

APPLO

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CURRENT AFFAIRS—JUNE 1-15, 2023

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EXCELLENCE



Foot Prints

(Compilation of Current Events)

<p>TAMIL NADU</p>	<p>STATES</p>	<p>NATIONAL</p>	<p>INDIA & THE WORLD</p>	<p>INTERNATIONAL</p>
<p>SCHEMES</p>	<p>DEFENCE</p>	<p>SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY</p>	<p>EVS</p>	<p>ECONOMY</p>
<p>COURT VERDICTS</p>	<p>CONFERENCES & SUMMITS</p>	<p>AWARDS</p>	<p>PERSONALITIES</p>	<p>BOOKS & AUTHORS</p>
<p>SPORTS</p>	<p>RANKS & REPORTS</p>	<p>DAYS</p>	<p>OBITUARY</p>	<p>NEWS OF THE MONTH</p>
<p>KNOWLEDGE</p>	<p>APPOINTMENTS</p>	<p>COMMITTEES</p>	<p>APPS / PORTALS</p>	<p>MISCELLANEOUS</p>

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TAMIL NADU

➤ Kalaingar 100

- ✓ Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin - unveiled a logo - 'Kalaingar 100' from 1924 to 2023 - on the occasion of the centenary birth celebration of former Tamil Nadu CM M Karunanidhi on June 2.



- ✓ The logo was received by the former Governor of West Bengal Gopalkrishna Gandhi at a function held at Kalaivanar Arangam in Chennai.
- ✓ During the event, CM Stalin announced that a convention centre with 5,000 seating capacity spread over an area of 25 acres will be set up in Chennai and the centre will be named after Kalaingar.

➤ Cordelia Empress

- ✓ On June 5, Union minister for port, shipping, water ways Sarbananda Sonowal - inaugurated India's first cruise ship to Sri Lanka at the Chennai port.



- ✓ The luxury cruise ship named Cordelia Empress, operated by Cordelia Cruises, will sail for Sri Lanka's Hambantota and reach the port on June 7.

- ✓ The MV Empress will visit three ports in Sri Lanka before returning to Chennai - Hambantota, Trincomalee, and Kankesanturei.
- ✓ The cruise has been launched following an agreement signed between Chennai Port and Waterways Leisure Tourism Private Limited during the first Incredible India International Cruise Conference in 2022.

➤ **Industry 4.0 Technology Centers**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin - inaugurated the Industry 4.0 technology centers in 22 government-run ITIs at an event held at Oragadam in Kancheepuram district on June 8.



- ✓ The inaugural function was attended by Tata Sons Group chairman N Chandrasekaran and other senior Tata group officials.
- ✓ According to the CM, the initiative will enable the poor and rural students besides youth in the state to get training at low cost and become capable of meeting the expectations of the industries.

STATE

➤ Lavender Festival

- ✓ Union Minister Jitendra Singh - inaugurated the two-day “Lavender Festival” in Jammu and Kashmir’s Baderwah Valley recently on June 4.



- ✓ The festival, organized by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM), is part of their ‘One Week One Lab Campaign’.
 - ✓ It showcases the progress made in lavender cultivation and its impact on the local community in the region.
- ## ➤ Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON)
- ✓ The first phase of the Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON) - was commissioned by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan recently on June 5.



- ✓ With this, Kerala has become the first state in the country to launch its own internet service with an optical fibre cable network of 30,000 kms.
- ✓ With the new scheme, the Kerala government is set to provide free internet to poor and affordable internet service to all who reside in the state.

NATIONAL

➤ **City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain' (CITIIS 2.0)**

- ✓ On May 31, the Union Cabinet - approved the second phase of 'City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain' (CITIIS 2.0) to promote circular economy in 18 smart cities, which will be selected through a competition.
- ✓ The major focus of the programme will be on integrated waste management while it also aims at climate action.
- ✓ Different projects under this programme would include collection and transportation of waste, including transfer stations; automated recovery facilities; bio-methanation plants; and sanitary landfills.

➤ **Horrorific Train Crash**

- ✓ Hundreds were killed and more than 500 were injured - when a passenger train hit the derailed coaches of another train in Odisha's Balasore on June 3.



- ✓ The horrific train crash involved the Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express, the Shalimar-Chennai Central Coromandel Express and a goods train.
- ✓ The accident happened near the Bahanaga Bazar station in Balasore district, about 250 km south of Kolkata and 170 km north of Bhubaneswar.
- ✓ Odisha and Tamil Nadu will observe a one-day state mourning today to mourn the lives lost in this tragic accident.

➤ **Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research (MAHIR)**

- ✓ The Ministry of Power and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy - have jointly launched a National Mission titled "Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research (MAHIR)".
- ✓ The mission aims to quickly identify emerging technologies in the power sector and develop them indigenously, at scale, for deployment within and outside India.

- ✓ It seeks to facilitate indigenous research, development and demonstration of the latest and emerging technologies in the power sector.
- **Amrit Generation Campaign**
- ✓ Union Minister for the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Smriti Zubin Irani - launched a new initiative titled 'Amrit Generation campaign' on June 8.
- ✓ The campaign is an initiative to empower and engage the youth by encouraging them to express their aspirations and dreams for the future.
- ✓ The Amrit Generation campaign invites children in the age group of 16-18 from across the country to showcase their creativity and share their aspirations by creating Reels on Instagram and Facebook.
- **National Centre for Earthquake Safety of Dams**
- ✓ Jaipur-based Malviya National Institute of Technology - has been chosen as the National Centre for Earthquake Safety of Dams, the first centre of its kind in the country.
- ✓ The centre will develop indigenous capabilities in handling technology issues related to structural and earthquake safety of dams by working intensively with dam engineers, regulators and policy makers.

SCHEMES

➤ Amrit Dharohar Yojana and Mishti Yojana

- ✓ On June 5, Environment minister Bhupender Yadav - on World Environment Day - launched two new schemes, Amrit Dharohar Yojana and Mishti Yojana.



- ✓ The two schemes aim to conserve India's wetlands of international importance (Ramsar sites) and revive as well as protect the mangrove ecosystem of the country respectively.
- ✓ A compendium of LiFE (lifestyle for environment) practices around the world – Mindful Living – carrying do's and don'ts for sustainable living, was also released on the occasion.
- **Exploration of Coal and Lignite Scheme**
- ✓ On June 7, the government - approved the continuation of the central sector plan 'Exploration of Coal and Lignite scheme' with an estimated expenditure of Rs 2,980 crore.
- ✓ The time period for the extension is from 2021-22 to 2025-26 co-terminus with the 15th Finance Commission cycle.
- ✓ Under this scheme, exploration for coal and lignite is conducted in two broad stages - (i) Promotional (Regional) Exploration and (ii) Detailed Exploration in non-Coal India Limited blocks.

➤ Price Support Scheme: An Effective Tool for Market Stability



- ✓ The **Indian government** has eliminated restrictions on the maximum amount of certain pulses that can be procured, as a measure to control inflation and increase the supply.
- ✓ The limits on the procurement of **tur, urad, and masoor** under the **Price Support Scheme operations** for the 2023-24 period have been lifted.
- ✓ This decision ensures that these pulses can be purchased from farmers at the **minimum support price** without any restrictions.

INTERNATIONAL

- **World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)**
- ✓ The United Arab Emirates – took over the presidency of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) at the 77th executive council session held in Geneva from June 5 to 6.
- ✓ Dr Abdulla Al Mandous, Director-General of the National Centre of Meteorology (NCM) in the UAE, has been elected as the new president of WMO for a four-year term from 2023 to 2027.
- ✓ The United Arab Emirates will host the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) in December this year.

INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

➤ **Centralized Laboratory Network (CLN)**

- ✓ India - has recently become a member of the Centralized Laboratory Network (CLN), which comprises 15 partner facilities across 13 countries.
- ✓ The CLN focuses on testing vaccines for potential use during pandemics and epidemic disease outbreaks.
- ✓ It undertakes various initiatives to enhance the evaluation process of infectious disease vaccines.
- ✓ Indian Council of Medical Research-National Institute of Virology (ICMR-NIV) has become one of the new members of the CLN for testing vaccines.

➤ **Phukot Karnali Hydro-Electric Project**

- ✓ India and Nepal - have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop the Phukot Karnali Hydro-Electric Project in Nepal.



- ✓ Both countries signed the deal in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterpart Pushpa Kamal Dahal at the Hyderabad House in New Delhi on June 1.
- ✓ The signing of this MOU is a landmark step towards India-Nepal Joint Vision on Power Sector Cooperation.

➤ **India-US Strategic Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD)**

- ✓ India and the United States - held the inaugural meeting of the India-US Strategic Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD) in Washington DC ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US from June 21.



- ✓ The talks focused on ways to facilitate development and trade in critical technologies like semiconductors, space, telecom, quantum, Artificial Intelligence, defence and biotech.
- ✓ India-US Strategic Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD) is a key mechanism that seeks to take forward the strategic technology and trade collaborations envisaged under the India-US initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET).

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CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➤ **Global Wealth Conference (GWC)**

- ✓ The Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute (SWFI) – has launched its Global Wealth Conference (GWC) on May 31 in London.
- ✓ During this two-day Conference, major investment decisions may take place for the Indian market.
- ✓ According to SWFI, a whopping \$10 billion India-focused fund is to be launched at the conference.

➤ **BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa)**

- ✓ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar – represented the country and addressed at a meeting of the foreign ministers of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) nations in Cape Town on June 1 and 2.
- ✓ South Africa, which currently chairs the bloc, is hosting the BRICS foreign ministers' meeting.



- ✓ The BRICS ministers were joined by counterparts from countries including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Kazakhstan.

➤ **India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue**

- ✓ The 3rd India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue - was held in New Delhi recently on May 31.



- ✓ During the dialogue, the two sides discussed ways to sustain a secure maritime environment conducive for inclusive growth.
- ✓ They also reviewed maritime cooperation initiatives and ways of reinforcing international and regional mechanisms for comprehensive maritime security.
- **National Training Conclave**
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi – inaugurated the first ‘National Training Conclave’ at Delhi’s Pragati Maidan on June 11.



- ✓ The conclave hosted eight panel discussions, each focusing on key concerns pertinent to civil services training institutes such as faculty development, training impact assessment and content digitisation, among others.
- ✓ The National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) – ‘Mission Karmayogi’ – was launched to prepare a future-ready civil service with the right attitude, skills and knowledge.

➤ **17th Indian Cooperative Congress**

- ✓ PM Narendra Modi - will address the 17th Indian Cooperative Congress in Delhi on July 1.



- ✓ The two-day event will be organised by the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI).
- ✓ It will be held with the theme 'Amrit Kaal – Prosperity through Cooperation for a Vibrant India'.
- ✓ The NCUI is an apex organisation of the cooperative movement.
- ✓ The Congress is organized at regular intervals to discuss the challenges/ issues faced by the movement so as to formulate effective action plans.

➤ **SAI20 Summit**

- ✓ The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) - hosted a three-day SAI20 Summit under India's G20 Presidency in Goa from June 12 to 14.

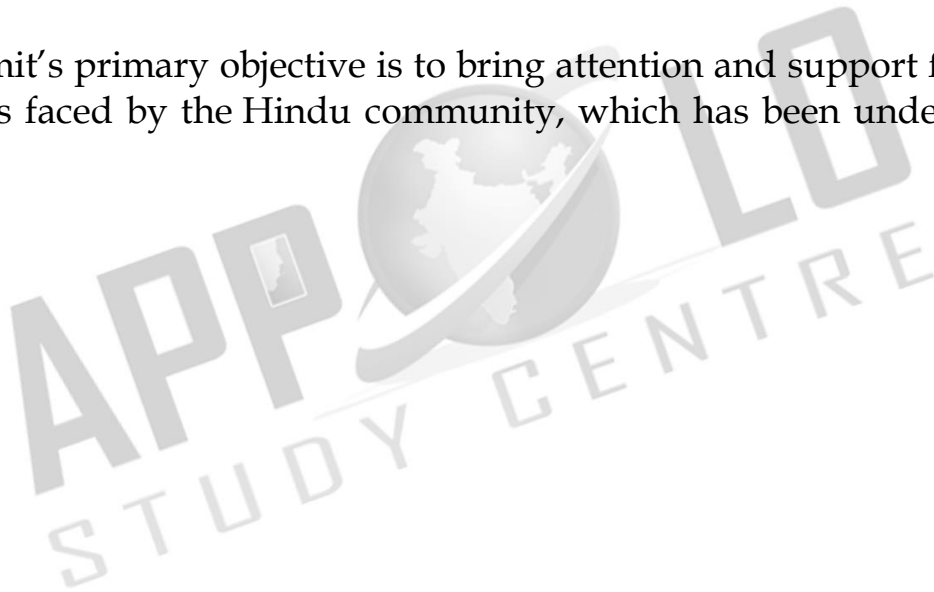


- ✓ SAIs of Australia, Brazil, Indonesia, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Nigeria, Oman, Spain, UAE, Morocco and Poland participated in the Summit.

- ✓ Blue Economy is the sustainable use of oceanic resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of the ecosystem.

- **The Women's G-20 Summit**
- ✓ The Women's G-20 summit - will be held in Mamallapuram on June 15 and 16.
- ✓ The theme of this year's summit is 'Women-Led Development- Transform, Thrive and Transcend'.
- ✓ The primary objective of W20 is women's empowerment and advocating for women's rights, raising women's voices in society.

- **First Hindu-American Summit**
- ✓ The inaugural Hindu-American Summit for political engagement, organised by a group of Indian Americans, was scheduled to take place at the US Capitol Hill on June 14.
- ✓ The summit's primary objective is to bring attention and support for the concerns and issues faced by the Hindu community, which has been underrepresented in politics.



DEFENCE

➤ **Maiden INDIA-FRANCE-UAE Maritime Partnership Exercise**

- ✓ The first edition of India, France and UAE Maritime Partnership Exercise commenced on 07 Jun 23 in the Gulf of Oman.
- ✓ The exercise scheduled over two days will witness a wide spectrum of naval operations such as Surface Warfare, involving tactical firing and Drills for Missile engagements on surface targets, Helicopter Cross Deck Landing Operations, Advanced Air Defence Exercise and Boarding operations.

➤ **'Ekatha' Exercise**

- ✓ India-Maldives navies participating in the sixth edition of 'Ekatha' Exercise. Indian Navy divers and Marine Commandos with Maldives National Defence Force participating in the sixth edition of the 'Ekatha' Exercise.
- ✓ This exercise will be conducted from 4th June to 3rd July in Maldives.
- ✓ Its main aim is to enhance interoperability between both navies.

➤ **Agni Prime**

- ✓ In a significant achievement for India's defense capabilities, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted the maiden pre-induction night launch of the new-generation ballistic missile 'Agni Prime.'



- ✓ The test, held at the Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha, showcased the missile's exceptional accuracy and reliability, meeting all objectives set for the trial.

➤ **Military Exercise "Ekuverin"**

- ✓ The 12th edition of the joint military exercise "Ex Ekuverin" between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Force has commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.



- ✓ This bilateral annual exercise, which bears the meaning of “Friends” in the Maldivian language, aims to enhance interoperability in Counter Insurgency/Counter Terrorism Operations under the UN mandate.
- **Sanshodhak**
- ✓ The fourth ship of the Survey Vessels (Large) (SVL) Project, named ‘Sanshodhak’ meaning ‘Researcher’, was launched at Kattupalli, Chennai by L and T/ GRSE for the Indian Navy.
- ✓ The Ship was launched to the chanting of invocation from Atharva Veda and the chief guest of the Launch Ceremony was VAdm Adhir Arora, Chief Hydrographer to Government of India.

AWARDS

➤ Michel Batisse Award

- ✓ On June 6, Chief minister M K Stalin - appreciated Ramanathapuram district forest officer (DFO) Jagdish S Bakan for bagging the 2023 Michel Batisse Award for Biosphere Reserve Management from UNESCO.



- ✓ A day earlier, UNESCO announced the award for Bakan, who is also the director of Gulf of Mannar biosphere reserve.
- ✓ Bakan will receive the award in Paris on June 14, and will present a report on the measures taken to preserve the natural resources in the biosphere reserve.

➤ Grand Order of the Chain of Yellow Star

- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu - was recently conferred with the Grand Order of the Chain of Yellow Star, Suriname's highest civilian honor.



- ✓ The award was presented to Murmu by Chandrikapersad Santokhi, the President of the Republic of Suriname on June 5.
- ✓ Murmu becomes the first Indian to receive this award, which is conferred to individuals who have made meritorious contributions to the Surinamese people or nation.

➤ When Climate Change Turns Violent

- ✓ Indian film 'When Climate Change Turns Violent' wins WHO award.



- ✓ A documentary titled 'When Climate Change Turns Violent' has won a special prize in the 'Health for All' category at the 4th Annual Health for All Film Festival held at the World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva.
- ✓ The documentary has been directed by Vandita Saharia of Rajasthan. She was the only Indian among the winners.

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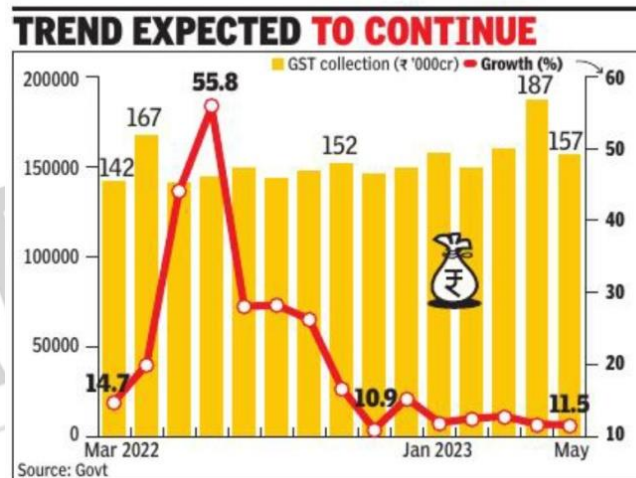
ECONOMY

➤ GDP Growth Accelerates to 6.1%

- ✓ India's GDP Growth Accelerates to 6.1% in Q4 2022-23, Propelling Economy to \$3.3 Trillion.
- ✓ India's economy showcased significant growth in the January-March quarter of 2022-23, with a GDP growth rate of 6.1%.
- ✓ This surge, primarily driven by improved performance in agriculture, manufacturing, mining, and construction sectors, contributed to an annual growth rate of 7.2%.

➤ GST collections - May 2023

- ✓ The goods and services tax (GST) collections for the month of May 2023 - stood at Rs 1.57 lakh crore, a growth of 12% over the collections during May 2022.



- ✓ Of the total GST collections, CGST stood at Rs 28,411 crore, SGST at Rs 35,828 crore, IGST is Rs 81,363 crore and cess is Rs 11,489 crore.
- ✓ With this, the monthly GST revenue stands at over Rs 1.4 lakh crore for the 14th consecutive month and Rs 1.5 lakh crore crossed for the fifth time.
- ✓ In the previous month of April 2023, GST collections had hit its highest-ever level of Rs 1,87,035 crore.

➤ Business-to-Business (B2B)

- ✓ The government-backed open network for digital commerce (ONDC) - has launched business-to-business (B2B) transactions.
- ✓ The move is expected to benefit scores of small and medium establishments by giving them access to a wider market for their products.
- ✓ The B2B transactions on ONDC are being powered by tech startups SignCatch and Rapidor.

PERSONALITIES

➤ Dev Shah

- ✓ Fourteen-year-old, an Indian-American prodigy - claimed the prestigious title of the 2023 Scripps National Spelling Bee champion.



- ✓ The eighth-grader from Florida scripted history as the 85th national Spelling Bee champion by correctly spelling the challenging 11-letter word, 'psammophile'.
- ✓ The winning word, 'psammophile', refers to a plant or animal that thrives in sandy areas.
- ✓ The eighth-grader defeated 228 other competitors (including 10 other finalists) from around the US to win the competition.

➤ Prabhanjan J

- ✓ Prabhanjan J from Villupuram district - created history by becoming the first candidate from Tamil Nadu to top the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) by scoring 720 out of 720 marks with a 99.99 percentile.



TOP 10 RANK HOLDERS	
Candidate (Gender)	State
Prabhanjan J (M)	TN
Bora Varun Chakravarthi (M)	AP
Kaustav Bauri (M)	TN
Pranjal Aggarwal (F)	Punjab
Dhruv Advani (M)	K'taka
Surya Siddharth N (M)	TN
Shriniketh Ravi (M)	Maha
Swayam Shakti Tripathy (M)	Odisha
Varun S (M)	TN
Parth Khandelwal (M)	Raj

- ✓ This is the first time that candidates from Tamil Nadu have secured the first and third positions in the test.
- ✓ Prabhanjan shares the first position with Bora Varun Chakravarthi from Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ The National Testing Agency (NTA) announced the results of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) UG 2023 on June 13.

SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENT & TECHNOLOGY

➤ Daam

- ✓ The Indian cyber agency, Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) - has warned people about a dangerous Android virus called “Daam”.
- ✓ This malware takes private information, gets around antivirus software, and the malware even puts ransomware on the systems it targets.
- ✓ The virus typically transfers through third-party websites or applications downloaded from untrusted or unknown sources.

➤ Agni-1 Missile

- ✓ India - conducted a “successful launch” of the medium-range Agni-1 missile from the APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast on June 1.



- ✓ The “training launch” of the Agni-1 was conducted by the tri-service Strategic Forces Command (SFC), responsible for the management and administration of the country's tactical and nuclear assets.
- ✓ The user training launch successfully validated all operational and technical parameters of the missile.

➤ KAVACH

WHAT IS KAVACH?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Kavach (armour) is a train collision avoidance system➤ Announced in March 2022, the system was developed by Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO)➤ The system consists of electronic and high radio frequency instruments installed in trains, tracks, and signaling systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ These instruments are programmed to communicate with each other➤ These digital systems can spot if a train jumps signal or if another train is on the same track➤ It then takes control of the brakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">and applies it automatically bringing the train to a halt➤ RFID tags are placed on tracks every 1km and at station yard, and signals for train identification and train location and direction➤ Government had planned to install Kavach on a 2000km rail network during 2022-23

- ✓ Kavach consists of electronic and radio frequency identification instruments such as radio antennas, RFID reader, loco train collision avoidance system (TCAS) and loco speedometers installed in locomotives, signalling systems and tracks.
- ✓ Kavach was announced in March 2022 and was developed by Research Designs and Standards Organisation, a unit of railways.
- ✓ Kavach was developed to prevent train accidents by automatically applying the brakes when the digital system spots another train on the same track within a specific distance and in situations of over speeding or likely collision.

➤ Cyclone Biparjoy

- ✓ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) - has announced that a deep depression that formed over the southeast Arabian Sea will likely intensify into a severe cyclonic storm, and then into a very severe cyclonic storm in the next 24 hours.
- ✓ The cyclone was named 'Biparjoy' (means 'disaster' or 'calamity') by Bangladesh.
- ✓ These names are given to all tropical cyclones that form in the North Indian Ocean, encompassing the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea.

➤ Project 'Akash'

- ✓ India - recently conducted Asia's first demonstration of performance-based navigation for helicopters using GAGAN satellite technology for a flight from Juhu to Pune, as part of Project 'Akash'.
- ✓ GAGAN (GPS Aided GEO Augmented Navigation) is an Indian Satellite-Based Augmentation System (SBAS) jointly developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Airports Authority of India (AAI).



- ✓ Performance-Based Navigation (PBN) is a modern navigation concept that enables precise and efficient aircraft operations.

SPORTS

➤ Junior Asia Cup Hockey

- ✓ India - defeated Pakistan to retain the Junior Asia Cup hockey title in Salalah, Oman, on June 1.



- ✓ With this victory, India has created a new record of winning the maximum titles at the Men's Junior Asia Cup.
 - ✓ This is the fourth time India has bagged the Junior Asia hockey title, while Pakistan has won it three times.
- ## ➤ Special Olympics World Summer Games
- ✓ India - will be represented by a strong 255-member contingent at the Special Olympics World Summer Games to be held in Berlin, Germany from June 17 to 25.
 - ✓ The contingent includes 198 athletes, who will participate in 16 disciplines, and unified partners and 57 coaches.
 - ✓ The Special Olympics World Games are the world's largest inclusive sporting event for people with intellectual disabilities.
- ## ➤ French Open
- ✓ Polish World No. 1 Iga Swiatek - won her third French Open title at Roland Garros on June 10.



- ✓ In the final, Swiatek defeated unseeded Czech Karolina Muchova in three sets to win her fourth Grand Slam title.
- ✓ Swiatek became the first woman player to defend her French Open title since Justine Henin, who won three-in-a-row between 2005-07.

➤ **French Open**

- ✓ On June 11, Novak Djokovic - beat Casper Ruud to clinch his record 23rd Grand Slam singles title at the French Open in Roland Garros, Paris.



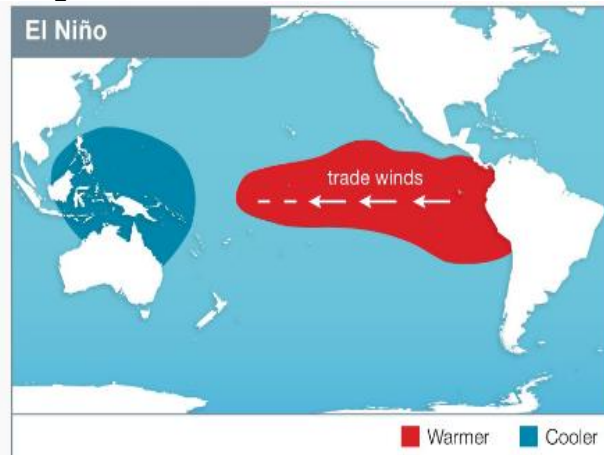
- ✓ Djokovic, a 36-year-old from Serbia, broke a tie with rival Rafael Nadal for the most major singles trophies (22 each) in the history of men's tennis.
- ✓ Since collecting his very first Slam trophy at the 2008 Australian Open, Djokovic has won 10 Australian Open, 3 US Open, 3 French Open and 7 Wimbledon titles.

➤ **Squash World Cup**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Minister of Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Udayanidhi Stalin, inaugurated the Squash World Cup in Chennai.
- ✓ The Squash World Cup is being held from June 13 to June 17, at Express Avenue, Royapettah in Chennai.
- ✓ Eight countries are participating in the championship including India, China, Japan, Malaysia and Australia, South Africa, Egypt.

REPORT

➤ El Niño's Potential Impact - 2023-2024



- ✓ As the world enters an El Niño phase—a natural climate phenomenon characterized by warmer waters in the Pacific—countries are bracing themselves for extreme weather events.
 - ✓ The El Niño pattern fuels tropical cyclones in the Pacific, increases rainfall and flood risks in parts of the Americas and other regions, and can have far-reaching implications.
 - ✓ This year's El Niño is of particular concern due to its potential interaction with climate change, which could result in record-high temperatures and intensified extreme weather events.
- **India's Internet Economy - \$1 Trillion Growth by 2030**
- ✓ India's internet economy is projected to reach \$1 trillion by 2030, showing substantial growth from \$175 billion in 2022, as per a joint report by Google, Temasek, and Bain & Company.
 - ✓ The report highlights that the expansion of the digital sphere is propelled by increased digital consumption in sectors like e-commerce, online travel, food delivery, and ride-hailing.
 - ✓ By 2030, the Internet economy is expected to contribute 62% to India's technology sector, a notable increase from 48% in 2022.

RANKING

➤ **National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)**

- ✓ The Ministry of Education - announced the ranking of educational institutes by National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for the year 2023.
- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras was awarded the best educational institute under the overall category for the fifth consecutive year (2019 to 2023).
- ✓ IIT Madras was also ranked at second place in 'Innovations' category (previously known as the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements).
- ✓ IIT Madras has also been recognised as an 'Institution of Eminence' (IoE) in September 2019 by the Government of India.

➤ **State Food Safety Index (SFSI)**

- ✓ Kerala - has emerged as the top state, among the large ones, in maintaining high food safety standards.
- ✓ This is based on the latest State Food Safety Index (SFSI) that was released by health minister Mansukh Mandaviya on June 7.
- ✓ Among the larger states, Punjab and Tamil Nadu stood second and third, while Goa emerged as the leader among the smaller states.

IMPORTANT DAY

➤ **World Milk Day - June 01**

- ✓ World Milk Day, established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, has been observed across the world since its inception in 2001. The idea behind the special day is to bring the importance of milk as a global food to the forefront and to promote dairy farming and the dairy industry.
- ✓ According to worldmilkday.org, the theme of World Milk Day 2023 is "Showcasing how dairy is reducing its environmental footprint, while also providing nutritious foods and livelihoods."

➤ **Global Parents Day - June 01**

- ✓ Global Parents Day is celebrated on June 1 every year to honor all parents around the world for the selfless commitment and lifelong sacrifice they make for their children.
- ✓ In 2012, the General Assembly proclaimed June 1 as the Global Day of Parents, to be observed annually in honour of parents throughout the world.

➤ **World Bicycle Day - June 03**

- ✓ World Bicycle Day is an annual event celebrated on June 3rd. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2018 to recognize the bicycle as a simple, affordable, reliable, clean and environmentally fit sustainable means of transport.
- ✓ The selection of this date is significant as it commemorates the anniversary of the invention of the bicycle by Karl von Drais in 1817.
- ✓ The theme for this year's World Bicycle Day is "Riding Together for a Sustainable Future."

➤ **World Environment Day - June 05**

- ✓ World Environment Day is celebrated every year to raise awareness about the need to protect our environment.
- ✓ Theme 2023 - "Beat Plastic Pollution".
- ✓ World Environment Day 2023 is being hosted by the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, also known as Ivory Coast, in West Africa, while The Netherlands will be its partner this year.

➤ **International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing - June 05**

- ✓ International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing is celebrated on June 5 every year.
- ✓ The day was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2017 to raise awareness of the problem of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

- **World Food Safety Day - June 07**
- ✓ World Food Safety day is celebrated on June 7 annually across the globe to highlight the importance of maintaining food standards. The day was aimed at inspiring the UN member nations to prioritise food safety standards and work collaboratively to protect consumers from foodborne diseases.
- ✓ The theme of this year's World Food Safety Day 2023 is "Food standards save lives."

- **World Oceans Day - June 08**
- ✓ World Oceans Day, observed annually on June 8th, serves as a global reminder of the crucial role oceans play in sustaining life on Earth.
- ✓ By amplifying the significance of the world's oceans, we hope to inspire individuals, communities, and governments to work together for a more sustainable future.
- ✓ Every year, the World Oceans Day is celebrated under a specific theme. This year, the theme of World Oceans day 2023 is "Planet Ocean: The Tides are Changing."

- **World Brain Tumour Day - June 08**
- ✓ World Brain Tumor Day is observed every year on 8 June. It is celebrated to raise awareness about brain tumor and educate people about it.
- ✓ On June 8, 2000, the German Brain Tumor Association started the celebration of German Brain Tumor Day.
- ✓ In 2010, the International Brain Tumor Alliance (IBTA) designated 8 June as World Brain Tumor Day.

- **World Accreditation Day - June 09**
- ✓ June 9th 2023 marks World Accreditation Day (#WAD2023), a global initiative established by International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and International Accreditation Forum (IAF) to promote the value of accreditation.
- ✓ The theme for WAD 2023 is "Accreditation: Supporting the Future of Global Trade".

- **World Day Against Child Labour - June 12**
- ✓ World Day Against Child Labour, observed on June 12th, aims to inspire a global movement against child labour. With the slogan "Social Justice for All. End Child

Labour!" in 2023, it highlights the connection between social justice and the eradication of child labour.

- ✓ Its purpose is to motivate individuals, organizations, and governments to combat child labour and work towards its permanent elimination.

➤ **International Albinism Awareness Day - June 13**

- ✓ International Albinism Awareness Day is observed annually on 13th June to create awareness about a genetic skin condition called Albinism, and promote the rights and regulations of Albinism on a global level.
- ✓ This year's theme, "Inclusion is Strength," builds on last year's theme of "United in making our voice heard."

➤ **World Blood Donor Day - June 14**

- ✓ World Blood Donor Day is observed annually on June 14 to express gratitude towards selfless voluntary blood donors and celebrate the essence of life and humanity.
- ✓ This occasion serves as a significant platform to appreciate and acknowledge voluntary blood donors worldwide.
- ✓ The slogan or theme of the World Blood Donor Day 2023 is "Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often."

➤ **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) - June 15**

- ✓ The day aims to raise awareness about the abuse, discrimination and negligence faced by older persons.
- ✓ World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is an annual initiative launched on June 15, 2006, by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization.
- ✓ Theme 2023 - "Closing the Circle: Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Older Age Policy, Law and Evidence-based Responses".

➤ **Global Wind Day - June 15**

- ✓ Global Wind Day, also known as World Wind Day, is a global event celebrated annually on June 15th. It serves as an opportunity to explore the potential of wind energy, its capacity to transform our energy systems, reduce carbon emissions in our economies, and stimulate job creation and economic growth.
- ✓ This day encourages us to delve into the power of wind and the immense possibilities it offers to reshape our energy landscape.

MISCELLANEOUS

➤ Know about Homo Naledi



- ✓ New research indicates that Homo Naledi, an ancient human species with brains about one-third the size of modern humans, engaged in burial practices and created engravings deep within a cave system in southern Africa around 300,000 years ago.
- ✓ These findings challenge the assumption that larger brains are directly linked to higher intelligence. The discoveries, presented in a series of papers accepted for publication in the journal eLife, have the potential to significantly change our understanding of human beliefs, culture, and symbolism.

