- The 39-year-old striker has been capped 145 times by India, scoring 94 goals in a career spanning 20 years.

Neeraj Chopra wins Gold in Federation Cup with throw of 82.27 metres

- In men's javelin throw, **Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra** won the **gold medal in Federation Cup 2024 in Bhubaneswar**.
- The 26-year-old superstar struggled in the initial rounds of competition as he was second after three rounds.
- He took the lead in the fourth round **with an effort of 82.27m**.

Animesh Kujur won Gold at 200m sprint event in Federation Cup

- **20-year-old, Animesh Kujur** bagged **200m gold at the Federation Cup in Bhubaneswar, Odisha**.
- Kujur has scorched the track by clocking an impressive 20.62 seconds to win the 200 metres gold.
- The second-best time ever by an Indian after Amalan Borgohain's national record of 20.52 seconds.

Manipur wins Senior Women's NFC for Rajmata Jijabai Trophy for 22nd time

- **Manipur defeated Haryana 2-0** in the final of the **28th Senior Women's National Football Championship for Rajmata Jijabai Trophy**, to clinch their 22nd title at the Kishore Bharati Krirangan, in Kolkata.

Nandini dairy to sponsor for Scotland for T20 World Cup

- **Scotland cricket team** has unveiled its **new ICC T20 World Cup jersey with Karnataka Milk Federation's (KMF) Nandini logo**.
- The Nandini logo is featured in the leading arm of the jersey in both English and Kannada. The jersey was launched in Edinburgh by members of the playing squad.

Nishad Kumar, Preethi Pal win medals at World Para Athletics Championships

- **Nishad Kumar and Preethi Pal** have clinched **silver and bronze at the World Para Athletics Championships** in Kobe, Japan.
- Kumar, a Paralympic silver medalist, secures India's first medal with a 1.99m high jump in the T47 category, finishing second.

Brazil to host FIFA Women's World Cup 2027

- **Brazil was declared the host of the 2027 Women's World Cup** at the FIFA Congress.
- Brazil beating the joint bid of Belgium, Netherlands and Germany to become the first South American country to hold the tournament.

Satwiksairaj & Chirag Shetty win Men's Doubles Title at Thailand Open 2024

- **Star Indian pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty** secured the **men's doubles title at the Thailand Open Super 500** badminton tournament with a straight-game win over Chen Bo Yang and Liu Yi of China in Bangkok.

- In the form of their lives, Satwik and Chirag, the world number three pair prevailed 21-15, 21-15 over Liu and Chen, ranked 29th, for their ninth BWF world tour title.

Max Verstappen won Emilia Romagna GP

- **Red Bull's Max Verstappen** clinched the **Emilia Romagna Grand Prix** as McLaren's Lando Norris finished second.
- It was the 59th career win for the three-time Formula 1 world champion who kept Norris at bay despite struggling with his car.

Nikhat Zareen and Minakshi clinch Gold Medals at Elorda Cup

- In Boxing, Two-time world champions **Nikhat Zareen and Minakshi** won **two gold medals for India in the 3rd Elorda Cup 2024**.
- The Indian contingent finished the Elorda Cup with 12 medals—2 gold, 2 silver, and 8 bronze. The 3rd Elorda Cup was held in Kazakhstan's capital city of Astana.
- Nikhat in the women's 52 kg category, triumphed over Zhazira Urakbayeva of Kazakhstan with a 5-0 victory, while Minakshi defeated another Uzbekistan boxer Rahmonova Saidahon, 4-1 in the women's 48 kg event.
- Anamika in 50 kg lost in the final to the reigning world and Asian champion China's Wu Yu 1-4. To settle for a silver medal.

Alexander Zverev and Iga Swiatek win Singles Title of Italian open

- **German's Alexander Zverev** defeated the **first-time Masters finalist Nicolas Jarry of Chile** in straight sets 6-4, 7-5 to win the **2024 Men's Single of Italian Open Masters 1000 title**.
- This was also Zverev's second Italian Open title. In 2017, he won the Italian Open by defeating Novak Djokovic. It was also his first master's title.

Men's doubles

- Winner - Marcell Granollers (Spain) and Horacio Zeballos (Argentina)
- Runner Up - Mate Pavic (Croatia) and Marcelo Arevalo (El Salvador)

Women's doubles

- Winner - Sara Errani (Italy) and Jasmine Paolini (Italy)
- Runner Up - Coco Gauff (America) and Erin Routliffe (New Zealand)

India's Deepthi Jeevanji smashes World Record in Women's 400 Metre event

- **Twenty-year old Deepthi Jeevanji** smashed the **world record in the women's 400m T20** and grabbed her first gold at the World Para Athletics Championships at Kobe in Japan.
- Deepthi clocked 55.07 seconds, breaking American Breanna Clark's earlier world record of 55.12 seconds, which she had set during last year's edition of the championships in Paris.

Ekta Bhyan secures Gold Medal in Women' F51 Club Throw Competition at World Para Athletic Championship

- **India's Ekta Bhyan** has secured a **gold medal with a season's best throw of 20.12 metres in the women's F51 club throw** competition at the World Para Athletic Championships at Kobe in Japan.

Germany midfielder Tony Kroos to retire after Euro 2024

- The **Real Madrid and Germany midfielder Toni Kroos** has announced he will **retire after this summer's European Championship**.
- The 34-year-old is to hang up his boots after a trophy-laden decade at the Bernabéu.

2nd stage of Archery World Cup 2024 begins in Korea

- The **second stage of the Archery World Cup 2024** begins at **Yecheon in Korea**.
- India has sent the same 16-member team that took part in the first stage in Shanghai, China last month.
- The Indian contingent emerged as the champion team in the first stage, with a total of eight medals, including five gold medals, two silver, and one bronze.
- This was India's highest medal tally at any single edition of an archery World Cup.
- Stage three of the prestigious tournament will be held in Antalya, Turkiye, while the final stage will be held in Tlaxcala, Mexico.

Sachin Khilari clinches gold medal in shot put at World Para Athletics Championship

- In Para Athletics, India's **Sachin Sarjerao Khilari clinched the gold medal in the men's shot put** at the World Para Athletics Championship in Kobe, Japan.
- He also set a new Asian record with a throw of 16.30 metres in the F46 category, to defended his title at the world championships.

Australia and Uzbekistan host AFC Women's Asian Cups

- **Australia and Uzbekistan have been confirmed as hosts for the 2026 and 2029 AFC Women's Asian Cups**, respectively.
- It highlights the growing importance of women's football in Asia.

Preetismita Bhoi smashes clean and jerk record for gold at World Youth C'ship

- Indian weightlifter **Preetismita Bhoi** smashed the youth clean and jerk **world record in the women's 40kg category to win a gold medal at the IWF World Youth Championships**.
- The 15-year-old bettered the existing record of 75kg by 1kg.
- She lifted 57kg in snatch for a total effort of 133kg, finishing within 2kg of the youth world standard on total on the opening day of the competition.

IOC launches 'Let's Move India' Campaign to Inspire People to celebrate Athletes at Paris Olympics

- The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** has launched the **'Let's Move India', an initiative to inspire people to celebrate the athletes participating in the upcoming Olympic Games in Paris**.
- The move invites people from across the country to join the movement through a digital challenge on social media.

Dinesh Karthik announced retirement from IPL

- **Indian wicketkeeper and Royal Challengers Bengaluru star player Dinesh Karthik has announced his retirement** from the Indian Premier League.
- The veteran wicket-keeper batter was given a guard of honour by RCB players.

India's Simran Sharma wins Gold Medal at World Para Athletics Championship

- **India's Simran Sharma** has won a **Gold medal in the World Para Athletics Championships in Kobe, Japan.**
- Simran clinched the gold in the women's 200m T12 event, achieving a personal best time of 24.95 seconds on the competition's final day.
- India concluded their World Para Athletics Championships journey with remarkable achievements, securing a total of 17 medals, including six golds, propelling them to the sixth position in the standings.

KKR wins their third IPL title beating SRH

- **Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) cricket team** won their **third Indian Premier League (IPL) title by beating Sunriser Hyderabad (SRH)** in the final of the 17th IPL.
- The final was played at the M A Chidambaram stadium in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- They defeated the Sunrisers by eight wickets to lift the trophy for the third time.
- Player of the Match: Mitchel Starc of KKR.

Some important awards and winner amount of the IPL 2024 are as follows.

- Winner (Rs. 20 crore) - Kolkata Knight Riders
- Runner Up (Rs. 12.5 crore) - Sunrisers Hyderabad
- Orange Cap (Rs. 10 Lakh) - Virat Kohli (RCB) for scoring the most runs in the season; he scored 741 runs in 15 matches.
- Purple Cap (Rs. 10 Lakh) - Harshal Patel (PBKS) for taking the most wickets in the season. In the 14 matches, he took 24 wickets.
- Emerging Player of the Season (Rs. 10 Lakh) - Nitish Kumar Reddy of Sunrisers Hyderabad.
- Most Valuable Player (Rs. 10 Lakh) - Sunil Narine (KKR)
- Most Sixes Award (Rs. 10 Lakh) - Abhishek Sharma (SRH)
- Most Fours Award (Rs. 10 Lakh) - Travis Head (SRH)
- Best Strike Rate Award (Rs. 10 Lakh) - Jake Fraser-McGurk (DC)
- Catch of the Season (Rs. 10 Lakh) - Ramandeep Singh (KKR)
- Fair Play Award (Rs. 10 Lakh) - Sunrisers Hyderabad

Dipa Karmakar clinches India's first-ever Gold Medal in Asian Championships

- **Dipa Karmakar** scripted **history clinching India's first-ever gold medal at the Asian Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.**
- The 30-year-old Olympian registered an average score of 13.566 in the women's Vault final.
- This is the first time that an Indian gymnast has won a gold medal in any event at the Asian Championships.

Charles Leclerc wins Monaco Grand Prix 2024

- **Charles Leclerc** becoming the first Monegasque driver **to win the Monaco Grand Prix since Louis Chiron in 1931.**
- The Ferrari driver's victory, his first since the 2022 Austrian Grand Prix, came after a chaotic race that saw two standing starts and several first-lap collisions.

Classic Football Academy bag AIFF U17 title

- **Classic Football Academy** retained the **All-India Football Federation Under 17 Elite Youth League 2023-24 Title** beating Sudeva Delhi FC 2-1 at the Nagoa Panchayat Ground, Goa.
- Played on the well-maintained turf of Nagoa in Goa, the two teams dished out a lively display of attacking football, much to the delight of the sparse crowd.

Ravi Shastri joins Cricket Australia's Multicultural Initiative

- Cricket Australia named former Pakistan and Indian stars **Wasim Akram and Ravi Shastri among the 54 representatives of its 'Multicultural Ambassadors Program'**.

India bags seven medals at the Asian Armwrestling Championship 2024

- In Arm Wrestling, the **Indian contingent** has clinched a total of seven medals including **one gold and six bronze at the Asian Championship, 2024 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.**
- Shrimant Jha, who participated in two categories, was the top performer for India.
- He won the gold medal in the left-hand para category, while he won the bronze medal in the right-hand para category.

ICC Players of the Month for April 2024 announced

- **The International Cricket Council (ICC)** has announced the **winners of the ICC Player of the Month awards for April 2024.**
- West Indies's Captain Hayley Matthews has been named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for her exceptional all-round performances that spearheaded the West Indies' success in Pakistan across both ODI and T20I series.

Chapter 18: Book and Author

Chapter 19: Important Day

Date	Day	Theme/Importance
1 May	Maharashtra & Gujarat Foundation Day	Following the implementation of the Indian constitution , the country was divided into states on the basis of linguistic borders . At that time, Bombay was recognised as a state under the State Recognition Act of 1956 .
1 May	International Labour Day	It's a day dedicated to honouring the contributions of working people in every industry and sector. It's not just about celebrating their hard work , but also

		empowering them to be aware of their rights.
2 May	World Tuna Day	The day is dedicated to raising awareness about the decline in tuna stocks worldwide and the need to effectively implement international regulations to safeguard future tuna supplies.
3 May	World Press Freedom Day	Theme 2024 - A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the Face of the Environmental Crisis.
4 May	Coal Miners Day	It honours the hard work and sacrifices of coal miners around the world. The day reminds us of its vital role in providing energy for homes, industries, and communities.
4 May	International Firefighters Day	It honour the brave men and women who risk their lives to keep communities safe from fires and other emergencies.
5 May	International Day of the Midwife	Theme 2024 - Midwives: A Vital Climate Solution
5 May	World Laughter Day	The primary objective of World Laughter Day is to promote world peace and global consciousness through laughter.
6 May	International No Diet Day	Theme 2024 - Embrace Yourself: Reject Diet Culture, Love You
7 May	World Asthma Day	Theme 2024 - Asthma Education Empowers
7 May	World Athletics Day	This day aims to promote sports and encourage people , especially the youth, to participate in athletics.
7 May	65th raising day of Border Road Organization (BRO)	The Border Road Organization was set up on 7 May 1960 by the Pt Nehru government to execute crucial road projects vital for the Army.
8 May	World Red Cross Day	Theme 2024 - I give with joy, and the joy I give is a reward

8-9 May	Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives During the Second World War	These two days recognise the sacrifices and loss of military and civilians during the second world war.
8 May	World Thalassaemia Day	Theme 2024 - Empowering Lives, Embracing Progress: Equitable and Accessible Thalassaemia Treatment for All.
8 May	International Day of Argania	Objective- To increase awareness about these unique trees, their benefits, and the challenges they face
10 May	World Lupus Day	To raise awareness about the autoimmune disease lupus.
11 May	National Technology Day	This day is dedicated to recognizing the contributions of innovators, scientists, and engineers , and to promoting scientific and technological innovation in the country.
11 May	World Migratory Bird Day	Theme 2024 - Insects
12 May	International Nurses Day	Theme 2024 - Our Future. The economic power of care.
12 May	International Day of Plant Health	Theme 2024 - Plant Health, Safe Trade, Digital Technology
14 May	250th Foundation Day of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd	To mark the day, a series of events were organised in Mumbai , presided over by Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane.
15 May	International Day of Families	Theme 2024 - Families and Climate Change
16 May	International Day of Living Together in Peace	The United Nations General Assembly established this day to support the international community's efforts to promote peace, unity, and solidarity.
16 May	International Day of Light	Objective - To highlight the importance of light and its various applications in science, culture, art, education, and sustainable development.
16 May	National Dengue Day	Theme 2024 - Dengue Prevention: Our Responsibility for a Safer Tomorrow.
17 May	World Telecommunication and Information Society Day	Theme 2024 - Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development

17 May	World Hypertension Day	Theme 2024 - Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer
17 May	National Endangered Species Day	Theme 2024 - Celebrate Saving Species.
18 May	World AIDS Vaccine Day	Objective - To raise awareness about the ongoing fight against HIV/AIDS and the importance of developing a vaccine.
18 May	International Museum Day	Theme 2024 - Museums for Education and Research
18 May	Armed Forces Day	The best way to celebrate Armed Forces Day is by recognising an armed forces service member and pay your respect.
20 May	World Bee Day	Theme 2024 - Bee Engaged with Youth
20 May	World Refugee Day	Theme 2024 - Hope Away from Home
21 May	International Tea Day	Objective - To raise awareness regarding the working conditions of people in the tea industry.
21 May	World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development	Objective - To create a better understanding of the values of culture, tradition and education among people.
21 May	National Anti-Terrorism Day	The Anti-Terrorism Day in India was founded by the VP Singh government in the memory of Rajiv Gandhi and was intended to educate the people of India about the adverse impacts of terrorism and violence on society and the country .
22 May	International Day for Biodiversity	Theme 2024 - Be Part of the Plan
23 May	World Turtle Day	Objective - To raise awareness about the lifestyle and habitat of turtles as well as tortoises and urge people to understand them better and contribute to their wellbeing.
23 May	2586th birth anniversary of Gautama Buddha	This significant day commemorates the birth of Lord Gautam Buddha , who was born as

		Prince Siddhartha Gautam in Lumbini, present-day Nepal, around 563 BC .
24 May	National Brother's Day	National Brother's Day is celebrated every year on 24 May to respect the special bond shared between brothers.
24 May	International Day of the Markhor	Objective - To raise awareness and promote the conservation of this iconic and ecologically significant species found across the mountainous regions of Central and South Asia.
25 May	World Football Day	The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming May 25 as World Football Day . The sport is called soccer in the United States.
25-31 May	International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories	This day aims to request the administering Powers to protect and respect the rights of the peoples in these territories to their natural resources and their property rights.
25 May	Africa Day	Theme 2024 - Education Fit for the 21st Century
27 May	National Memorial Day	National Memorial Day is dedicated to the lives and glory of those military personnel who lost their lives in protecting the country.
28 May	World Hunger Day	Theme 2024 - Thriving Mothers, Thriving World
28 May	17th Republic Day of Nepal	Republic Day is associated with people's movement and aspiration for change from monarchy to make Nepal a republic nation.
29 May	International Day of the UN Peacekeepers	Theme 2024 - Fit for the future, building better together.
30 May	Hindi Journalism Day	The journey of Hindi journalism began on May 30, 1826 , with publication of the first Hindi newspaper, 'Udant Martand,' started by Pt. Jugal Kishore Shukla.
30 May	International Day of Potato	Theme 2024 - Harvesting Diversity, Feeding Hope
31 May	World No-Tobacco Day	Theme 2024 - Protecting Children from Tobacco Industry Interference

Chapter 20: Science & Technology

China to launch Chang'e-6 Lunar probe mission

- **China** is set to launch the **Chang'e-6 lunar probe on a round trip to the Moon**.
- It aims to gather soil and rock samples from the far side of the Moon, a region that has remained permanently hidden from Earth's view.
- This will be the first-ever attempt to retrieve lunar samples from the far side, providing valuable insights into the early evolution of the Moon and the inner solar system.
- This mission will also involve the first-ever ascent from the Moon's far side during its return journey to Earth.

Oldest evidence of Earth's magnetic field found in Greenland rocks

- **Geologists from MIT and Oxford University** discovered the **oldest evidence of Earth's magnetic field in 3.7-billion-year-old rocks from Greenland's Isua Supracrustal Belt**.
- Researchers determined them to be approximately 3.7 billion years old, showing remnants of a magnetic field with a strength of at least 15 microtesla, comparable to today's magnetic field.

NASA plans to develop first railway systems on moon

- **NASA has unveiled its ambitious plan to construct the first lunar railway system**, known as **FLOAT (Flexible Levitation on a Track)**, designed to revolutionize payload transport on the Moon.
- The long-lasting robotic transport system which will play a major role in the daily operations of a sustainable lunar base envisioned for the 2030s.
- This lunar railway system is part of NASA's Moon to Mars initiative and mission concepts such as the Robotic Lunar Surface Operations 2 (RLS02).

NASA Launches Small Climate Satellite to Study Earth's Poles

- **NASA has successfully launched the first of two climate satellites into orbit**, designed to study heat emissions at Earth's poles.
- The satellite, part of the PREFIRE (Polar Radiant Energy in the Far-InfraRed Experiment) mission, was carried by Rocket Lab's Electron rocket from the company's Launch Complex 1 in Mahia, New Zealand.

Agnikul launches Agnibaan with India's first 3D-printed rocket engine

- India's private space industry, **Agnikul Cosmos** successfully launched its **SOrTeD mission**, a single-stage launch vehicle demonstration powered by a semi-cryogenic 3D-printed engine.
- The mission, which lasted approximately two minutes, marked a major achievement for the company and the country in the development of indigenous space technology.

Chapter 21: Obituary

Person	About
Renowned Journalist Vinay Vir	Vinay Vir was known for his dedication to promoting Hindi journalism in southern India .

	Mr. Vinay Vir studied in Badruka College . He was also the secretary of the Yudhvir Foundation created in the memory of his father Late Yudhvir .
Playback Singer Uma Ramanan	Ramanan was a trained classical singer and appeared in more than 6,000 concerts in 35 years . Song Poongathave Thalthiravai in the Nizhalgal film catapulted her to fame.
Former Boeing CEO Frank Shrontz	Shrontz, an attorney by training, was Boeing's chief executive officer from 1986 to 1996 .
Malayalam director-screenwriter Harikumar	Harikumar , whose career spanned several decades , made his directorial debut with the 1981 film Ambal Poovu .
Renowned Urdu Writer Salam Bin Razzaq	Razzaq won the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award for Urdu literature for his acclaimed short stories collection, 'Shikasta Buton Ke Darmiyan' , in 2004 .
Filmmaker Sangeeth Sivan	He had films like 'Vyooham,' 'Daddy,' 'Gandharvam,' and the 'Yodha' . Apart from this, he also made 10 Hindi movies like 'Kya Kool Hai Hum' and 'Apna Sapna Money Money' .
International Chess Master Varugeese Koshy	One of India's finest trainers, Koshy has mentored a host of Indian chess players including GMs P. Harikrishna, S. L. Narayanan and N.R. Visakh among others at some point in their careers.
Punjabi poet Surjit Patar	Patar's notable achievements include receiving top honours like Padma Shri and the Sahitya Akademi Award for his work of writing in a regional language .
Former Deputy CM of Bihar Sushil Kumar Modi	He became Deputy Chief Minister for the first time in 2005 when Chief Minister Nitish Kumar had wrested power in the State from Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) .
Canadian author Alice Munro and Nobel Laureate	Munro was recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2013 . The Nobel committee called Munro a "master of contemporary short stories" .

<p>Rajasthan's first women minister Kamla Beniwal</p>	<p>During her long political career, Kamla Beniwal, who was associated with the Congress party, held many constitutional posts.</p>
<p>Padma Shri awardee Malti Joshi</p>	<p>Malti Joshi was known for her work in Hindi and Marathi language. She was awarded Padam Shri in 2018.</p>
<p>Veteran banker N Vaghul</p>	<p>Vaghul, who held many leadership positions in the banking industry, is credited with transforming ICICI from a public finance institution to a private sector bank in his 11-year stint as the chairman and managing director, starting in 1985.</p>
<p>Iran President Ebrahim Raisi</p>	<p>The eighth President of Iran, Ebrahim Raisolsadati, more popularly known as Ebrahim Raisi, was a principlist and a Muslim jurist, who became the Iranian President in 2021.</p>

[Click here to Join Telegram Group](#)

ambitious baba.com