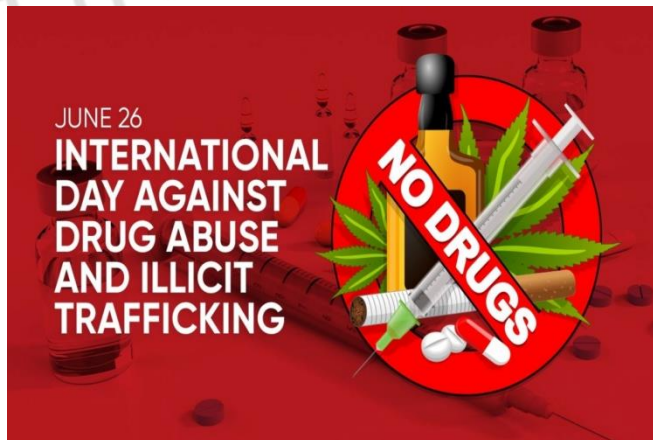


EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 26, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- **The state government - has announced the chief minister's police medal to five policemen on the occasion of International Day Against Drug Abuse And Illicit Trafficking observed on June 26.**
- ✓ Five policemen, including two SPs, were awarded for outstanding work in eradicating drug peddling and illicit trafficking
- ✓ The awards will be presented by chief minister M K Stalin on August 15 this year.
- ✓ The five awarded policemen are V Badrinarayanan, SP, Coimbatore; Dongre Pravin Umesh, SP, Theni; M Gunasekaran, DSP, railway, Salem sub-division; S Murugan, SI, Namakkal, and R Kumar, Constable (Grade-I), Namakkal.
- ✓ Besides, a special award (without cash prize) has been announced for Asra Garg, IG (south zone), Madurai for his work against drug menace.



- ✓ The International Day Against Drug Abuse And Illicit Trafficking is observed every year to strengthen action and cooperation in achieving a world free of drug abuse
- ✓ Theme 2023 - "People First: stop stigma and Discrimination, strengthen Prevention".
- ✓ The United Nations General Assembly decided on December 7, 1987, to observe June 26 as International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

INTERNATIONAL

- **Wagner mercenary chief Yevgeny Prigozhin - will move to Belarus under a deal brokered by Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko**



- ✓ This ends an armed mutiny that Prigozhin had led against Russia's military leadership
 - ✓ Lukashenko had offered to mediate with Russian President Vladimir Putin.
 - ✓ Prigozhin had earlier demanded that Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu and Chief of the General Staff Valery Gerasimov be handed over to him
 - ✓ As per the terms of the deal, the criminal case that had been opened against Prigozhin for armed mutiny would be dropped
 - ✓ Besides, the Wagner fighters who had taken part in his “march for justice” would not face any action, in recognition of their previous service to Russia.
 - ✓ The Wagner Group was responsible for many of Russia’s early successes in its ongoing war against Ukraine including the Battle of Sievierodonetsk
- **The Sultanate of Oman - creates history after becoming the first foreign government to promote their country through yoga.**



- ✓ In a pioneering initiative, the Indian Embassy in Oman has prepared an innovative video called 'Soulful Yoga, Serene Oman' on the eve of the International Day of Yoga 2023
- ✓ The Indian Embassy has partnered with 'Visit Oman,' a subsidiary of Oman's Ministry of Tourism, to produce the video.
- ✓ This marks the first instance of a foreign government using yoga to promote its own country.
- ✓ The video demonstrates the increasing popularity and acceptance of yoga as a health practice worldwide besides highlighting its growing prominence in Oman
- ✓ The Indian Embassy has been actively involved in promoting yoga in Oman through various initiatives.
- ✓ In 2022, 'Muscat Yoga Mahotsav,' a 75-day celebration featuring over 75 yoga events across major cities in Oman in tune with the 75 years of India's independence under 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' was held.
- ✓ This year, 'Oman Yoga Yatra', a five-month-long journey leading up to a large-scale celebration of the International Day of Yoga 2023 was held
- ✓ A special yoga session for the Men's and Women's National Hockey teams of Oman, emphasizing the significance of yoga in sports was also organized.
- ✓ Additionally, a curated yoga session was arranged for children with special needs, showcasing the therapeutic benefits of yoga for their well-being.

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **On June 25, PM Narendra Modi and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi - signed a landmark 'strategic partnership' agreement**
- ✓ With their focus on intensifying political, defence and counter-terrorism cooperation, both the leaders had decided to elevate bilateral ties to the level of strategic partnership during the latter's visit to India in January for the Republic Day celebrations.
- ✓ PM Modi's maiden visit to Egypt also saw talks on investments by Indian companies in the Suez Canal Economic Zone.
 - ✓ Both the leaders also focused on ways to deepen cooperation in defence and security, trade and investment, renewables, information technology, agriculture and health.
 - ✓ The leaders discussed regional and global issues and underlined their commitment to the UN Charter and sovereignty and territorial integrity.
- ✓ Three MoUs were also signed after the meeting between the two leaders in areas like agriculture, archaeology and competition law.
- ✓ **Egypt's highest civilian honour, Order of the Nile, was conferred on PM Modi by Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, making him the first Indian to receive the award.**
- ✓ The honour is conferred upon heads of states, crown princes, and vice-presidents who offer Egypt or humanity invaluable services.

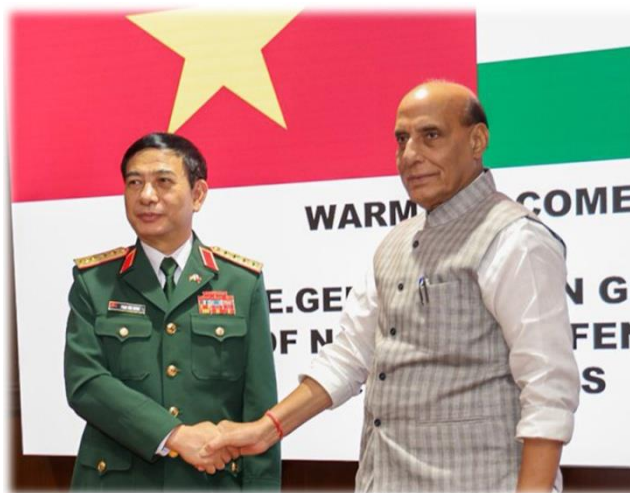


- ✓ This is the 13th international award conferred upon the prime minister since he took over in 2014
- ✓ One of the highlights of PM Narendra Modi's maiden trip to Egypt was a visit to the 11th century Al-Hakim Mosque in Cairo on June 25.
 - ✓ It is the Shiite mosque that reopened earlier this year after renovation work funded by the Bohra community that shares close ties with both India and Egypt.
 - ✓ Al-Hakim mosque, built in 1012, is the fourth oldest mosque in Cairo and the second Fatimid mosque to be built in the city.



- ✓ The mosque was named after Al-Hakim bi-Amr Allah, the 16th Fatimid caliph, and is an important religious and cultural site for the Dawoodi Bohra community.
- ✓ The PM also visited the Heliopolis Commonwealth War Grave Cemetery in Cairo to pay homage to over 4,300 valiant Indian soldiers who sacrificed their lives in Egypt and Aden during World War 1.
- ✓ PM Modi ended his state visit to Egypt by visiting the Great Pyramids of Giza, on the outskirts of Cairo.
- ✓ He was accompanied by Egyptian PM Mostafa Madbouly who invited him to take a tour of the pyramids.

- ✓ Egypt is among the special guests invited by India for G20 summit to be held in September this year.
- **India – to gift indigenously-built in-service Missile Corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam.**
- ✓ This was announced recently by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh after the bilateral talks with Vietnamese Defence Minister General Phan Van Gang in New Delhi on June 19



- ✓ Both the countries will also collaborate in defence industry cooperation, maritime security and multinational cooperation.
- ✓ Vietnam is an important partner in India's Act East Policy and the Indo-Pacific region
- ✓ During Rajnath Singh's visit to Vietnam in June 2022, a joint vision statement on the India-Vietnam defence partnership and a MoU on mutual logistics support were signed.
- ✓ In 2016, during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Vietnam, bilateral relations were further elevated to a "comprehensive strategic partnership".

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Bihar - has hosted the two day G-20 Labour Engagement summit on June 22 and 23 in Patna.**
- ✓ The Arts and Culture Department of the State was the nodal agency for the summit.
- ✓ The summit witnessed participation of around 180 delegates from various G20 member countries.
- ✓ During the event, representatives from trade unions and officials of G-20 countries discussed about the issues of labour and skill in the sectors of agriculture, energy, employment, environment and allied areas.
- ✓ Bihar Governor Rajendra Viswanath Arlekar inaugurated the event at Gyan Bhawan Auditorium in Patna.



- ✓ Union Minister for Labour and Employment Bhupendra Yadav and State Labour Resource Minister Surendra Ram also addressed the inaugural session.

SPORTS

- Promising Indian golfer Diksha Dagar – has emerged as the winner of the Czech Republic Ladies Open on June 25.



- ✓ The Czech Ladies Open is Dagar's second title on the Ladies European Tour (LET).
- ✓ She is only behind India's No. 1 golfer Aditi Ashok (four) in terms of Indian golfers with most LET titles.
- ✓ Aditi Ashok won the Hero Women's Indian Open in 2016 to become the first Indian to triumph on the Tour.
- ✓ Diksha now becomes the second Indian to win in 2023 as Aditi won the Magical Kenya Ladies earlier this season.

- ✓ This was Diksha's 79th start on the LET and she now has two individual wins and nine top 10 finishes, four of which have come this season.
- ✓ The 22-year old left-handed golfer from Haryana won her first title on the Ladies European Tour at the Investec Women's South African Open in March 2019.
- ✓ She was also part of the winning team at the Aramco Team Series in London in 2021
- ✓ Diksha is a two-time medallist at the Deaflympics, including a gold medal in 2021 after taking a silver in 2017.
- ✓ In 2021 she also participated at the Tokyo Olympics, becoming the first-ever golfer to compete at both Deaflympics and the Olympic Games.

