

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 11, 2023

### STATES

- 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.
- ✓ The aim of the government is to give free internet to 20 lakh families from economically backward class.
- ✓ BEL, a public sector undertaking (PSU) is responsible for planning, procurement, execution, operation, monitoring and control, while RailTel, another PSU, is responsible for supply, installation, testing, commissioning, operation and maintenance of all IT components.
- ✓ In the initial phase, the government will provide internet access to 100 houses in each legislative assembly constituency
- ✓ As on date, K-FON has been successfully installed in 26,492 government offices, out of which 17,354 offices have live internet access
- ✓ K-FON is a public-funded project and the estimated cost is over Rs 1,500 crore.

- ✓ Currently, in the state, which has around 4 crore population with 75 lakh households, only around 20 lakh families have fibre connections.
- **In Madhya Pradesh, a new scheme by name 'Chief Minister's Learn and Earn scheme' - has been launched to teach employable skills to the youth.**
  - ✓ Under the scheme, 703 work areas have been identified for training to the youth.
  - ✓ The most important aspect of this learn-and-earn scheme is that along with learning skills, the youth will also be given an allowance of Rs 8,000 to 10,000.
  - ✓ At least one lakh youth will be provided training under the scheme.
  - ✓ As per the schedule, the registration of establishments providing training to youth commenced from June 7 and the registration of youth willing to learn work will start from June 15.
  - ✓ The youth will start working from 1st August.
- **Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha - laid the foundation stone of ONGC National Disaster Mitigation Centre & Yatri Niwas in Jammu on June 6.**



- ✓ The construction work of Disaster Management Center has been taken under CSR initiative of ONGC.
- ✓ The Yatri Niwas will help in providing accommodation for 30,000 Amarnath pilgrims every year, particularly for pilgrims from weaker sections.

## NATIONAL

- **NCP chief Sharad Pawar - has named Supriya Sule and Praful Patel as working presidents of the Nationalist Congress Party on June 10**
- ✓ The announcement was made at the 25th anniversary of the party, founded by him and P A Sangma on June 10, 1999.
- ✓ Ajit Pawar, Sharad Pawar's nephew and a prominent figure within the NCP, was present during the announcement.
- ✓ Supriya Sule has been given the charge of three states including Maharashtra, Haryana, Punjab, and issues related to women, youth, students and the Lok Sabha.



- ✓ Praful Patel, on the other hand, could have been made in charge of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Goa, and Rajya Sabha
- ✓ The 82-year-old leader, on May 3, had announced his resignation as the party's national president, but withdrew his decision two days later.
- **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
- ✓ In this regard, an MoU was signed by the Institute with the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA), functioning under the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti
- **The Indian Navy - participated in a commemorative event to mark 130 years of the start of struggle by Mahatma Gandhi against apartheid at the Pietermaritzburg Railway Station near Durban**



- ✓ INS Trishul, a frontline warship of the Indian Navy has visited Durban from 6 to 9 June to commemorate the 130th anniversary of the 7th June 1893 incident at Pietermaritzburg Railway Station.
- ✓ Alongside, India and South Africa are also celebrating 30 years of re-establishment of diplomatic relations.

- ✓ Mahatma Gandhi arrived in Durban, South Africa, in 1893 to serve as legal counsel to the merchant Dada Abdulla.
  - ✓ On 7 June 1893, during a trip to Pretoria in the Transvaal, Gandhiji was evicted from the first-class compartment at Pietermaritzburg station as non-whites were not permitted in first-class compartments.
  - ✓ The incident is considered to be the trigger which led to Gandhiji's fight against racial oppression and to the birth of Satyagraha.
  - ✓ On April 25, 1997, Nelson Mandela, then President of South Africa, conferred posthumously the award titled 'Freedom of Pietermaritzburg' on Mahatma Gandhi.
- **Union Minister of State Kapil Patil – recently announced that India's first carbon neutral Village is being developed in Bhiwandi Taluka of Thane district.**
- ✓ According to the Minister, as much as 121 tribal villages in the district are being developed as model villages.
  - ✓ In the Bhiwandi Lok Sabha constituency, one lakh 75 thousand farmers are covered under the benefits of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana
  - ✓ Further, many important projects including Thane-Bhiwandi-Kalyan Metro, Kalyan-Murbad Railway, Eight-Layer Majivada-Vadape Bypass, Shahapur-Khopoli Highway etc. have been completed in the constituency
- **The State Bank of India, Bengaluru circle - has launched 'Project Kuber' recently to meet the banking needs of its customers**



- ✓ Under the project Kuber, four transaction banking hubs and one corporate salary package hub will be established.
- ✓ They will serve as a one-stop destination for digital banking services such as Yono Business, e-Payments, Cash Management Products, and more.
- ✓ These hubs will help in increasing the market share in liability products of SBI.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

- **United Arab Emirates (UAE) - has won the bid to host the World Conservation Congress of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 2025**

- ✓ The bid was submitted by the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi on behalf of Abu Dhabi and the UAE government.
- ✓ The IUCN Congress, a major event in the conservation world, will be held in Abu Dhabi from October 10 to 21, 2025 at the prestigious Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre.
- ✓ The conference will attract an estimated attendance of 10,000-15,000 delegates from over 160 countries
- ✓ It is expected to bring together global leaders, policymakers, scientists, and conservationists to address the current environmental challenges.
- ✓ The previous Congress took place in Marseille, France, in September 2021.

## COMMITTEES

- **The Centre - has constituted a Peace Committee in Manipur under the Chairpersonship of the Governor, Anusuiya Uikey to broker peace among various warring ethnic groups of the state through dialogue and negotiations**



- ✓ The members of the committee include Chief Minister, a few Ministers in the State Government, MP, MLAs, and leaders from different political parties.
- ✓ The Committee also includes former civil servants, educationists, litterateurs, artists, social workers, and representatives of different ethnic groups.
- ✓ The mandate of the committee shall be to facilitate the process of establishment of peace among various ethnic groups
- ✓ The Committee should strengthen social cohesiveness, mutual understanding and facilitate cordial communication between various ethnic groups.
- ✓ Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah visited the state of Manipur from May 29 to June 1, 2023
- ✓ During his visit, the Minister announced the constitution of a Peace Committee as part of the measures to end the strife in Manipur and restore peace at the earliest.
- ✓ At least 105 people have been killed and nearly 40,000 displaced in the clashes between the Kukis, who mostly reside in the hill districts, and the Meiteis, the dominant community in Imphal Valley, since May 3.
- ✓ Violent clashes broke out in Manipur after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts on May 3 to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribes (ST) status

- ✓ A total of 953 arms, 13,351 ammunition and 223 bombs of different kinds have been recovered so far.
- ✓ In a related development, the three-member commission of inquiry on the violence headed by retired chief justice of Gauhati high court Ajai Lamba arrived in Imphal on June 10.
- ✓ The commission will submit its report to the Centre “as soon as possible but not later than six months for the date of its first sitting.”
- ✓ It has been tasked with finding the causes for the spread of violence and riots targeting members of different communities since May 3 and the sequence of events leading to such violence.
- ✓ The panel will find “whether there were any lapses or dereliction of duty on the part of any of the responsible authorities and individuals” and “the adequacy of the administrative measures taken to prevent and to deal with the said violence and riots”.

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Foreign minister S Jaishankar - will chair the G20 development ministers' meeting in Varanasi on June 11.**



- ✓ PM Narendra Modi will deliver a special video address at the beginning of the meeting, under the G20 Indian Presidency.
  - ✓ A total of 200 delegates are expected to attend the meeting, which will continue till 13th June.
  - ✓ The meeting will consist of two main sessions, one on "Multilateralism: Collective Actions for Accelerating Progress towards SDGs" and another on "Green Development: A LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) Approach".
  - ✓ Germany's Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze will also attend the G20 Development Ministers Meeting.
- **The third meeting of the G20 Health Working Group (HWG) was held at Hyderabad, Telangana from June 4 to 6.**



- ✓ Discussions on climate change and its impact on health were held at the meeting with a focus on anti-microbial resistance and the “One-Health” framework
- ✓ The One-Health approach recognises the interconnectedness of human, animal and environmental health.
- ✓ As part of their visit, the delegates were taken to Genome Valley, the National Animal Resource Facility for Biomedical Research (NARFBR) of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Bharat Biotech

## DEFENCE

- **Indian Navy - has carried out a mega operation in the Arabian sea that involved two aircraft carriers, multiple warships, submarines and over 35 frontline aircrafts.**
- ✓ The Navy's aircraft carriers -- Russian-origin INS Vikramaditya and newly inducted INS Vikrant -- were the centrepieces of the mega exercise
- ✓ It is the first mega exercise involving the two aircraft carriers after induction of the indigenously-built INS Vikrant in September.
- ✓ The twin carrier CBG (carrier battle group) operations were held recently, showcasing India's technological expertise in the maritime domain.
  - ✓ A carrier battle group or carrier strike group is a mega naval fleet comprising an aircraft carrier, accompanied by a large number of destroyers, frigates and other ships.
- ✓ Last month, the MiG-29K fighter aircraft undertook night landing on the INS Vikrant.
- ✓ In September last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi commissioned the aircraft carrier that made the country part of an elite group of nations capable of manufacturing aircraft carriers in the above 40,000 tonnes category.
- ✓ Built at a cost of around Rs 23,000 crore, INS Vikrant has a sophisticated air defence network and anti-ship missile systems, besides having capacity to hold 30 fighter jets and helicopters.

## SPORTS

- **Top Indian long jumper Murali Sreeshankar - secured third place in the Paris Diamond League with a jump of 8.09m**



- ✓ This is his maiden top-three finish in the prestigious one-day meeting series
  - ✓ Sreeshankar also became the only third Indian to finish in top-three of a Diamond League after Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra and former discus thrower Vikas Gowda.
  - ✓ Sreeshankar achieved his best jump of the day in his third attempt on June 9.
  - ✓ His 8.09m effort was below his season's best of 8.18m, which he recorded while winning gold in an event in Greece last month.
  - ✓ The 24-year-old has a personal best of 8.36m that came last year.
  - ✓ Olympic champion and world No. 1 Miltiadis Tentoglou of Greece took the top spot with his fifth round jump of 8.13m, just 4cm better than Sreeshankar.
  - ✓ Switzerland's World Championships bronze medallist Simon Ehammer finished second with his fourth round jump of 8.11m.
  - ✓ The Indian however finished ahead of Cuba's Olympic bronze medallist Maykel Masso (sixth place with 7.83m) and Sweden's world No. 4 Tobias Montler (seventh with 7.82m) to join the three-member Diamond League club.
  - ✓ Olympic champion Chopra is the reigning Diamond League champion in javelin throw after winning the Finals in Zurich last September.
    - ✓ He has also finished on top in Lausanne and second in Stockholm last year before winning the season-opening leg in Doha last month.
  - ✓ Gowda had finished second twice -in New York in 2012 and in Doha in 2014 -and third on two occasions -Shanghai and Eugene in 2015.
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- **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





- **Indian archers - lost all their six summit clashes to conclude their Asia Cup Stage 3 campaign held in Singapore in fifth spot in the medal standings**
- ✓ India ended up the continental event with seven medals - six silver and one bronze.
- ✓ The top seeds Korea accounted for four gold, one silver and two bronze medals to top the medal standings, while China finished second with four gold and three bronze medals.
  
- **Kenya's Faith Kipyegon - shattered the world record in the women's 5,000 metres at the Paris Diamond League meeting on June 9**
- ✓ The two-time Olympic and world 1,500-metre champion set the world record in just her third race over the distance in 14 minutes, 5.20 seconds
- ✓ With the win, Kipyegon has bettered the previous mark set by world 10,000m champion Letesenbet Gidey of Ethiopia in 2020



- ✓ Last week at the Golden Gala meet in Florence, the 29-year-old Kenyan runner bettered the world record in the 1,500 metres to 3 minutes, 49.11 seconds, overtaking the previous mark of 3:50.07 set by Genzebe Dibaba of Ethiopia in 2015.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Lamecha Girma broke a 19-year-old world record in the men's 3,000-metre steeplechase later in the meet, surpassing the record set by Kenyan-born Qatari Said Saeed Shaheen in Brussels in 2004.

- ✓ Further, Norway's Jakob Ingebrigtsen set a new world record in the rarely-run 2 miles event.
- ✓ The new record smashed the previous best performance of 7:58.61 set by Kenyan Daniel Komen in July 1997 in Hechtel, Belgium.

