

Weekly One Liners 03rd to 09th June 2024

QS World University Rankings 2025 Announced

The much-awaited **QS World University Rankings 2025** have been announced, featuring an impressive **1,500 universities** across **105 higher education systems**. This year's ranking stands as the largest ever, underscoring the global commitment to academic excellence and innovation.

Top-Ranked Universities

The rankings are led by prestigious institutions that have consistently maintained their positions at the forefront of higher education. Here are the top 10 universities according to the QS World University Rankings 2025:

Rank	University	Location	Overall Score
1	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	Cambridge, United States	100
2	Imperial College London	London, United Kingdom	98.5
3	University of Oxford	Oxford, United Kingdom	96.9
4	Harvard University	Cambridge, United States	96.8
5	University of Cambridge	Cambridge, United Kingdom	96.7
6	Stanford University	Stanford, United States	96.1
7	ETH Zurich	Zürich, Switzerland	93.9
8	National University of Singapore (NUS)	Singapore	93.7
9	UCL	London, United Kingdom	91.6
10	California Institute of Technology (Caltech)	Pasadena, United States	90.9

Top-Ranked Universities-India

Rank	University	Location	Overall Score
118	Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB)	Mumbai, India	56.3
=150	Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD)	New Delhi, India	52.1
211	Indian Institute of Science	Bangalore, India	45.0
=222	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT-KGP)	Kharagpur, India	43.7
=227	Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM)	Chennai, India	43.5
263	Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK)	Kanpur, India	39.3
=328	University of Delhi	New Delhi, India	33.8
335	Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IITR)	Roorkee, India	33.4
=344	Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati (IITG)	Guwahati, India	32.9
383	Anna University	Chennai, India	30.6

77th World Health Assembly

The **International Health Regulations of 2005** are amended by the **77th World Health Assembly**, taking into account **300 recommendations from member states**. The purpose of amendments is to strengthen nations' capacity to anticipate and address pandemic and public health emergencies of global concern. They contain measures to support developing nations in creating, bolstering, and preserving the fundamental capacities mandated by the **IHR**, as well as measures to enable **fair access to pertinent health items during medical emergencies**.

Aim of the Amendment

Amendments aim at **improving countries' ability to prepare for and respond to Public Health Emergencies of International Concern and Pandemic Emergencies**. They include provisions for facilitating equitable access to relevant health products during health emergencies, as well as mobilizing financial resources to support developing countries in building, strengthening, and maintaining the core capacities required under the IHR.

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Importance of 77th World Health Assembly

- In its **77th session**, the theme for this year’s event is **“Health For All: All for Health”**.
- To have a **deeper comprehension of the risks to and effects of global healthcare**.
- Key threats to global health are identified in the paper **Shaping the Future of Health and Healthcare**, along with possible solutions.

Why there is a need for World Health Assembly

Over the past few years, **society** has experienced a **wave of adverse events, including the COVID-19 pandemic, geopolitical conflicts and the impacts of the climate and energy crises**, which have engulfed **global health and healthcare**.

Every year, the World Health Assembly is tasked with tackling global healthcare challenges like these and deciding how best to overcome them.

What is the World Health Assembly

The **World Health Assembly** is the **governing body of the World Health Organization (WHO)**, an organization under the **United Nations (UN)** that is tasked with advancing **global health and ensuring that everyone has access to the best possible medical treatment**. Every year, representatives from WHO member states convene at the **UN headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland**, to discuss a particular healthcare agenda defined by the organization’s Executive Board. There are **34 technically qualified members of the Executive Board** who are elected to **three-year terms**. Each year in January, they convene to decide on the agenda and any resolutions to be presented to the World Health Assembly for approval.

What does the Assembly do

The World Health Assembly’s **delegates deliberate over the Executive Board’s policy agenda** for the upcoming year and determine the health objectives and tactics that will direct the **WHO’s efforts in the field of public health**. Voting to select the organization’s **Director-General for a five-year term** is one of the organization’s other duties. Head of the world’s premier public health agency, **Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**, was re-elected in 2022 to a second term in office. Along with overseeing financial policies, the Assembly also approves the proposed budget program to finance WHO activities in the future, tracks the implementation of work programs, and develops strategies to close gaps.

RBI Monetary Policy June 2024, Repo Rate Unchanged at 6.5%

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced that the **Monetary Policy Committee** has chosen to maintain the policy **repo rate at 6.5%**, with a **4:2 majority decision**. Consequently, the standing deposit facility (SDF) rate remains **unchanged at 6.25%**, while both the **marginal standing facility (MSF)** rate and the bank rate stand firm at **6.75%**.

RBI Repo Rate are as under

- Policy Repo Rate: **6.50%** (Unchanged)
- Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): **6.25%** (Unchanged)
- Marginal Standing Facility Rate: **6.75%** (Unchanged)
- Bank Rate: **6.75%** (Unchanged)
- Fixed Reverse Repo Rate: **3.35%** (Unchanged)
- CRR: **4.50%** (Unchanged)
- SLR: **18.00%** (Unchanged)

Key Decisions From June MPC:

- CPI inflation in Q1 was seen at 4.9%, Q2 at 3.8%, Q3 at 4.6%, and Q4 at 4.5%, said Shaktikanta Das.
- Net FPI inflows stood at \$41.6 billion, compared with outflows in FY22 and FY23, said the RBI Governor.
- RBI will permit use of third-party UPI apps for making UPI payments from PPI wallets.
- RBI will introduce mobile app to operate in retail direct portal for retail investors.
- Total flow of resources to the commercial sector was at ₹31.2-lakh crore in FY24.

Real GDP growth for FY25 is projected at 7.2 per cent.

- Q1 at 7.3 percent,
- Q2 at 7.2 per cent and
- Q3 and Q4 each at 7.3 percent

National Affairs

- **The Centre** has introduced a new numbering series, **160xxxxxxx**, for making service or transactional calls. This move aims to help citizens easily identify legitimate calls and curb unsolicited voice calls from telemarketers using 10-digit mobile numbers. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India created a world record with **64.2 crore voters**, including **31.2 crore women**, participating in the **Lok Sabha Election 2024**. **Chief Election commissioner Rajiv Kumar** said that the number is 1.5 times of the voters of all **G7 countries – US, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and Canada**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Om Birla**, the incumbent **Lok Sabha Speaker**, has achieved a remarkable feat by winning the **Kota parliamentary seat on June 4, 2024**. With a resounding margin of **41,139 votes**, Birla has become the first **presiding officer in 20 years** to be re-elected to the **Lower House of Parliament**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Chairman, HRI Sanjay Kumar Agarwal**, officially launched the **GST Bhawan**, the official complex of the **Central Board of Indirect Tax (CGST) Rohtak Commissionerate, in Rohtak, Haryana**. At the inaugural ceremony were **Shri Shashank Priya, Member of CBIC (GST, Legal, CX & ST)**, together with officers and staff from the **CGST Rohtak Commissionerate, Panchkula Zone**, and senior CBIC officers. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- NOTA created a **record with 2.18 lakh voters in Madhya Pradesh's Indore** opting for the 'none of the above' option in the Lok Sabha elections, counting for which is underway on Tuesday. Of the total voters, **14.01 per cent opted for 'None of the Above', introduced in 2013** following a Supreme Court order. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) South Asia Regional Office, in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, organized the **National Stakeholder Workshop on Safe, Trusted, and Ethical AI at the Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi**. This event, following the approval of the IndiaAI Mission by the Government of India, marks a significant step towards enhancing India's AI ecosystem, with a substantial allocation exceeding Rs 10,000 crore. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Two environmentalists, **Jai Dhar Gupta and Vijay Dhasmana created India's first biosphere in a tiger reserve, called the Rajaji Raghathi Biosphere (RRB) within the Rajaji National Park in Uttarakhand.** ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** has issued a notice to four states- **Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujarat**. This notice follows a **2020 case** in which a father sold his daughter for **2.5 lakhs** and later filed a complaint with the commission upon discovering her dead body. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- On **2 June 2024**, the city of **Hyderabad** officially ceases to be the joint capital of **Telangana and Andhra Pradesh**. This milestone marks the end of a ten-year period during which Hyderabad served as the shared capital for the two states. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Haryana Chief Secretary T V S N Prasad** announced the launch of a **Rs 10,000-crore project** funded by the World Bank to address **air pollution in the state**. The Haryana Clean Air Project for Sustainable Development will be rolled out in phases, starting with districts in the National Capital Region (NCR). ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Uttarakhand government organized India's first-ever **astro-tourism** event called '**Nakshatra Sabha**' in **Mussoorie**, the 'Queen of Hills', on **June 1 and 2, 2024**. The inaugural event was held at the **George Everest Peak**, famous for its breathtaking views of the Doon Valley and the snow-capped Himalayas. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India has added **two bird sanctuaries from Bihar, Nagi and Nakti** - to the '**Ramsar Sites**' list, taking the tally to 82. The newest 'Wetlands of International Importance', both man-made reservoirs situated in the **Jhajha forest range of Jamui District in Bihar**, were added to **Ramsar Sites** as part of World Environment Day, observed annually on June 5. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- After a decade-long hiatus, **TDP leader N. Chandrababu Naidu** is poised to reclaim the **Chief Minister's position in Andhra Pradesh**, with his swearing-in ceremony scheduled for **June 12 at Kesarapalli IT Park near Gannavaram airport.** ([Click to read complete article](#))

States in the News

- **Telangana Formation Day** is a momentous occasion celebrated annually on **June 2** in the Indian state of **Telangana**. This day marks the **official establishment** of Telangana as the **28th state** of India on June 2, 2014, after years of **struggle and aspirations** for a separate state identity. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The central government has approved Assam's proposal to establish a new Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Kamrup district. **Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma** announced the "**in-principle approval**" from the **Ministry of Education**, with IIM Ahmedabad slated to mentor the new institution. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a bid to bolster cyber security awareness, Zupsee, India's largest skill-based Ludo platform, has partnered with Gurugram Cyber Police for the 11th edition of the Cyber Security Summer Internship Program, titled '**Cyber Warriors**'. The month-long internship aims to train selected candidates in cyber security under the guidance of experts, fostering responsible digital citizenship and tackling real-world cyber threats. ([Click to read complete article](#))

International Affairs

- **China's space agency** announced on 4 June 2024 that BEIJING- **China's Chang'e-6** probe has lifted off from the far side of the moon, starting its journey back towards Earth. China is getting closer to being the first nation to return samples from the far side of the moon, which is always facing away from Earth, thanks to the probe's successful exit from the moon. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Dr. Helen Mary Roberts**, a **Christian lady**, became the first woman to be promoted to the rank of one-star officer in **Pakistan's 77-year military history**. Her ascension coincides with increased attention being paid to atrocities against minorities in the nation with a majority of Muslims, particularly against Christians. In a historic move, the Pakistani Army elevated Dr. Helen Mary Roberts, a **Christian woman**, to the esteemed **rank of Brigadier** in the nation with a majority of Muslims. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- In a **historic moment** for Mexico, **Claudia Sheinbaum** has been elected as the country's first woman president, according to the provisional results announced by the Mexican election commission. Sheinbaum, from the ruling **Morena party**, has taken an unassailable lead over her nearest rivals in the presidential contest held on **June 2, 2024**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Pakistan has launched its second satellite, the Multi-Mission Communication Satellite (**PAKSAT MM1**), in **collaboration with China**. This satellite aims to enhance internet connectivity across Pakistan and improve various communication services. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **South Korea** has officially launched its space agency, the **Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA)**, to lead policy and industrial development in its aerospace sector. The establishment was made possible after the Country's national assembly **passed a special law** in January to unify government organizations in charge of space policy and projects. The new agency is based in **Sacheon, South Gyeongsang Province**, with an **annual budget of 758.9 billion won (\$556 million)**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Amidst tightening Western sanctions, **India's reliance on Russian oil** has seen a significant shift. Despite a decline in imports due to sanctions-related challenges, Russia has maintained its position as India's leading oil supplier for the second consecutive year. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Roscosmos state corporation cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko**, who currently works at the **International Space Station** has **booked a record of 1,000 days** for the **first time in the world** in terms of total spaceflight duration. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **12 countries signed the Zero Debris Charter**, a landmark initiative led by the **European Space Agency (ESA)** to address the pressing issue of space debris. Unveiled in 2023, the Charter commits signatories to achieving **debris-neutral space activities by 2030**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Bank of England** is replacing old banknotes featuring **Queen Elizabeth** with new ones featuring **King Charles III**. People can exchange their old notes for new ones **until June 30, with a limit of £300**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Sheikh Meshal** recently dissolved parliament for as many as **four years** amid the widespread political dysfunction that's gripped Kuwait. **Kuwait Emir** named the small nation's **new crown prince**, nearly six months after he took the throne. **Sheikh Sabah Khalid Al Sabah** will become next in line to the throne. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India, the United States, South Korea, Japan, and the European Union have launched a **Biopharmaceuticals Alliance**, with its first meeting held in **San Diego, USA**, during the **Bio International Convention 2024**, the **world's largest pharmaceutical exhibition**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- On **June 6, 2024**, the **United Nations General Assembly** convened to **elect new non-permanent members** to the UN Security Council. **Pakistan, Somalia, Panama, Denmark, and Greece** secured seats for a two-year term starting **January 1, 2025, replacing Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Ecuador, and Switzerland**. These newly elected members will join Algeria, Guyana, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, and Slovenia as the other non-permanent members. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The main tunnel of the **900 MW Arun III Hydropower Project**, being constructed with Indian assistance has achieved a breakthrough, with Nepal Prime Minister **Pushpakamal Dahal 'Prachanda'** on **June 5**, triggering the last blast to mark the completion of heading excavation. **Prime Minister 'Prachanda'** attended an event to mark the completion of heading excavation for the **11.8 km-long Head Race Tunnel of the 900 MW Arun- 3 Hydro Electric Project in the Sankhuwasabha District** in eastern Nepal. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- A **700-metre pedestrian bridge**, inaugurated on **June 4**. The Bridge of National Unity is **one of the longest bridges in the world**. The eastern Hungarian city of **Satoraljaiújhely** has a **new tourist attraction**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **UN General Assembly (UNGA)** on June 6, elected former Cameroonian **Prime Minister Philemon Yang** as president of the **79th UNGA session**. Yang will succeed **Denis Francis of Trinidad and Tobago**, president of the **78th UNGA session**, when the 79th UNGA session opens on Sept. 10 at the **UN headquarters in New York**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

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Agreements/MoUs Signed

- In a significant partnership, Finnish telecom giant **Nokia and Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV)** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to jointly explore advancements in **5G and 6G communications**, specifically targeting transportation and logistics sectors. The agreement, signed in the presence of **Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Chancellor of GSV**, aims to leverage Nokia's expertise in telecommunications to enhance various aspects of transportation and logistics. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **Department of School Education** signed an Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the **National Book Trust** to create an institutional framework for the **Digital Library Platform, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant step towards enhancing investment cooperation between India and Qatar, the inaugural meeting of the **Joint Task Force on Investment (JTFI)** took place in New Delhi. Co-chaired by **Ajay Seth, Secretary of India's Department of Economic Affairs**, and **Mohamed bin Hassen Al-Malki, Undersecretary of Qatar's Ministry of Commerce and Industry**, the meeting aimed to fortify bilateral relations and explore avenues for accelerated growth and collaboration across sectors like infrastructure, energy, technology, and innovation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a significant move aimed at addressing the mental health needs of armed forces personnel and their families, the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)** and the **Ministry of Defence (MoD)** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This collaboration establishes a dedicated **Tele MANAS cell**, the digital extension of the **District Mental Health Programme (DMHP)**, to provide comprehensive, integrated, and inclusive 24/7 tele-mental health services. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **India's GDP growth rate jumped to 7.8% in Q4 of FY24**, leading to an annual growth rate of 8.2%, as reported by the **National Statistical Office (NSO)** of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In a first, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the **auction of 10-year green bonds** as traders refused to pay the greenium, the premium for sustainability impact. This move highlights the market's reluctance to invest at the desired yields, leading to significant financial implications. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- India's fiscal deficit for **FY24 improved to 5.6% of GDP**, down from the **Revised Estimates of 5.8%**, owing to higher-than-expected tax receipts. The deficit stood at Rs 16.54 trillion against the budgetary target of Rs 17.86 trillion. Net tax receipts surpassed projections at Rs 23.27 trillion, while total expenditure reached Rs 44.43 trillion, constituting 99% of the budgeted amount. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In May 2024, the gross **Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue reached ₹1.73 lakh crore**, marking a notable **10% year-on-year growth**. This surge was primarily fueled by a robust uptick in domestic transactions, which rose by 15.3%, while imports experienced a slight decline of 4.3%. The net GST revenue for May 2024, after factoring in refunds, amounted to ₹1.44 lakh crore, showcasing a growth of 6.9% compared to the same period last year. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Unified Payments Interface (**UPI**) achieved a **record-breaking 14.04 billion transactions in May**, marking a significant increase from the 13.30 billion transactions recorded in April. This reflects a **49% year-on-year growth**. The total transaction value reached Rs 20.45 lakh crore, with an average daily transaction count of 453 million and an average daily transaction value of Rs 65,966 crore. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- State Bank of India (SBI) achieved a significant milestone as its market capitalization surpassed **₹8 lakh crore**, driven by a remarkable surge in its **stock prices**. This achievement underscores the bank's robust performance and reflects investor confidence in the banking sector amid favorable market conditions. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In the fiscal year 2023-24, India witnessed a slight contraction in foreign direct investment (FDI) by **about 3.5%**, attributed to global economic uncertainties. However, amidst this, India continued to attract significant FDI from Singapore, albeit with a dip in numbers, maintaining its position as the highest recipient of FDI from the island nation. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Ashok Leyland**, the Indian flagship of the **Hinduja Group** and one of the country's leading commercial manufacturers, launched '**Sarathi Suraksha Policy**' a **comprehensive insurance policy for safeguarding the driver community**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Goldman Sachs has revised its GDP growth forecast for India for the calendar year 2024, raising it by **20 basis points to 6.9%** from an **earlier projection of 6.7%**. This adjustment follows a stronger-than-expected GDP growth of 7.8% for the January-March 2024 quarter, driven by robust investment demand and a recovery in consumption. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- SEBI, the Securities and Exchange Board of India, has launched **"Saathi 2.0,"** a mobile app designed to provide comprehensive tools for simplifying complex financial concepts and empowering investors with reliable information. The app features modules on various financial aspects like KYC procedures, mutual funds, ETFs, buying and selling shares, investor grievances redressal, and an Online Dispute Resolution platform. It also offers educational videos to assist investors in their personal finance planning. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Board of Punjab National Bank (PNB) has approved the initiation of the process to dilute 10% of its shareholding in Canara HSBC Life Insurance through an initial public offering (IPO). PNB currently holds a 23% stake in this life insurance joint venture. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Adani One, the digital platform of the Adani Group, and ICICI Bank have introduced two variants of co-branded credit cards in partnership with Visa. This launch signifies Adani Group's entry into the retail financial sector, **offering cardholders up to 7% Adani reward points** on spending within the **Adani ecosystem**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Bank Clinic, spearheaded by the **All India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA)**, aims to empower retail customers by providing guidance on addressing their grievances in the rapidly evolving landscape of banking technology and regulatory standards set by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Axis Bank and Bajaj Allianz General Insurance have joined forces in a strategic **bancassurance partnership** aimed at boosting **insurance penetration and financial inclusion in India**. Through this collaboration, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance products will be distributed across Axis Bank's extensive network of over **5,250 branches**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Arka Fincap Limited, a subsidiary of **Kirloskar Oil Engines Limited**, has obtained a Corporate Agency License from the **IRDAI**, marking a significant milestone. This license allows Arka to venture into insurance distribution, enhancing its existing financial solutions portfolio to meet customer needs comprehensively. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- NPCI International and the Reserve Bank of Peru have joined forces to introduce a UPI-like real-time payments system in Peru, marking a pioneering move for South America. This collaboration aims to revolutionize **Peru's financial landscape**, fostering economic growth and financial inclusion by leveraging India's renowned Unified Payment Interface (UPI) technology. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- SBI Mutual Fund (SBI MF) achieved a historic milestone on Monday by becoming the first fund house in India to surpass **Rs 10 trillion in assets under management (AUM)**. This significant accomplishment is attributed to the post-pandemic equity boom and a growing awareness of mutual fund investing. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) conducted two variable rate reverse repo (**VRRR**) **auctions totaling ₹44,430 crore**, aiming to absorb surplus liquidity from the banking system. Despite the central bank's readiness to absorb up to ₹1-lakh crore, banks utilized only a portion of the available amount. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)** is set to develop a **global economic hub in Navi Mumbai**, having secured sub-leases on approximately **3,750 acres of land for Rs 13,400 crore**. The lease spans 43 years and stems from a **memorandum of understanding signed with the Maharashtra government in 2018**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Muthoot Microfin Limited has entered into a strategic **co-lending partnership** with the State Bank of India (SBI). This collaboration aims to extend financial services to women entrepreneurs in rural and semi-urban areas across India. Under this agreement, both entities will co-lend to **Joint Liability Groups (JLGs)** engaged in agricultural, allied activities, and other income-generating enterprises. The loan amounts, ranging from Rs 10,000 to Rs 3,00,000, are tailored to provide substantial support to women entrepreneurs in rural regions. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)** has granted approval for the merger of Air India and Vistara, marking a significant step towards the formation of one of the world's largest airline groups. This merger, announced in **November 2022**, will see Singapore Airlines holding a 25.1% stake in Air India, which is set to be completed by the end of this year. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given the green light to Zurich Insurance Company's acquisition of a **70% stake in Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company for ₹5,560 crore**. This approval, received on June 4, 2024, marks a crucial step in the transaction process. Kotak Mahindra Bank, in an exchange filing on June 5, confirmed the RBI's nod, stating that all required approvals have been obtained. The acquisition is set to materialize upon the fulfillment of other conditions precedent. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has initiated its **third global hackathon, HaRBinger 2024** – Innovation for Transformation, aimed at developing innovative tech-based solutions to predict, detect, and prevent financial frauds in real-time. The hackathon features two key themes: **'Zero Financial Frauds' and 'Being Divyang Friendly'**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Appointments/Resignations

- Senior diplomat **Ruchira Kamboj**, who made history after becoming the **first woman to become the Indian Ambassador to the United Nations**, retired on **1 June**, after an illustrious career spanning nearly four decades, she announced on Saturday. ([Click to read complete articles](#))
- In a significant move, **PV Sindhu**, the two-time Olympic medallist and World Champion in badminton, has invested in Greenday's 'Better Nutrition' brand. Sindhu has also joined the startup as its brand ambassador, further solidifying her commitment to the cause of tackling **micronutrient deficiencies** in India. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Centre has appointed **Sushil Kumar Singh**, an officer from the Indian Railway Service of Mechanical Engineering (IRSME) of the 1993 batch, as the **Chairman of Deendayal Port Trust** in Kandla, Gujarat. One of the largest state-owned ports in the country, Deendayal Port Trust will be under Singh's leadership until his superannuation in January 2027. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Rakesh Mohan Joshi**, an **international trade and management expert**, has been appointed as the **Vice-Chancellor of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT)**, a prestigious business school under the **Ministry of Commerce**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Shri Kamal Kishore Soan**, took over the additional charge of **Director General of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)** under **Ministry of Labour & Employment**, on May 31. He is a **senior IAS officer from Jharkhand Cadre (Batch : 1998)** currently serving as an **Additional Secretary and Director General, Labour Welfare in the Ministry of Labour & Employment**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Bisleri International, the **pioneering force** in India's **carbonated soft drinks industry**, has unveiled an **exciting new campaign** for its refreshing beverage, **Bisleri Limonata**. Featuring the **charismatic Aditya Roy Kapur** as the brand ambassador, the **#DoubleTheChill** campaign aims to capture the essence of Limonata's **unique flavor blend** and establish a strong connection with the **Gen Z** audience. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- PNB MetLife India Insurance has announced **Sameer Bansal** as its **new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer**, effective from July 1, 2024. Bansal, currently serving as the Chief Distribution Officer, brings over 25 years of financial services experience to his new role. He will succeed Ashish Srivastava, who is transitioning to **MD for MetLife Inc.'s Global Shared Services team in India**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Defence News

- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has deployed its formidable **Rafale fighter jets** for the two-week multinational air exercise **Red Flag**, which commenced on **May 30** in **Alaska**. The IAF contingent, supported by **IL-78 air-to-air refuelers** and **C-17 transport aircraft**, arrived at the **Eielson Air Force Base** in the United States for the advanced aerial combat training exercise. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- The famous Annual **Hindi Sahitya Bharati Award** has been given to **Krishna Prakash**, who is well-known for leading Mumbai Police's special counterterrorism team, Force One. The award was given out at Mumbai's multicultural **Sab Me Ram Shashwat Shri Ram event**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Poet and playwright Siddhalinga Pattanashetti** has been chosen for the prestigious **Gudleppa Hallikeri Award for 2024** by the **Gudleppa Hallikeri Memorial Foundation, Hosaritti (Haveri District)**. Veeranna Chekki, senior trustee of the **Gudleppa Hallikeri Memorial foundation** of Hosaritti, haveri District announced. This is the **19th award** and will be presented **in the honour of the birth anniversary of Gudleppa Hallikeri on 6 June**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- At the prestigious **New York Indian Film Festival 2024**, Sanya Malhotra has etched her name in glory by winning the **Best Actress award** for her captivating performance in the film "Mrs." This triumph marks a significant milestone in Malhotra's burgeoning career and underscores her exceptional talent as an actress. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **All India Tennis Association (AITA)** has announced the **Dilip Bose award** for lifetime achievement to coach **Nar Singh**. The first award would be presented to the 69-year-old **Rohini Lokhande** who was a member of the national team along with **Kiran Bedi, Nirupama Mankad, Susan Das and Udaya Kumar**, before she took to coaching at a young age. ([Click to read complete article](#))



- The **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)**, established on August 24, 1984, by the Government of India, is a premier telecom research and development centre. Its mission is to revolutionize the telecom sector in India by developing cutting-edge technologies and products tailored to Indian conditions. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Summits and Conferences News

- The 21st edition of the Asia Pacific premier defence meet, the **Shangri-La Dialogue or the Asian Security Summit**, concluded in **Singapore on 2 June 2024**. Held at the Shangri-La Hotel from 31 May to 2 June, the Dialogue saw participation from over a hundred delegates worldwide, discussing pressing security challenges and exploring fresh approaches. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The **KAZA 2024 Heads of State Summit** ended in the Zambian resort town of Livingstone on May 31, with leaders of the **five member countries** agreeing to argue their case for lifting of the ban on ivory trade at the **20th meeting of the Conference of Parties (CoP20) of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)** due next year in Geneva, Switzerland. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- India will host the prestigious **81st International Air Transport Association (IATA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) in 2025**, marking its return after a **42-year hiatus**. This significant event, scheduled for June 8 to 10, will convene in Delhi, the third time the city has hosted the AGM after 1958 and 1983. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Analytical science** refers to the art of measurement and its interpretation. It involves improving the means of measuring the **chemical composition, structure, and morphology** of natural and man-made substances or entities and interpreting the data obtained. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Sports News

- **Dinesh Karthik**, the veteran **wicketkeeper-batter**, announced his **retirement** from all forms of cricket. The writing was on the wall after his emotional farewell from the **Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB)** franchise in the recently concluded **Indian Premier League (IPL)** season. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Wembley Stadium, **Real Madrid** etched their name in the history books once again by securing a record-extending **15th UEFA Champions League title**. The Spanish giants showcased their trademark resilience and clinical edge, overcoming a valiant **Borussia Dortmund** side with a **2-0 victory**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **Nayana James**, an Asian Athletics Championships bronze medalist, etched her name in glory by clinching the **gold medal** in the women's **long jump** event at the **Taiwan Athletics Open 2024** held in Chinese Taipei. Braving rainy conditions at the Taipei Municipal Stadium, Nayana recorded an impressive distance of **6.43m** to secure the top spot on the podium. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The ninth edition of the **ICC Men's T20 World Cup** promises to be a thrilling spectacle, with the winners set to take home a **record-breaking prize money** of at least **\$2.45 million**. In addition to the championship glory, the **runners-up** will receive a substantial sum of at least **\$1.28 million**, while the losing **semi-finalists** will each earn a significant **\$787,500**. The total prize pot for the tournament stands at an impressive **\$11.25 million**, ensuring that even the teams that fail to advance beyond the Super 8s stage will be rewarded handsomely. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The cricketing world witnessed another veteran hanging up his boots as **Kedar Jadhav**, the 39-year-old former Indian all-rounder, announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Rohit Sharma, fondly known as the "Hitman" for his ability to hit towering sixes, etched his name in the record books by becoming the first cricketer in the world to hit 600 sixes in international cricket. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup, a prestigious shooting tournament, is currently underway in **Munich, Germany**, from **May 31 to June 8, 2024**. Amidst the intense competition, Indian shooter **Sarabjot Singh** has etched his name in history by claiming India's **first medal** at the event. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Schemes and Committees News

- The Supreme Court of India has reconstituted its **Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee**, in accordance with the **Gender Sensitisation and Sexual Harassment regulations of 2013**. The reconstitution, initiated by the **Chief Justice of India**, appoints **Justice Hima Kohli as the Chairperson**, alongside Justice BV Nagarathna as a Member and Dr. Sukhda Pritam as the Member Secretary. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In response to the dynamic growth of Indian securities markets, **SEBI** has established a committee, **chaired by Usha Thorat**, former Deputy Governor of the RBI, to assess and propose enhancements to the ownership and economic framework of clearing corporations. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- On **June 5**, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign to commemorate the World Environment Day. He planted a **Peepal tree** sapling at **Buddha Jayanti Park in Delhi**. He was accompanied by **Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav** and **Delhi's Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has taken a significant step towards enhancing pensioner services by forging partnerships with four prominent banks. These Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) aim to establish **SPARSH service centers**, leveraging the System for **Pension Administration (RAKSHA)**, across 1,128 branches nationwide. SPARSH, a web-based system, facilitates streamlined pension processing and direct crediting to defense pensioners' bank accounts. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan** lead the chart of **1.16 lakh farmers** who have voluntarily given up the benefits of the annual **Rs 6,000 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan)** scheme across the country from **June 2023 to May 2024**. The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare had introduced a module in the **PM-Kisan mobile app** and website last year which enables farmers to voluntarily exit the scheme. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **ISRO**, through its Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (**VSSC**), has introduced the **PraVaHa software**, a **Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD)** tool aimed at facilitating aerodynamic design and analysis for aerospace vehicles. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- A group of teachers and students at the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Dharwad**, directed by **Prof. Sudheer Siddapureddy and Ameer Mulla**, with funding from the **TiHAN Foundation, IIT Hyderabad (NMICPS, Indian government)**, has created a **drone for fire rescue assistance**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Volvo Cars** announces the debut of the **world's first EV battery passport**, which meticulously documents the lineage of **raw materials, components, recycled content, and carbon footprint** for its forthcoming **flagship EX90 SUV**, ahead of the EU rules. Volvo owners can access a simplified version of the passport using a **QR code on the inside of the driver's door**. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Nvidia's** remarkable rally to record highs on Wednesday saw the artificial intelligence chipmaker's valuation soar past the \$3 trillion mark, eclipsing Apple and securing its position as the **world's second most valuable company**. This significant shift marks a departure from Silicon Valley's traditional dominance by Apple, particularly since the launch of the iPhone in 2007. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Science and Technology News

- As part of the **Artemis program**, which intends to bring humans back to the lunar surface, **NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA)** are working together to create a **common time system** for the moon. The project aims to meet the requirement for a common timekeeping system to manage missions from various nations and private organizations. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang** revealed the company's groundbreaking next-generation AI chip platform, Rubin, set for a 2026 release. The Rubin family, comprising GPUs, CPUs, and networking processors, promises to revolutionize AI capabilities. Notably, Nvidia plans an aggressive shift to annual releases, aiming to keep pace with AI advancements and maintain its market dominance. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Boeing and NASA are gearing up for the highly anticipated launch of the **Starliner spacecraft's first crewed flight test**, scheduled for **June 5 from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida**. This historic event marks a significant milestone in space exploration, with veteran NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams aboard the spacecraft. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Important Days News

- **World Bicycle Day** on June 3, 2024, it's time to embrace the **sustainable and eco-friendly** mode of transportation that not only reduces our carbon footprint but also promotes a **healthy lifestyle**. Bicycles have been an integral part of our lives, offering a **liberating** experience while contributing to a greener planet. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- On June 2, 2024, the world observes **International Sex Workers' Day**, a day dedicated to raising awareness about the **challenges and exploitation** faced by **sex workers** worldwide. This annual event serves as a reminder of the **importance of healthy working conditions, respect, and human rights** for those engaged in the sex industry. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- Every year, the **International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression** is observed on **June 4**. This year, it falls on a **Tuesday**. ([Click to read complete article](#))

- On **June 5th** of each year, the world observes **World Environment Day (WED)**, a significant global event aimed at raising awareness and promoting action towards environmental protection. Established by the **United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)** in 1972, this day serves as a platform to highlight pressing ecological issues faced by our planet and foster sustainable practices. This year, the theme for World Environment Day is '**Land restoration, desertification, and drought resilience**' under the slogan '**Our land. Our future.**' ([Click to read complete article](#))
- In 2015, the **General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean** of the FAO proposed the launch of an initiative to declare an International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing. After extensive consultations, the proposal was endorsed by the FAO Committee on Fisheries, leading to the proclamation of **June 5th** as the "International Day for the Fight Against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing" by the UN General Assembly in December 2017. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **UN Russian Language Day** is observed annually on **June 6th** and was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2010. This day is dedicated to promoting the study and appreciation of the **Russian language**. It coincides with the birthday of **Aleksandr Pushkin**, one of the most prominent Russian writers and creators. ([Click to read complete article](#))
- **World Food Safety Day** is an annual event celebrated on **June 7th**. It aims to raise **awareness** about the importance of **food safety** and promote actions to prevent, detect, and manage **foodborne risks**. This day highlights the critical role that food safety plays in ensuring everyone has access to **safe, nutritious, and sufficient food**. The theme for **World Food Safety Day 2024** is "**Food Safety: Prepare for the Unexpected.**" ([Click to read complete article](#))

- **World Oceans Day** on **June 8, 2024**, it's crucial to recognize the vital role our **oceans** play in sustaining life on Earth. Covering nearly **70%** of the planet's surface, these vast bodies of water are not only home to countless **marine species** but also produce around **50%** of the world's oxygen. The theme for **World Oceans Day 2024** is "**Awaken New Depths.**" ([Click to read complete article](#))

Obituaries News

- The world of wildlife conservation has lost a **pioneering figure** with the passing of **A.J.T. Johnsingh**, a renowned **wildlife field biologist** and **conservationist**, in Bengaluru at the age of 78. ([Click to read complete article](#))

Static Takeaways

- UNESCO Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom
- UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France
- DG of UNESCO Audrey Azoulay
- Chairman of CBIC: Shri Sanjay Kumar Agarwal.
- Union Environment Minister: Bhupender Yadav
- Delhi's Lieutenant Governor: Vinai Kumar Saxena
- Food and Agriculture Organization Director-General: Qu Dongyu;
- Food and Agriculture Organization Founded: 16 October 1945, Québec City, Canada;
- Food and Agriculture Organization Headquarters: Rome, Italy.
- Press Council of India Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Press Council of India Founder: Parliament of India;
- Press Council of India Founded: 4 July 1966, India.
- Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai is chairman of the council
- All India Football Federation President: Kalyan Chaubey;
- All India Football Federation Founded: 23 June 1937;
- All India Football Federation HQ: Dwarka, New Delhi.
- Adobe CEO: Shantanu Narayen (1 Dec 2007-);
- Adobe Headquarters: San Jose, California, United States;
- Adobe Founders: Charles Geschke, John Warnock;
- Adobe Founded: December 1982, Mountain View, California, United States.
- Assam's Industries & Commerce Minister: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- The Chairman and Managing Director of VA Tech Wabag: Rajiv Mittal
- Singapore's Minister for Education: Mr Chan Chun Sing
- State Bank of India(SBI) Chairman - Dinesh Kumar Khara
- State Bank of India(SBI) Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra

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Test Series

- State Bank of India(SBI) Established in – 1955
- State Bank of India(SBI) Tagline – The Banker to Every Indian
- Managing Director & CEO of YES BANK: Mr. Prashant Kumar
- Chief executive officer (CEO) of Jio Financial Services: Hitesh Sethia
- Official currency of Thailand: Thai baht
- Khelo India Programme was launched in the year: 2018
- Chief Marketing and Communications Officer at Mastercard: Raja Rajamannar
- Chief Executive Officer of ICC: Geoff Allardice
- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL): Shri Mihir Kanti Mishra
- Wrestling Federation of India President: Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh;
- Wrestling Federation of India Founded: 27 January 1967;
- Wrestling Federation of India Headquartered in New Delhi, India.
- Minister of Assam for Environment and Forest: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) was formed on: October 14, 2003.
- Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI): Ravneet Kaur.
- Minister of Assam for Environment and Forest: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) was formed on: October 14, 2003.
- Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI): Ravneet Kaur.
- Chairman of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE): T G Sitharam
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Founded: 1 October 2003;
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Headquarters: Chōfu, Tokyo, Japan.
- United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Secretary-General: Zurab Pololikashvili;
- United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Headquarters: Madrid, Spain;
- United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Establishment: 1975.
- Mozambique Capital: Maputo;
- Mozambique Official language: Portuguese;
- Mozambique Currency: Mozambican metical;
- Mozambique Government: Republic, Semi-presidential system, Unitary state, Constitutional republic;
- Mozambique Population: 3.21 crores (2021) World Bank;
- Mozambique President: Filipe Jacinto Nyusi;
- Prime Minister of Mozambique: Adriano Afonso Maleiane.
- SEBI Formed: April 12, 1988;
- SEBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- SEBI Chairperson: Madhabi Puri Buch.
- Survey of India (SoI) Surveyor General of India- Hitesh Kumar S. Makwana;
- Survey of India (SoI) Headquarters- Dehradun, Uttarakhand;
- Survey of India (SoI) Established in- 1767.